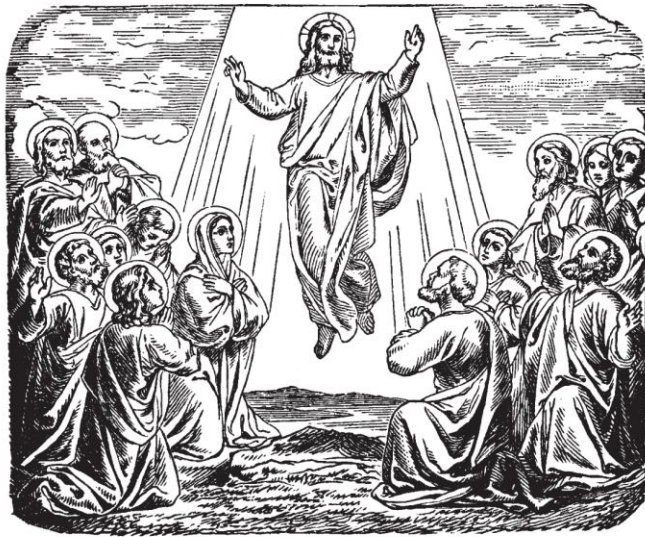


The First Congregational Church Kent, Ct



*"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here."*

The First Congregational Church

May 21, 2023

Kent, Connecticut

10:00 AM

A Community of Faith, Service and Love

Seventh Sunday of Easter and Ascension Sunday

PRELUDE

"Prelude on *Llanfair*" by Hal H. Hopson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Clap your hands all you nations, shout to the Lord with cries of joy.

People: For the Lord Most High is awesome, he is the King over all the earth.

Leader: God has ascended among amid shouts of joy, the Lord amidst the sounding of trumpets.

People: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

All: For God is the King of all the earth, sing to him a song of praise.

*HYMN # 322

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Christ by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand

Alleluia! Alleluia!

And with his faithful followers see their Lord ascend in majesty.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O Lord, our homeward pathway bend that our unwearied hearts ascend

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Where, seated on your Father's throne, you reign as King of kings alone.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Almighty God, your only Son was taken up into heaven and in power intercedes for us. May we also come into your presence, and live forever in your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. 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.*

CHILDREN'S TIME

SCRIPTURE: Luke 24:44-53

SERMON

***HYMN # 320** *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

Alleluia, sing to Jesus! His scepter, his the throne
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone,
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood.
Jesus, out of every nation, has redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us; faith believes nor questions how
Through the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were
o'er
Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you ever more?"

Alleluia! Heavenly High Priest, here on earth our help, our stay;
Alleluia! Hear the sinful cry to you from day to day
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, hear our plea,
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

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 # 323**

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise.

Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!
To his throne above the skies; Alleluia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia!
Enters now the highest heaven, Alleluia

There for him high triumph waits, Alleluia!
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
He has conquered death and sin. Alleluia!
Take the King of glory in! Alleluia!

See! The heavens its Lord receives, Alleluia!
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!
Still he calls the world his own. Alleluia!

See! He lifts his hands above! Alleluia!
See, he shows the prints of love! Alleluia!
Hark! His gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!
Blessings on his church below. Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
by Johann Gottfried Walther

Ministers: Community of Faith
Pastor: The Rev. John David Heeckt
Organist: Erica Bernardini
Deacon of the Month: Cyndi Deluca
Video Team: Bethany Keck

**WELCOME TO ATTEND AND HEAR WHAT IS GOING ON
WITH THE CHURCH.**

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

Prayer List: Peggy, Scott, Barbie, Liz, Our Community, Ukraine, Our world leaders, Our Educators

Phone: 860-927-3335 Website: fcofkentct.org Minister: fcckentminister@gmail.com Office: fcckentoffice@gmail.com
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Church office hours:

Mon/Thursday 1:30-3pm and Tues/Wed/Friday 9am-1pm

Pastor John's Office hours:

In office Tues/Wednesday 11am-1pm & At Wilson's 2-4pm

Thank you to whomever came in and cleaned up the garden around the tree out-front. It looks so much better.

Bible Study meets via zoom every Monday at 7pm. Pastor John will send the link on request. All are welcome.

Bridge Club- The Park and Rec Bridge Club meets in the Parish Hall on Thursday for experienced players and Saturdays for Beginners. The time slot for both groups is 1-4pm. All are welcome to join.

AA meets in the Parish Hall at 8pm on both Monday and Friday.

PLEASE STAY AFTER THE SERVICE FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF KENT CT. ONLY MEMBERS MAY VOTE BUT ALL ARE

