



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

2nd Sunday after Epiphany • January 17, 2021 • 10 a.m.
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Please prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of the sanctuary
and the quiet stirrings of the Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for worship.

THE GATHERING

Prelude

Adoration

Florence Price

Call to Worship

Courtney Steininger

Leader: We are called to seek good and not evil, that we may live; and so that the Lord,
the God of hosts, will be with us.

People: We are called to hate evil and love good, and establish justice.

Leader: Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

**People We seek to be a people that embodies God's justice. By the power of God's Spirit,
may we listen for God's Word to us, and embody God's Word for the world.**

--Adapted from Amos 5.

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com -
 3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what - e'er your
 4 In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet

south or north, but one great fel - low -
 mu - nion find; his ser - vice is the
 race may be. All chil - dren of the
 south and north. All Christ - ly souls are

ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
 gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.
 one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Minute for Mission – Martin Luther King Virtual Service

Paul Martin

Invitation and Confession of Sin

Damon Kelliher

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Let us confess our sin together, trusting God's promised mercy.

People: **Holy God, we confess our failures to listen to the inklings of the Spirit. We are too often deaf to your still small voice amidst the noise and distraction of this world. Forgive us for the ways in which we have refused to hear the cries of your people around issues of injustice, inequality, racism, and discrimination that have torn the fabric of our society. We trust that your Spirit has the power to heal the wounds in our lives and empower us to extend that healing into the life of our communities. Strengthen us by your Spirit, O God, to be people who listen and hear your call, and embody the good news of your love for all people....**

Time for silent confession...

Leader: In Jesus name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Leader: In Christ, all the dividing walls of hostility have come down so that we might live in justice, friendship and peace. Friends, hear the good news:

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and restored, and set on right paths!**

Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

(Please greet one another with a sign of the peace of Christ.)

THE WORD

Unison Prayer For Illumination

Damon Kelliher

O God, send your Spirit to us to us that we might discern your Word amid the words we read today, so that in hearing your Word we may be formed and reformed to follow Christ into our world. Amen.

First Lesson – I Samuel 3:1-10

Ty Kelliher

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson – John 1:43-51

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

How is God Speaking to Us?

The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People

The Rev. Scott Herr

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Presentation of Tithes, Offerings and Ourselves

Damon Kelliher

Offertory

Walk in Jerusalem

Rollo A. Dilworth
FPC Choir

I want to be ready. I want to be ready to walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
Are you ready to walk? Are you ready to walk in Jerusalem jus' like John?
John said the city was jus' four square. Walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
And he declared he'd meet me there. Walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
John, O John, what do you say? Walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
That I'll be there in the coming' day. Walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.
I want to be ready. I want to be ready to walk in Jerusalem jus' like John.

Prayer of Dedication

Ty Kelliher

SENDING

Hymn

Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift Every Voice

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get

us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er

gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

Charge and Benediction

The Rev. Scott Herr

Ringing of the Church Bell

Postlude

Toccata on "We Shall Overcome"

Jackson Borges

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Welcome! Today the sermon is given by the Rev. Scott Herr, and on this second Sunday after Epiphany will reflect through the lectionary texts of I Samuel 3:1-10 and John 1:43-51 how God speaks to us through other people and calls us into the community of the beloved with people like us... and very different from us.

Calling all Sunday School children! FPCNC is offering Sunday School, via Zoom. Please join Courtney Steininger, this Sunday at 10:10am, for an inter-active Sunday School class. Our theme this week is "Listening to God," and we will be thinking about the big questions, "How do we get ready to listen to God?" and "What is God saying to us?" Ultimately, Children's worship will be about how God speaks to us through the special people in our lives and calls us to be in beloved community. Parents, also look out for a new weekly email on Saturday that will include discussion questions for your family about our weekly theme and big questions. Visit www.fpcnc.org for the Sunday School link and the children's bulletin in the January 17 Sunday's Service blog.



The Interfaith Council of New Canaan is pleased to provide a **virtual celebration of the life of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** Join us **Monday, January 18, 2021, at 10:30am**, on local Channel 79, to share in an Interfaith recognition of Dr. King's accomplishments, celebrated through beautiful music, with messages from clergy and members of our local Houses of Faith, as well as the young men of the ABC House. Tune to New Canaan's Channel 79 or view at: youtube.com/NCTV79.



