



# *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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## **THE SUNDAY SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

March 21, 2021, at ten o'clock

PRELUDE

**“I Will Rise And Go To Jesus”** *arr. Mark Hayes*

*Elaine DeGrood, Piano*

WELCOME

*Rev. Laura Whitmore*

HYMN

**“Our God, Our Help In Ages Past”**

**Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,**

**Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home,**

**Under the shadow of thy throne, Thy saints have dwelt secure;**

**Sufficient is thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,**

**From everlasting thou art God, To endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in thy sight, Are like an evening gone,**

**Short as the watch that ends the night, Before the rising sun. Amen.**

## THE CALL TO WORSHIP

*Ali Kralovec-Kirchherr, Student Minister*

**Leader:** A new life is given to us once again this day, filled with God's hope and fresh possibilities!

**People:** **God gives us this day, and every day of our life, so we may thrive as individuals and as a community of faith; to love; to help one another, to heal, forgive, build and celebrate the goodness of life and God's gifts in this world.**

**Leader:** As we venture together into our future that is bright with hope, let us celebrate this day in worship and in joy.

**People:** **For God's spirit surrounds us, empowers us, encourages us and refreshes us to work together according to God's purpose.**

**Leader:** Renew and strengthen our spirit, O God.

**People:** **And help us to say "yes" to you, today and forever more!**

## 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.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Julie Center, Student Minister*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

## CALL TO OFFERING

To give towards your **2021 Stewardship Pledge Contribution**, please text the following:

To: **73256** Message: **Sptccgiving Pledge \$\_\_\_**

To give to the **Sunday Offering**, please text the following:

To: **73256** Message: **Sptccgiving Plate \$\_\_\_**

To give **online**, please click **here** to be taken to our website.

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

*Thank you!*

OFFERTORY

**“Ride the Chariot”** *arr. William Henry Smith*  
*Senior Choir and Friends, Zoom*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Loving God, we are your hands in this world. May you form these offerings into an extension of your hope, so that all people are able to know the support, encouragement and new life of your presence. Amen**

SCRIPTURE

**When Jesus returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. So many gathered around his home that there was no longer room for them, not even in front of the door; and he was speaking the word to them.**

**Then some people came, bringing a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. And when they could not bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above Jesus; and after having dug through it, they let down the mat on which the paralytic lay.**

**When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven...I say to you, stand up, take your mat and go to your home."**

**And the paralytic stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before all of them; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"**

*Mark 2:1-5, 11, 12*



*Sea of Galilee. Taken at sunrise by Paul Whitmore in 2019. Caperneum is on the shore to the left (north.)*

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*Village of Capernaum. Archeologists discovered and unearthed in 1967 (CE). Capernaum is the only village on the northernmost shore of the Sea of Galilee. Sea of Galilee is visible in background. Since Jesus lived there with Peter and his mother for two years, “Jesus” house is actually Peter’s house. Immediately after Jesus’ death and resurrection, history documented that the house was turned into a primitive eight-sided church. Though this was known through historical record, it was not physically verified/discovered until 1967! Soon after its discovery, the modern structure in the upper right was constructed over the home as a shrine to both protect it and to allow people to be able to view it from above. This is the exact and particular structural (foundation) and location of the home referred to in our scripture.*



*Artistic rendering of homes in Capernaum during Jesus' time.*



*Foundation of Peter’s (and Jesus’) House in Capernaum, shortly after it was discovered, and before it was protected by a shrine. When archeologists discovered this sole eight-sided structure, they found (still visible) that the interior walls were decorated with markings indicating it was the site of Jesus’ home, and also indicated that it was used as a church. The ancient historical writings which mentioned these things, confirmed that they had in fact found the original site!*



*Capernaum and Surrounding Area*



*Overview of Capernaum (excavated)*

*Circular building near the water is the church built over Peter's (Jesus') house site.*

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*Overview of Israel Map - Current Boundaries*

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**SERMON “PRAYERFUL, PERSEVERANT, POSITIVE PEOPLE, AND POWER!  
Part II”**

*Rev. Paul Whitmore*

SONG

**“Beautiful Savior”** *arr. Mark Hayes*

*Senior Choir Soloists*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

**“Morning Has Broken”** *Rocherolle*

*Elaine DeGroot, Piano*

POSTLUDE

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***IN-PERSON WORSHIP RESUMES BEGINNING EASTER SUNDAY!*** Just as Christ brings new life and rebirth, our doors will be flung open to welcome you back for in-person worship! Join us for one of the following: **7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service** at Sasco Beach led by our Confirmands (no reservations required), **9:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary** with special music with Timpani, Brass and our Choir, or **11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary** with special music with Timpani, Brass and our Choir. The 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Services will be presented in the same manner. Church School for 3 year olds through Grade 8 will be held outside, during both services - children should go directly to the Barn for Easter Activities & Fun! Our 9:00 service will also be livestreamed. **RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE for EASTER and UPCOMING SERVICES by TELEPHONE ONLY PLEASE – by calling the church office at 203-255-1594, during regular business hours between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday. Easter reservations can be made any time until Friday, April 1.**

***WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT EDUCATION SERIES THIS WEEK: ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS*** Have you ever experienced a "dark night of the soul?" Our Mystics series continues with a look at **St. John of the Cross**, St Teresa of Avila's close friend, and the saint who coined the phrase. Join our **Student Minister, Julie Center**, on **Wednesday March 24 at 7:30 p.m.** for a discussion on St. John's faith, doubt, persecution — and the poetry and prose it inspired! **Join us on ZOOM!** (Please don't click this link until the start of the program.)

