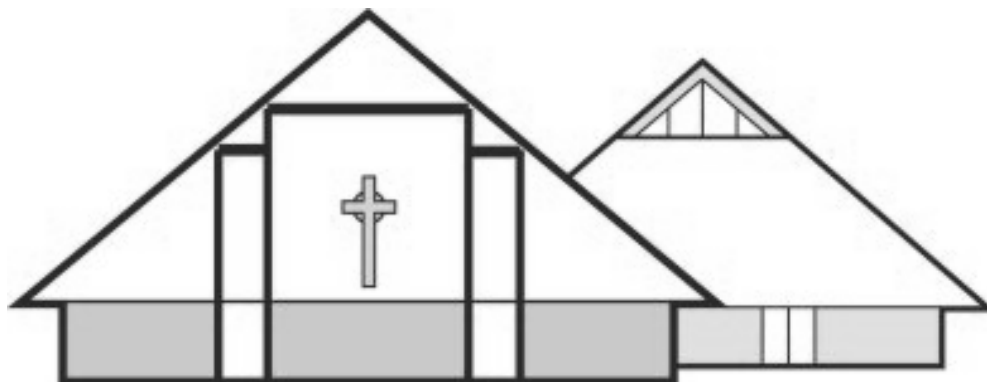


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEW HAVEN

SUNDAY WORSHIP | June 30, 2024



PREPARING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE | *We Hasten with Diligent Footsteps to Thee* | Bach
from Cantata 78

Seiji Nakanishi and Pat McCreless, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS | Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith

CALL TO WORSHIP | Bruce Peabody

One: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life,
what you will eat or what you will drink,
or about your body, what you will wear.”

**All: We cast all our anxiety on God,
because God cares for us.**

One: The world outside worries us.
The worlds inside our homes,
and our heads, and our hearts spin with anxiety.

All: Christ call us to the quiet center.

One: We come to worship and receive God’s peace.

All: We come to remember how to trust our Creator.

One: Let us worship our God who is caring for us right now.

* HYMN 619 | *Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven* | LAUDA ANIMA

* *rise in body or spirit*

CALL TO CONFESSION AND SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, in a culture that is more preoccupied with a satisfying meal than with making sure that all are fed, we are guilty of too much worry. We confess that we often waste our energy in worrying about things over which we have very little control. Forgive us, Lord, for needless worry. Help us to remember that we cannot add a single moment to our lives by worrying about the future. Teach us, Lord, the grace of waiting patiently when we are in genuine need. And remind us, Lord, that you are both Lord of the sparrows and Lord of our lives. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE 598 | Amen, We Praise Your Name | AMEN SIAKUDUMISA

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen, amen! Amen, amen!

Amen, we praise your name, O God!

Amen siakudumisa! Amen siakudumisa!

Amen, bawo! Amen, bawo! Amen siakudumisa!

* THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION | *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet*

**Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
and a light unto my path. (sung twice)**

TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES | Rev. Rachel Paige Mastin

PSALTER | Psalm 103

My soul, bless God and God's holy name,
and do not forget God's benefits.

**God forgives the wrong you have done,
heals you of your diseases,
redeems your life from the grave,
crowns you with goodness and mercy,
keeps you with care as long as you live
so your life is renewed like the eagle's.**

My soul, bless God and God's holy name,
and do not forget God's benefits.

**God brings justice to those who are oppressed,
as shown to Moses and his people.**

God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, constant in love.

**God will not always be the accuser
or keep anger hot forever.**

God does not deal with us as we deserve,
nor punish according to our sins.

**God's love for all faithful people
is as high and vast as the heavens.**

As far as the east lies from the west,
God removes the wrong we have done.

**My soul, bless God and God's holy name,
and do not forget God's benefits.**

SCRIPTURE READING | Matthew 6:25-34

SERMON | Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our
Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of
Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

* HYMN | *Do Not Worry* | HYFRYDOL

Do not worry for your life,
what you'll eat or drink or wear;
Is not life much more important
than these things that cause you care?
See the birds—they sow and reap not,
nor in barns do store away.
Yet your heav'nly Father feeds them;
have you not more worth than they?
And why worry about clothing?
See the lilies' glad array;
Solomon in all his splendor
never dressed as fine as they.
This is how God clothes the grasses,
though their life is but a day.
Will God not much more meet your needs?
Let your faith not fade away.
Seek first, then, your Father's kingdom
and God's righteousness on high.
All these things will then be given;
She will not neglect your cry.
So fret not about tomorrow;
God directs the future, too.
Though each day will bring its troubles,
trust in God—He'll see you through

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY | *We Live Through Your Grace* | Bach

* DOXOLOGY (with hand gestures)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; (two hands up)

praise God, all creatures here below; (two hands down)

praise God above, ye heavenly host; (one arm up)

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. (other arm up)

Amen. (return hands to center heart)

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, you have blessed us beyond measure. We pray that you will pour out your favor, not only on the monetary gifts we've given, but upon our very lives offered to you in a spirit of gratitude. Let our lives be focused on using our tangible gifts and our living witness to share and strengthen the faith of many. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CARRYING THE WORD FORTH

* HYMN 612 | *We Praise You, O God* | KREMSER

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE | *The Stars and Stripes Forever* | Sousa

NEWS AND UPDATES

Pastor Stacy's Open Office This Week

This week, Stacy will hold open office at the church on Monday from 1-3 PM, Tuesday from 10 AM - 12 PM, and Wednesday from 4-6 PM. Please drop by any day to talk, drink coffee, pray, sing, whatever!