New Members' Orientation Class, via Zoom. Despite the Pandemic, the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan is alive and well, albeit worshipping and connecting in different and virtual ways. Some of you have expressed an interest in becoming members of the church, so we will offer a 90-minute orientation class on Zoom Sunday, February 7th at 11:30-13:00. If you are interested in becoming a member and would like to join this orientation class, please rsvp to Tina@fpcnc.org

by February 3rd, please. We will cover three main questions: "Who are we?" "What do we believe?" and "How do we live out our faith?" All are welcome!



Monday, January 11 was Day 1 for Courtney Steininger, our new Director of Youth and Children's Ministries! As a brief reminder, Courtney - who has already moved into her New Canaan apartment! - is a lifetime Presbyterian from Darnestown, Maryland. She is currently a senior at *Princeton Theological Seminary*, graduating in May of 2021. Courtney has previously served as an intern at *Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church*, in Children's Ministry at *Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton*, and as a student intern in *Religion and International Affairs at the Ecumenical Office of the United Nations*. She has also

served the *General Assembly of the PCUSA*, including as a representative of the PCUSA at the *World Council of Churches*.

We again express our gratitude to the Search Committee (Randy Ferguson, Megan Wunderlich, Mark Magnusen, Laurel Carlson, Lisa Gifford, Christine Mangone, Julie Reeves, Vivi Reeves, Alexandra Gillespie, and Rev. Herr) for their efforts in identifying and recruiting Courtney to our family.



Between now and mid-February is the stretch drive of FPCNC's 2021 Stewardship Campaign. In February, we will be publishing a list of those families who have contributed to support the Church's mission in this exciting new year for our church family. If you've not yet pledged, please contact: John Lanaway: jblanaway@gmail.com;

Jim Beall: jhbeall@yahoo.com; or Jim Riehl: jriehl@fpcnc.org; OR call the church office at 203-966-0002 Ext. 2.

Please consider volunteering to help with our Sunday service. As we honor the requirements of COVID, please be aware that we need all our congregation to help with our services, whether on LocalLive, or, hopefully, in the future in person. Please consider volunteering to read, carry the cross or usher (in the future!). Signing up is easy: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>. Some of our faithful members who have done so in the past cannot commit to being inside. Please consider what you can do for FPCNC.



FPCNC Men's Fellowship - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays

FPCNC's Men's Fellowship is a great opportunity for the men to get to know each other a little better and do some bible study together. It is held twice a month from 7 to 8 am, on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. The meetings are on Zoom due to the pandemic, but we anticipate meeting in person at the church as soon as we're able to. **Our next meeting on January 20 will feature John Lanaway as our**

special guest. Come and learn more about John's background and his walk of faith. All men are welcome and feel free to invite any friends. We look forward to seeing you there!
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89635063375?pwd=U3pPYUV6NCtockgrYmJSYTFWdkFIUT09>

Meeting ID: 896 3506 3375 / Passcode: Fellowship

Wednesdays at 2! Musical Musings: Stories about Sunday's Music. Join Victoria to learn about the music for the upcoming Sunday! We will learn the hymns and their stories, learn about the special music and how everything ties together in the Sunday service. So, if you have ever found yourself saying "I wonder where that came from" or "I don't know this hymn," then join us on Wednesdays so you are in the know before Sunday's service! Contact Victoria@fpcnc.org, if you are interested and for the Zoom link.



Facebook Concerts Thursday Nights on the FPC Facebook Page! This week tune in to our Facebook page for weekly concerts beginning at 6pm! Featuring friends from FPC, we will be presenting short 15-20-minute concerts to help us stay connected musically and keep our spirits up during this time. If you are interested in participating as a performer (it will be very informal and comfortable!), please contact Victoria Shields at Victoria@fpcnc.org. Children are welcome to participate as well! ***And you don't need a Facebook account to participate! Go to www.facebook.com/FPCNC***

New Canaan Food Pantry is open! Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at St. Mark's, by the food pantry door on Mondays 8:30-10:30 AM. The items most needed are Coffee (regular or decaf, drip or instant), apple juice, pancake mix, cereal (sweet or healthy), oatmeal, syrup, chicken, tuna, pasta sauce, vegetables, fruit, chili, soup, tortilla chips, salsa, crackers, salad dressing, applesauce, peanut butter, jelly, packaged potato dish, rice (white or brown), toothpaste, toothbrushes, dishwashing detergent, laundry detergent, ketchup, mustard, white vinegar.