***OUR EASTER BASKET FOOD DRIVE IS UNDERWAY*** Join us in helping our greater community as we celebrate Easter. Click **HERE** to see what items are needed and what you can sign up to bring. We ask that all items be delivered to the church by March 26. You may purchase the items yourself and bring them to the Church Office or you can use a grocery delivery service (Amazon, Peapod, Instacart, etc.) to have them sent to the office, or you can text a cash donation by **texting to the number: 73256** with the following message: **SPTCCGIVING BASKETS \$\_\_**. Thank you for sharing your blessings with others!

***HELP US DECORATE THE SANCTUARY FOR EASTER!*** Help continue our tradition of filling our Sanctuary with lilies and flowers for Easter! You may purchase a plant in **Honor of** or **In Memory of** your loved ones (this information will be printed in the Easter Sunday Bulletin.) If you would like to make a donation, **please respond to this email and give us the following information:** 1) The name of the person(s) you are giving the flower for and whether it is in HONOR OF or in MEMORY OF them. 2) Indicate if you will pick up your plant(s) after noon on Easter Sunday or if you would like to donate it to be delivered to some of our church members. **Each plant is \$15.00** To donate **online** click **HERE** Or to **text** your donation **Text the number: 73256** with the Message: **SPTCCGIVING Lily \$15. To mail your donation**, please send a check to: Southport Congregational Church, PO Box 366, Southport, CT 06890. If you would like to download an Easter Lily Donation form, please click **here**. Thank you!

***THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWERS*** are given today by the Spaght family in honor of Elaine DeGrood and the virtual choir.

***WE THANK THIS WEEK'S LIVESTREAM TEAM*** Mike Messina, Ella Conopask and Caroline Graham for all of their help during today's livestreamed service!

***WE THANK OUR SENIOR CHOIR SOLOISTS*** Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle, and Leslie Uhl for today's music.



***WE THANK OUR SPECIAL “RIDE THE CHARIOT” SINGERS*** – What a spectacular treat!

We will be sending a link to this video soon so that you can enjoy it again!

**Sopranos:**

**Rachel Dorset, Maggie Kruse, Devon Lucas, Patti Spaght, Leslie Uhl (soloist)  
and Laura Wilbur.**

**Altos:**

**Barbie Bartlett, Julie Beck, Shannon Doyle, Marnie Kruse, Nancy Long, Pam Pollack and  
Holly Tang.**

**Tenors:**

**Scott Kruse (soloist) and Craig Gillespie.**

**Basses:**

**Beau Allen, Gene Fignar, Doug Goodman, Hank Greer, Jack Ijams, Judd McArthur,  
Jeff Provost, Kendall Spaght and Peary Spaght.**

**Production Engineer: Nathaniel Granor.**

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**Southport Congregational Church**  
P.O. Box 366, 524 Pequot Avenue  
Southport, Connecticut 06890  
Tel. (203) 255-1594, Fax (203) 255-4706  
website: [www.southportucc.org](http://www.southportucc.org), email: [office@southportucc.org](mailto:office@southportucc.org)

**CHURCH STAFF:**

**Senior Minister - Paul D. Whitmore      Associate Minister - Rev. Laura H. Whitmore**  
Student Minister – Ali Marie Kralovec-Kirchherr · Student Minister – Julie Center  
Business Manager – Paul DiPrato · Communications Manager - Alisa Ryan  
Church Secretary - Pam Poling · Bookkeeper - Maria Bogatikova  
Investment Manager - Nancy Long · Director of Music - Elaine DeGroot  
Youth Choir Director - Phillip Bettencourt · Assistant Youth Choir Director - Marnie Kruse  
Soloists - Beau Allen, Shannon Doyle, Leslie Uhl · Custodian - Sydney Sinclair

**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    |
| Beth Santa          | Education  |
| Melissa Ogunsuyi    | Education  |
| Sherry Greer        | Missions   |
| Lisa Doocy          | Missions   |
| Tim Stuart          | Trustee    |
| Kristin Hathaway    | Preschool  |
| Tim O'Neill         | B&G        |
| Irene Santa         | Music      |
| Carol Lasseter-Rice | Fellowship |
| Bridget Schulten    | Ex Officio |

**STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

Paul Doocy  
Hank Greer  
Cindy Jackson  
Adrienne MacGuffie  
Les Miller  
Jennifer O'Neill ◊  
Dave Stuart

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Greg Berg       | - 2022 |
| Tim O'Neill ◊   | - 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.     |
| Katie Holley       | Parent Rep.   |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees Rep. |

**MISSION OUTREACH BOARD**

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

**BOARD OF DEACONS**

|                   |        |
|-------------------|--------|
| Denise Caron-Quin | - 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 |
| 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 |
| Tim O'Neill, B&G Liaison | - 2022 |

**CAROUSEL THRIFT SHOP**

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

**HISTORIAN**

Sally Ijams      - 2022

**LAY DELEGATE**

Les Miller      - 2021

**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   |
| Beth Santa         | Education |
| Elinor Biggs       | Missions  |
| Stephani Whittaker | Trustees  |

◊ Denotes Chairperson

+ Denotes Scribe

◦ Denotes Vice Chair

ALM Denotes "At Large Member"