Session Notes

The Session met on June 25 and discussed several items including: reports from finance, property, and the recent presbytery meeting; ongoing discussion about revising the church committee structure, a study leave request from Pastor Stacy, and other pending items. The next Session meeting will be August 20.

Presbytery Notes

The Presbytery of Southern New England met for a brief called meeting on Monday, June 24. Pastor Stacy, presenting on behalf of the Board of Pensions Task Force, led the meeting in an introduction to the BOP and the coming changes for pastors and congregations. The meeting also approved the new presbytery salary minimums, an administrative commission for Greenwood Community Church in Rhode Island, several church requests for partnerships with cellular service companies, and commissioned delegates to the 226th General Assembly of the PCUSA.

How to Give to FPCNH

First Presbyterian Church is grateful to receive financial support for our ministries in New Haven and beyond. Donations may be made online or via our text to give number at: **(203) 689-7515**

- For a **one-time gift**, text the amount (example: text "\$50" to give a one-time donation of \$50)
- For a **pledge payment**, text amount and Pledge (example: text "\$50 Pledge" to give \$50 to pledges)

Psalm reading from *Iona Abbey Worship Book (New revised edition)*.

Scripture reading is from *The Holy Bible: New Revised Standard Version*.

Hymn "Do Not Worry" by Susan H. Peterson.

Response 598, Amen siakudumisa - text and music © Lumko Institute, South Africa, Music transcribed © 1983 David Dargie (admin. Choristers Guild).

UPCOMING EVENTS



Bring Your Blanket! 4th of July Fireworks

Thursday, July 4 around 9 PM

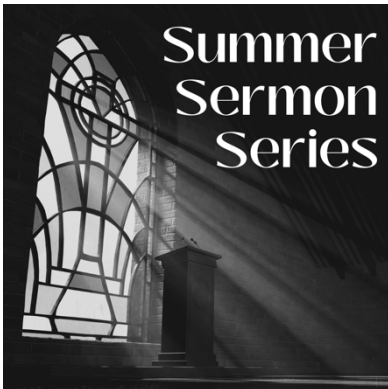
Join our church friends and neighbors to watch the fireworks from our church lawn! Fireworks begin around 9 PM and we will have a great view from the church. All are welcome!



Book Club Potluck Dinner

Tuesday, July 9 beginning at 5:30 PM

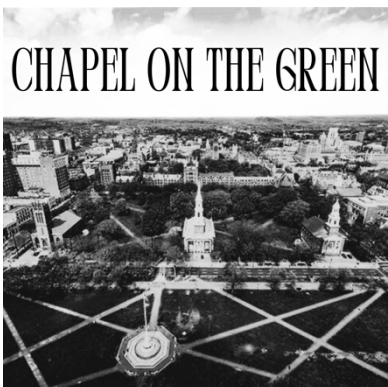
Calling all those who love to read! Nancy Carrington is hosting a Book Club potluck for an evening of food and conversation. Please bring a dish to share and Nancy will provide dessert and non-alcoholic beverages – BYOB is fine! RSVP and note any dietary restrictions by July 7 to Nancy at nancyc210@yahoo.com.



Summer Sermon Series

Beginning Sunday, July 7

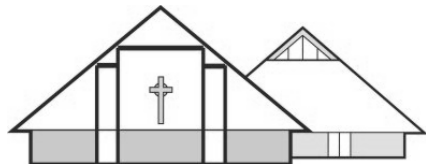
Our summer preaching series will continue our focus on the Beatitudes. Scheduled preachers are: Nancy D'Ippolito (July 7) Sophie Beal (July 14), Ralph Jones (July 21), Ted Hiebert (July 28), Caty Poole (August 4), and Carolyn Ladd (August 11).



Chapel on the Green Lunch & Worship

Sunday, July 21

Chapel on the Green is a worship and food program for unhoused people run by Trinity on the Green Episcopal Church in downtown New Haven every Sunday afternoon. As volunteers, we will provide food and attend a brief worship with unhoused people. More information about how to get involved to follow - stay tuned!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEW HAVEN

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First Presbyterian Church is a worshipping community of Christian believers dedicated to following Jesus Christ in a just and compassionate ministry. We warmly welcome the full diversity of God's family in all our races, genders, sexual orientations, ages, nationalities or ethnicities, economic situations, and abilities.

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Stacy C. Smith, Pastor (through August 2024)

Patrick McCreless, Director of Music

Rev. Rachel Paige Mastin, Minister for Faith Formation

Martha Smith, Church Administrator

Katie Grosh, Communication Specialist