



# *Southport Congregational Church*

*United Church of Christ*

524 Pequot Avenue

Southport, Connecticut 06890

*office@southportucc.org*

*Rev. Paul Whitmore, Senior Minister*

*Rev. Laura Whitmore, Associate Minister*

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## **SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

February 20, 2022, at ten o'clock

### PRELUDE

“If Thou Art Near” *J. S. Bach*

“Saviour Sweet”

*Elaine DeGrood, organ*

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“*When Morning Gilds the Skies*” (*vv. 1-3*)

**35**

### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Jeff Provost, Deacon*

**Leader:** Let us gather together this hour in the grace, peace, strength, hope and good courage that our Lord provides.

**People:** **Because God has put a new song in our mouths, we will sing our praise with thanks.**

**Leader:** Because God not only blesses us, but hears our cries, let us put our trust in God's steadfast love.

**People:** **Because God's law has been written upon our hearts, let us delight in doing God's will.**

**Leader:** In our worship and in our life, let us celebrate God's grace and gifts in all that we say and do.

**People:** **Gathering in thankfulness and joy, let us worship and pray, committing all that God has given to us for the celebration of life and for the care of all God's people.**

### \*THE INVOCATION & LORD'S PRAYER (*Trespases*)

\*GLORIA PATRI

*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.*

OPPORTUNITIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY *Rev. Laura Whitmore*

ANTHEM "Spirit Song" *arr. Douglas Wagner* *Handbell Choir*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN "Now In The Days Of Youth" *(vv. 1-3)* **490**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Julianne Center, Student Minister*

CALL TO OFFERING

To give towards your **2022 Stewardship Pledge Contribution** or make a **plate donation**, please text as follows:

**Text: 860-854-1995**

\$ *amt* Pledge

\$ *amt* Plate

To give by **Venmo**, use @southport\_congregational

To give **online**, please visit our website at [southportucc.org](http://southportucc.org)

To **mail** us your offering or pledge, please send a check to:  
Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890

*Thank you!*

OFFERTORY "The Gift of Love" *Hopson* *Senior Choir*

Though I may speak with the bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,  
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

Though I may give all I possess and striving so my love profess,  
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.  
Let inward love, guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*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.*

**\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Compassionate God, you instill in each of us the desire to make your ideal vision come alive. Receive these gifts that they may grant new life to those in need, hope to those who are struggling, and the fullness of life for all! Amen.*

**SCRIPTURE**

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise person who built his house upon the rock; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish person who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it.

*Matthew 7:24-27*

Blessed are the poor in spirit *Matthew 5:3*

Blessed are those who mourn *Matthew 5:4*

Blessed are the meek *Matthew 5:5*

Blessed are the merciful *Matthew 5:7*

Blessed are the pure in heart *Matthew 5:8*

Blessed are the peacemakers *Matthew 5:9*

You are the salt of the earth *Matthew 5:13*

You are the light of the world *Matthew 5:14*

Let your light so shine *Matthew 5:16*

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you *Matthew 5:44*

Giving alms (*Giving gifts from love to help the needs of others*)

*Matthew 6:2-4*

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:7-15*

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth were moth and rust doth corrupt,  
but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven *Matthew 6:19*

Do not be anxious about tomorrow...  
Let the day's own trouble be sufficient for the day *Matthew 6:34*

Do not judge so that you may not be judged *Matthew 7:1*

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you *Matthew 7:12*

SERMON

**“Interior Design”**

*Rev. Paul Whitmore*

\*HYMN

**“Lord of All Hopefulness”** (vv. 1-3)

**217**

\*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

**“Shalom To You Now”**

*Senior Choir*

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom

POSTLUDE

**“Pass It On”** *arr. Mark Hayes*

*Elaine DeGrood, piano*

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**CHURCH SCHOOL** will meet in the Chapel today with Laura to learn about “The Fruits Of The Spirit” with this week’s focus on Faithfulness. Childcare for infants through 3 years old will be in Room 5 this morning with Alina Bogatikova and Ella Schott.

**PRAYER MEETING TODAY** Join Student minister Julianne Center in the Library after worship for a time of intentional prayer for our community. All are welcome. If you are interested in participating in a prayer ministry, where we office prayers on behalf of those in need, please let Julianne know at [jcenter@southportucc.org](mailto:jcenter@southportucc.org).

**OUR ADULT EDUCATION SERIES CONTINUES THIS WEDNESDAY NIGHT ON ZOOM** Come join Julie and Laura on Zoom for the final look into the Old Testament's Minor Prophets, on February 23 at 7 p.m. This is an interactive event, so grab your Bibles, read each book prior to our meeting and let's discuss Malachi. The class will be from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Zoom links will be sent before each class.

