

The First Congregational Church
July 31, 2022

Kent, Connecticut
10:00 AM

A Community of Faith, Service and Love
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence will my help
come?

**People: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and
earth.**

Leader: The Lord will not let your foot be moved, he who keeps you
shall not slumber.

People: Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The Lord is your keeper. The Lord is the shade at your right
hand.

**People: The sun shall not smite you by day; nor shall the moon by
night.**

Leader: The Lord will keep you from all evil; the Lord will keep your
life.

**People: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

*HYMN # 40

For the Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flowers, sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For thyself, best gift divine, to our race so freely given;
For that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven,
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

*OPENING PRAYER

**Almighty God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to
pray, and you gladly give us more than we desire or
deserve. Grant us your abundant mercy, forgiving us those things
that weigh upon our conscience, and giving us those good things
that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose
name we pray. 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:

Colossians 1:15-28

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for
in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible
and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all
things have been created through him and for him. He himself is
before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of
the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all
the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was
pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in
heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.
And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil
deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as
to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before
him— provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in
the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that

you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

SERMON

*HYMN # 500 *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*
Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, Precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone;
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
Take my hand, Precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

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.***

*HYMN # 507

A Might Fortress is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
Our helper he, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,
On earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,
And he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
We shall not fear, for God has willed his truth to triumph through us..
The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;
One little word shall fell him.

That words above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;
His kingdom is forever.

BENEDICTION

Ministers: Community of Faith
Pastor: The Rev. John David Heeckt
Videographer: Bethany Keck
Deacon of the Month- Cyndi Deluca

3 subject Notebook Package of Colored Construction Paper

WE WELCOME ALL who are worshipping with us via the internet and in person. Guests are invited to sign the guest book in the back of the sanctuary and/or fill out a Pew Card and place it in the offering plate.

Prayer List:

Peggy, Scott, Barbie, Liz, Lewis, Dorothy, John Paul, Bacon-Pener Family Ukraine, Our world leaders.

Please mail your offering in weekly/monthly

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Summer Office Hours: Tuesday and Wednesday from 9am to 12pm.

Pastor John's office hours are Tuesday and Wednesday 11am to 1pm and Thursday at Wilson's Café from 2-4pm

Kent Back to School Program sponsored by Kent Social Services is looking for multiple items to help send our kids back to school prepared. Below is a list of some of the items needed. They are also asking for monetary donations so that each participant can receive a gift card to go back to school clothes shopping. If you would like to make a monetary donation please send it to: Kent Social Services, P.O. Box 678, Kent CT 06757.

List of Needed Supplies:

Pack of Pencils	Glue Sticks	Assorted Folders
Black Backpack	Scissors	highlighters
Pack of Pens	Erasers	Box of Crayons
Box of Markers	Single subject Notebook	