

**The First Congregational Church**  
September 12, 2021

**Kent, Connecticut**  
10:00 AM

*A Community of Faith, Service and Love*  
*Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost and Rally Sunday*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: How very good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters dwell together in unity!

**People: It is like precious oil on the head, like the dew that falls on the mountains of Zion.**

Leader: It is good to give praise to the Lord, to sing praise to the Most High.

**People: To declare God's faithfulness in the morning, and God's steadfast love in the evening.**

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\*HYMN #87, *Come Christians, Join to Sing*  
Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!  
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!  
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;  
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!  
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!  
Christ is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll condescend;  
His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!  
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!  
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,  
Singing forevermore, Alleluia! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

**O Lord, through suffering and rejection you have brought forth our salvation, and through the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from away from what is wrong and turn towards what is right, following your Son, Jesus Christ in all things, for we pray in his name. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI (#734)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

SCRIPTURE:

James 3:1-12

SERMON

\*HYMN #61, *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*  
There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner and more graces for the good;  
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, we would take him at his word,  
And our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.

PRAYER CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Invitation

\*Doxology (#34)

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #748, *Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing*  
Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace;  
O direct us and protect us traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;  
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound;  
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #61

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy v. 3

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

POSTLUDE

Please join us on the Parish hall lawn for the all church picnic.

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Ministers: Community of Faith

Pastor: The Rev. John David Heeckt

Organist: John Paul Zurlo

Soloist: Veralyn Davee

Video Team: Bethany Keck and Bill Dahl

Deacon of the Month: Carol Kallstrom

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**Prayer List:**

Doctors, Nurses, Hospital staff, all those with COVID 19 and their families, Eric, Scott, Darrell, Barbie, Liz, Janeice, Melinda, Virginia, All teachers, faculty, and students starting the school year.

Please mail your offering in weekly/monthly

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**WE WELCOME ALL** who are worshipping with us in person and via the internet.