**THE 179<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** All church members are encouraged to attend the 179<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to be held in the Sanctuary, next Sunday, February 27, immediately following worship. We will review the past year, elect new Officers, adopt the annual budget, and make plans for the new year. The 2021 Annual Report will be available this week. Please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) if you would like a copy.

**OUR 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT "Whatever Is True"** will be held on **March 11** (6 p.m. - 10 p.m.) and **March 12** (8 a.m. - 3 p.m.), with the option of attending one or both days. In order to participate, you must **pre-register by, or on, Sunday, March 6** by emailing Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org).

**FAMILY MISSION TRIP TO RED SHIRT TABLE - NEW DATES JULY 3 TO JULY 9** Due to the Senior High Youth Group's Mission Week being pushed back by a week because of public schools now not finishing until June 20, the Family Mission Trip is has been rescheduled to the first full week of July. Join us for a family vacation you won't forget! We now have a long-term lease in a building in Hermosa, South Dakota about 25 minutes north of the Reservation. Let's spend a week together sharing your joy and love with the children of Red Shirt Table. Play games, help them learn, become a friend and bring hope to those who struggle. In addition, you will learn about Native American culture and visit some of the country's historic sites including Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse monument and the site of the massacre at Wounded Knee. *Due to the sensitive nature of the Rez, the minimum age is 7.* The cost is \$900 per person and is **due February 27**. You will be responsible for your airfare. Please contact Laura at [lwhitmore@southportucc.org](mailto:lwhitmore@southportucc.org) for more information.

**NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECEIVED ON MARCH 20** All friends of SCC who are considering membership are invited to attend a luncheon hosted by the Board of Deacons, on **Sunday, March 6**, immediately following worship. This is a special opportunity for those on their faith journey to meet with others doing the same, as well as members of SCC. New Members will be received into the Congregation on Sunday, March 20, during worship. If you would like to attend the luncheon or need more information, please contact Pam in the Church Office at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org).

**CAROUSEL DONATIONS ARE NEEDED** Our beloved Carousel Thrift Shop is short on inventory because the goods have been flying out the door! As a result, decorative items, select small furniture and artwork are needed. The Shop has new donation hours: Tuesday through Saturday, from 10:30 a.m. until noon. If these times are not suitable, please contact Store Manager Susan Kunkel at [carousel@southportucc.org](mailto:carousel@southportucc.org), for an appointment.

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT)** The Town of Fairfield is sponsoring a CERT disaster training course for 5 consecutive Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., starting February 26. Please visit [www.fairfieldct.org/Community-Emergency-Response-Team](http://www.fairfieldct.org/Community-Emergency-Response-Team) for registration information.

**THE 2022 STEWARDSHIP GIVING CAMPAIGN NEEDS YOUR HELP** We are almost at our goal of **\$750,000**. If you have not pledged yet, please consider making one today by going to our website giving page at [southportucc.org](http://southportucc.org). Thank you to all who have already pledged! If not, please make it today! You can do so in 3 ways:

- **ONLINE.** Scan the **QR code** (right) with your phone's camera and a notification will pop up. Tap on the notification and it will bring you to SCC's Stewardship Giving Form on [our website](#). You can also navigate to the form from [our website](#) where it is found under the "Giving" tab.
- **Paper Form.** Mail or drop off the paper form included in your 2022 Stewardship Giving Packet.
- **Email.** Send an email to Paul DiPrato at [pdiprato@southportucc.org](mailto:pdiprato@southportucc.org) with your pledge information.



**THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2.** Join us in the Chapel that evening at 7 p.m. for a candlelit service of reflection, repentance, and renewal as we begin our journey into the season of Lent.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR** is hosted today in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship, Hedy Mosier and Robin Marshlow. **Volunteers are needed to provide refreshments for future Sundays.** If you would like to volunteer, a member of the Fellowship Committee would be more than happy to lend a hand. Please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) to sign up or to answer any questions - thank you!

**USHERING AND GREETING YOU TODAY** are Deacon Ann Lillis and Ushers Hugh and Sally Smith, under the direction of Deacon Jeff Provost. **USHERS ARE NEEDED** every Sunday - please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org) if you would like to volunteer!

**TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS** were given by Carol and Dwight Wheeler and their family in loving memory of Carol's mother, Virginia Ogden Hayes, on what would have been her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. If you would like to donate an arrangement for upcoming Sundays, please contact Pam at [ppoling@southportucc.org](mailto:ppoling@southportucc.org).

