

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 18, 2022, 10:00AM
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE

Stand In Awe

Ellen Lorenz

*HYMN #S14

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Praise My Soul

WORDS OF WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Adapted from Deuteronomy 6:4-9*)

Leader: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**People: We will love the Lord our God with all our heart,
and soul, and strength.**

Leader: Keep these words the Lord is commanding you today.

People: We will recite them to our children,

**All: We will talk about them when we are at home
and when we are away, when we lie down and
when we rise.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against
You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and
by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our
whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your
Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we
may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory
of Your Name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*Adapted from Psalm 145:8-9*)

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: God is good to all and divine compassion extends to all creation. Thanks be to God, for in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ANTHEM

The King of Love My Shepherd Is arr. Mack Wilberg
Bryan Griffin, Darren Anderson, Hans Tashjian,
Sergio Martinez, and Karl Hedrick

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*HYMN #407

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing Nettleton
(*Children in grades 1st through 7th recess to Church School*)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 15:1-10

Minister: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"From Bulgaria to the Lost and Found Bin"
The Rev. Dr. Stephen Chapin Garner

SERMON RESPONSE

Story-Tellin' Man, "The Lost Coin" Ken Medema
Greer Lyle, soprano

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As a congregation, we pray together – through word, silence, and
The Lord's Prayer (sins)

PRAYER RESPONSE

Mass of Creation, "Amen," Marty Haugen

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sing Praises Lloyd Pfautsch

*DOXOLOGY (unison)

**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.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #401

Amazing Grace

New Britain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Rondo

John Bull

*Congregation please stand.

COLLECTION OF OFFERING

Please place your tithes and offerings in the plates provided
as you enter or leave this morning.

The flowers in the Meeting House are given in loving memory of
Deverie Schrieffer, beloved sister of Susan Brock.

We welcome to the Chancel Choir, Darren Anderson, tenor
section leader and Sergio Martinez, choir scholar. You will be
blessed with their musical talents this program year.

PRAYER SHAWL BLESSING

The prayer shawls displayed today were made with love and
prayers by our Prayer Shawl Ministry. The shawls are given to
those experiencing significant life challenges. During our prayers
today, we ask for God's blessing on the shawls, and pray for
those who receive them. New members are always welcome. No
experience needed! For more information contact Twee Haffner
at (203) 966-0606 or Rev. Kathryn Kibbie Laird at
(203) 966-2651, x831.

ARE YOU VISITING OUR CHURCH TODAY?

Welcome, and thank you for worshipping with us! If you have questions about our church or wish to join us for our next new member class, please contact Courtney Flynn at (203) 594-1850 or courtneywflynn@gmail.com.

NEWS OF THE CONGREGATION

BELL BOYS' BEGINS TODAY - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Father and Sons (mothers and daughters are invited, too!), please join us in handbell rehearsals on Sundays after church, 11:15am - 12:00pm. Contact Jody at music@godsacre.org, to learn more.

BIBLE STUDIES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 18

Sunday 9:00-9:45am, Beginner's Bible Study, Parlor
Monday 7:00-8:00am, Monday Morning Bible Study, Library
Tuesday 9:30-10:30am, Women's Bible Study, Parlor
Wednesday 9:30-11:00am, Wednesday Morning Bible Study with Chapin, Location TBD
Friday 8:00-9:00am, Merton Group, via Zoom
Contact Tracy Goldman at office@godsacre.org for more information or to sign up.

NEW CHILDREN'S MUSIC SCHEDULE

Cherub Choir (PreK 3s and 4s) - Mondays 3:30-4:00pm
Spirit Singers (Grades K-2) - Mondays 5:00-6:00pm
Joyful Noise (Grades 3 & 4) - Mondays 4:00-5:00pm
Junior Worship Team (Grades 5-8) - Select Sundays at 12:00pm, beginning October 2
Email Sydney, at sydney@godsacre.org with questions.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Our Nursery (ages six weeks to 2 years) is available for the 8:00am and 10:00am services, and Church School classes start for children aged 3 through 7th grade. Please register your kids at www.godsacre.org.

CHURCH SCHOOL DROP OFF/PICK UP

Children 2 and under: drop off in the nursery.

Children ages Pre-K and Kindergarten: drop off in the classroom prior to the service and pick up in classroom after the service.

1st & 2nd grade class: pick up in classroom.

3rd & 4th and 5th–7th grade classes are dismissed to Smith Hall.

CONFIRMATION – SAVE THE DATE

New Confirmation classes will be starting soon. Parents and their 8th graders or anyone who has not attended Confirmation before should attend our Confirmation Discernment Meeting Tuesday, October 4, in the Chapel, immediately following the MSYG Parents Information Meeting at 7:00pm. Classes begin Wednesday, Oct. 19, 7:00-8:15pm in the Parlor. Contact Erik Burns, at burns@godsacre.org or (203) 966-2651, x 834 for more information.