**THANKS TO THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM "DREAM TEAM"** Techs Kendall Caron-Quinn and Henry Schott, directed by Parker Whitmore.

**WE THANK OUR HANDBELL AND SENIOR CHOIRS** for today's beautiful music.

**THE MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP** meets every Thursday at 7 a.m. in the Youth Room, led by Rev. Paul Whitmore. All men are welcome to come and grow in faith and fellowship. Email Paul at [pwhitmore@southportucc.org](mailto:pwhitmore@southportucc.org) to be put on the list to receive the email blast about the weekly topic.

**THE WOMEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP** meets every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. in the Youth Room, led by Rev. Laura Whitmore. Join Laura to discuss current events, spirituality, and new psychological ideas and much more. The curriculum runs parallel to the Men's Group, allowing for conversation during the week. Contact Laura at [lwhitmore@southportucc.org](mailto:lwhitmore@southportucc.org) to be put on the list.

**CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK:**

- \***SENIOR CHOIR** rehearses in Sanctuary, Sundays, 9:00 a.m., and in Music Room, 11:15 a.m.
- \***THE HANDBELL CHOIR** rehearses on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Music Room.
- \***THE CHERUB CHOIR** will resume rehearsal next Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Chapel.
- \***THE JUNIOR & TEEN CHOIRS** will resume rehearsal next Sunday at 9 a.m. in Room 6.

**Southport Congregational Church**

P.O. Box 366, 524 Pequot Avenue

Southport, Connecticut 06890

Tel. (203) 255-1594, Fax (203) 255-4706

web site: [www.southportucc.org](http://www.southportucc.org), email: [office@southportucc.org](mailto:office@southportucc.org)

**Senior Minister - Paul D. Whitmore**

**Associate Minister - Rev. Laura H. Whitmore**

**CHURCH STAFF:**

Student Minister – Julie Center

Director of Administration – Paul DiPrato · Communications Manager – Jackson Siegel

Church Secretary - Pam Poling · Bookkeeper - Maria Bogatikova

Investment Manager - Nancy Long · Facilities & Grounds Manager – Tim O’Neill

Director of Music - Elaine DeGrood

Youth Choir Director - Phillip Bettencourt · Assistant Youth Choir Director - Marnie Kruse

Soloists - Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle, Leslie Uhl

**CHURCH COUNCIL**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| Ryan McClay ◊       | Moderator  |
| Cari Pfeiffer       | Clerk      |
| Joyce Hergenhan     | ALM        |
| Patti Spaght        | ALM        |
| Paul Doocy          | ALM        |
| Sydney King         | ALM        |
| Susan Kunkel        | Carousel   |
| Marjory Palmer      | Deacons    |
| Denise Caron-Quinn  | Deacons    |
| Leah Davis          | Deacons    |
| Beth Santa          | Education  |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi    | Education  |
| Sherry Greer        | Missions   |
| Lisa Doocy          | Missions   |
| Tim Stuart          | Trustee    |
| Kristin Hathaway    | Preschool  |
| Greg Berg           | B&G        |
| Irene Santa         | Music      |
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | Fellowship |
| Bridget Schulten    | Ex Officio |

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

|                    |
|--------------------|
| Paul Doocy ◊       |
| Cindy Jackson      |
| Adrienne MacGuffie |
| Les Miller         |
| Jennifer O'Neill ◊ |
| Dave Stuart        |
| John Traynor       |

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Greg Berg ◊     | - 2022 |
| Devin Santa     | - 2022 |
| Mike Tanguay    | - 2022 |
| Stuart Tilghman | - 2022 |
| Ellen Levinson  | - 2023 |
| Erno Bacso      | - 2024 |
| Ron Manning     | - 2024 |
| Jim Vadas       | - 2024 |

**BED FUND COMMITTEE**

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Oladele Ogunsuyi | Deacons  |
| Bridget Schulten | Chairman |
| Sherry Greer     | Missions |

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Kristin Hathaway         | - 2022 |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi         | - 2022 |
| Jo Anne Parady           | - 2022 |
| Beth Santa ◊             | - 2022 |
| Leslie Uhl               | - 2022 |
| Christina Whittaker Haas | - 2023 |
| Katie Keiser             | - 2023 |
| Erik Mayville            | - 2023 |
| Ellery Malkin            | - 2024 |
| Laura McClay             | - 2024 |
| Cari Pfeiffer            | - 2024 |
| Kassandra Savicki        | - 2024 |

**PRESCHOOL BOARD**

|                    |               |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Laura Amicucci     | Director      |
| Paul DiPrato       | Treasurer     |
| Elinor Biggs       | - 2022        |
| Rebecca Mallay     | - 2022        |
| Sharon Keiser      | - 2023        |
| Jess Miller ◊      | - 2023        |
| Leslie Uhl         | - 2023        |
| Barbara Evans      | - 2024        |
| Amy Sperrazza      | - 2024        |
| Kristin Hathaway   | BOCE Rep.     |
| Allie Sherman      | Parent Rep.   |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees Rep. |

**MISSION OUTREACH BOARD**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Elinor Biggs       | - 2022 |
| Lisa Doocy         | - 2022 |
| Mary Lou McGuire + | - 2022 |
| Linda Murphy       | - 2022 |
| Andrea Pezzimenti  | - 2022 |
| Sherry Greer ◊     | - 2023 |
| Tyler Hathaway     | - 2023 |
| Kirk Jackson       | - 2023 |
| Bob MacGuffie      | - 2023 |
| Liz Waiksnis       | - 2023 |
| Craig Gillespie    | - 2024 |
| Karen Jones        | - 2024 |
| Hedy Mosier        | - 2024 |
| Traci Provost      | - 2024 |
| Peggy Stuart       | - 2024 |
| Leahkay White      | - 2024 |

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

|                    |        |
|--------------------|--------|
| Denise Caron-Quinn | - 2022 |
| Leah Davis         | - 2022 |
| Katie Traynor      | - 2022 |
| Andrew Malkin      | - 2023 |
| Marjory Palmer ◊   | - 2023 |
| Jeff Provost       | - 2023 |
| Jeffrey Earls      | - 2024 |
| Ann Lillis         | - 2024 |
| Oladele Ogunsuyi   | - 2024 |
| Tamberlyn Chapman  | - 2025 |
| Sadhana Joliet +   | - 2025 |
| Joe Pezzimenti     | - 2025 |

**MUSIC COMMITTEE**

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Doug Goodman    | - 2022         |
| Dwight Holmberg | - 2022         |
| Laura Wilbur    | - 2022         |
| Irene Santa     | - 2023         |
| Peary Spaght ◊  | - 2023         |
| Jack Ijams      | - 2024         |
| Ruth Merchant   | - 2024         |
| Ed Sanford      | - 2024         |
| Jeff Provost    | Deacon Liaison |

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE**

|                     |        |
|---------------------|--------|
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | - 2022 |
| Ann Lillis          | - 2022 |
| Hedy Mosier         | - 2022 |
| Jean Schluter       | - 2022 |
| Robin Marshlow      | - 2023 |
| Traci Provost       | - 2023 |
| Erika Wright        | - 2023 |
| Amy Cawman          | - 2024 |
| Betsy Gillespie     | - 2024 |
| Katie Traynor       | - 2024 |
| Marney White        | - 2024 |

**CARING TEAM**

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| Tamberlyn Chapman | Deacons |
|-------------------|---------|

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Jeff Nickell           | - 2022 |
| Tim Stuart ◊           | - 2022 |
| Stephani Whittaker     | - 2022 |
| Jim Biggs              | - 2023 |
| Gary Johnson           | - 2023 |
| Joe Ryan               | - 2023 |
| Dave Stuart            | - 2023 |
| Katia Mead             | - 2024 |
| Bridget Schulten       | - 2024 |
| Trevor Uhl, Treasurer  | - 2022 |
| Greg Berg, B&G Liaison | - 2022 |

**CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP**

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Doug Goodman    | - 2022 |
| Gloria Miller   | - 2022 |
| Susan Kunkel ◊  | - 2023 |
| Janet Sherwood  | - 2023 |
| Karen Macdonald | - 2024 |
| Les Miller      | - 2024 |
| Nancy Pandolfi  | - 2024 |

**HISTORIAN**

|             |        |
|-------------|--------|
| Sally Ijams | - 2022 |
|-------------|--------|

**LAY DELEGATES**

|            |        |
|------------|--------|
| Les Miller | - 2022 |
|------------|--------|

**FLOWER COMMITTEE**

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Leah Davis | Deacon Liaison |
| Pam Poling | Staff Liaison  |

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Paul Doocy         | Council   |
| Joyce Hergenhan    | Council   |
| Sydney King        | Council   |
| Patti Spaght ◊     | Council   |
| Jeffrey Earls      | Deacons   |
| Ellery Malkin      | Education |
| Elinor Biggs       | Missions  |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees  |

◊ Denotes Chairperson

+ Denotes Scribe

◦ Denotes Vice Chair

ALM Denotes "At Large Member"