FALL FELLOWSHIP - HOSTS NEEDED

If you would like to join the Fellowship Team or host coffee hour this fall, please get in touch with Laurel Carr, laurel@godsacre.org or sign up in Smith Hall after worship.

FALL NEW MEMBER CLASS DATES

Please save these dates for our fall new member classes. We look forward to welcoming you into our family of faith. Contact Courtney Flynn, courtneywflynn@gmail.com with questions or to sign up.

Introduction, Sunday October 23, 3:00-5:00pm

Faith Sharing, Wednesday October 26, 7:00-9:00pm

Social, Saturday October 29, 4:00-6:00pm

New Member Sunday, October 30, 10:00am

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Chancel Choir - Thursdays, 7:30-9:00pm.

Joyful Ringers begin Thursday, September 29, 6:15-7:15pm – We need more ringers! Contact Jody Davis, music@godsacre.org.

OKTOBERFEST FELLOWSHIP SOCIAL - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

The Fellowship Team invites you for a fun and festive social on Friday, September 30, from 6:00-9:00pm at the Carriage Barn Arts Center. Brats, pretzels, and pub cheese will be on hand; please bring your favorite adult beverage and a German-style appetizer or dessert to share. Lederhosen encouraged! RSVP to Laurel Carr, laurel@godsacre.org

1 CORINTHIANS BIBLE STUDY – PERFECT TIME TO JOIN!

Begins September 19 at 7:00am and September 20 at 9:30am. Partisanship, income inequality, human trafficking, marriage and divorce issues, fundraising, and even what to have for dinner are all things concerning the church at Corinth in the first of two letters we have of Paul to the Corinthians. Join us to ascertain how the struggles of the early church and Paul's words continue to speak to us today. For more information or an optional Zoom link, contact Marianna Kilbride at marianna@godsacre.org.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY -NEW PARTICIPANTS WANTED

A few of our long-time Prayer Shawl members have moved away, and we hope others might join us to sit, knit, and enjoy each other's fellowship. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 10:00-11:30am in the Parlor. No experience is needed. We can teach you how! Please contact Tracy Goldman at office@godsacre.org if interested.

SEPTEMBER PLATE OFFERING & SNEAKER TREE

Our plate offering during September goes to Inspirica, our Stamford partner striving to end homelessness and housing insecurity, largely in Fairfield County. In addition, we will collect new sneakers for homeless children through October 2. Simply, take a sneaker from the tree to sign up and buy for your chosen child. Sneakers may be returned to the box in Smith Hall or mailed directly to the church no later than October 2. Contact Tracy Goldman, office@godsacre.org.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUMMER REFLECTIONS

Ladies, join us on Thursday, September 22 from 9:00-11:00am on the back patio at Anne Gunter's home at 113 Gower Road for a morning of fellowship and sharing of your summer adventures. A lovely way to renew friendships, make new friends and gather after a summer apart. Drinks will be provided. Please feel free to bring your favorite pastry to share if you wish. RSVP to Lesley Cousley at lcousley@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S & MEN'S SMALL GROUPS - BEGINNING IN OCTOBER!

Small Groups within our church are essential to deepening our engagement with others and growing in our faith. We meet monthly. Women contact Marianna Kilbride at marianna@godsacre.org. Men contact Steve Case at scase135@gmail.com, to learn more.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Sunday, 9/18 MSYG (Grades 7-8) Scavenger Hunt 4:00-5:30pm

Sunday, 9/18 YG (Grades 9-12) Scavenger Hunt 7:00-8:30pm

Monday, 9/19 Minnows (Grades K-2) 4:00-5:00pm – **meet in Smith Hall**

Monday, 9/19 Guppies (Grades 3-4) Creation Celebration
5:00-6:00pm – **pick up and drop off at the Nature Center**

Tuesday, 9/20 JYG (Grades 5-6) Creation Celebration
5:00-6:15pm – **pick up and drop off at the Nature Center**

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP:

The Rev. Dr. Stephen Chapin Garner

Senior Minister

The Rev. Kathryn Kibbie Laird

*Associate Minister for Children, Youth
and Families*

Marianna Kilbride

Director of Missions and Outreach

Dr. Jo Deen Blaine Davis

Director of Music Ministries

DEACON OF THE MONTH

Tammie Garner

We are a welcoming, inclusive and compassionate church community where difference and diversity are valued. We gather to promote the love and knowledge of the God revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, Redeemer and Friend, and welcome all to participate in the life of our church regardless of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, ability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

Learn more at www.godsacre.org