Session met for the first time this year on Tuesday evening, via ZOOM, of course. The year is off to an exciting start, as we welcome the arrival of Courtney Steininger, our new Director of Youth and Children, who moved to New Canaan last week and started work on Monday. Courtney's energy is infectious, and her ideas are already plentiful, two days into the job. We assured her of our, and your, support and that we will do everything we can to assist when asked, individually and as a group.

Stewardship is in the final stages of what is already a very positive campaign, reflecting the high degree of enthusiasm generated since Scott's arrival. We are already over \$700 thousand, a \$60 thousand increase over last year - with 38 families still to be heard from (if this includes you, please join the list of supporters that we will be publishing in February). This stewardship result, combined with better than budgeted results for 2020 plus the additional monies raised, and set aside for our Youth and Children programs, creates some breathing room for us in 2021 and for the next few years as we move forward.

Session also received and unanimously approved a recommendation from the Finance Committee for enhancements to the current sound system. These enhancements will bring us into regulatory compliance, eliminate the need for a sound technician in Sunday service, rebalance the speaker setup and provide new microphones supportive of all the foregoing.

All of this will allow us to maintain LocalLive broadcasts going forward for those members who are remote, or otherwise unable to be present moving forward. The motion was accompanied by Session's sincere expression of gratitude to Spencer Reeves for his enormous assistance to our church in the recent pandemic months.

We also brainstormed ways in which we can have a positive impact on the New Canaan community and make progress as a congregation as we wait for the pandemic to subside and the vaccinations to arrive. Encouraging reports from the Congregational Life, Membership, Worship, Music, and Arts Committees and the Deacons were also received. Finally, initial plans for the congregational meeting, now set for February 28, were discussed - more to come on that.

Happy New Year and peace and blessings from the Session and Deacons!

John Lanaway and Jen Van de Graaf, Co-clerks of Session

Is there anyone in your life who is hurting or threatening you in any way?

If you answered yes, Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC) is here to help and support you on your journey to safety. Domestic violence advocates are available throughout the COVID-19 outbreak to help and support individuals experiencing abuse.

If you are in crisis or in need of emergency shelter, call Safe Connect, CT's statewide hotline, at 888-774-2900. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

To set up an appointment to speak with a DVCC advocate, reach out to the following:

Housing and Financial Advocacy:
KDorovan@dvccct.org 203-832-8069

Legal Advocacy: LMoreno@dvccct.org 203-517-7873

Counseling: JSavini@dvccct.org (English) 203-918-7013
DUrteaga@dvccct.org (Spanish) 203-918-6715

No one should choose between their health and safety.

40 Years DVCC

Safe Connect: This is a difficult time of year, exacerbated by the pandemic and political and economic stressors. We want our community to be aware of help for our families and our neighbors. Please be aware there is a 24-Hour Domestic Violence Hotline 888-774-2900 to text or call. There is also email or chat available in any language. People contact *Safe Connect* for themselves or someone else they care about. Some have questions about their relationships and just want to talk. We take your lead, offering information, options, and possible outcomes. Also, tune in to the community podcast and latest Ep 8: Helping Friends in Abusive Relationships with DVCC's Suzanne Adam, Executive Director, at <https://www.talkingaboutit.org/>

Please keep the following people in your hearts. *New Concerns:* for the family of Winifred Craig Johnson. ***Continued concerns:*** Catherine Armstrong; Frank Banko; Gloria Bridgman; Dr. Charlotte Brown; Norma Collier; John Edwards; Denise Lynch; Joan Trefts; Debbie Murphy Williams; The Abo Noktah family (our Syrian refugees): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin, Zain and Hayat, and sons Yaman and Ahmed, and Khaldoun's mother, Nam Abo Noktah.

Flower Memorials: If you wish to have flowers in the sanctuary to celebrate an anniversary, a baptism, a birthday, or to memorialize a loved family member or friend please call Barbara Wentzel, Flower Coordinator, at 203-966-5402 or email at barbarawentzel@mac.com.

THIS WEEK at FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

10 a.m. Worship Service via LocalLive
Rev. Dr. R. Scott Herr

10:10 a.m. Sunday School, via Zoom

11 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour, via Zoom
Password is **Joy!**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

10 a.m. Leadership Team, via Zoom

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

7 a.m. Men's Fellowship, via Zoom

2 p.m. Musical Musings

7 p.m. Enneagram Class, via Zoom

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

3:30 p.m. Confirmation Class

6 p.m. Facebook Live Concert

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

10 a.m. Worship Service via LocalLive
Rev. Dr. R. Scott Herr

10:10 a.m. Sunday School, via Zoom

11 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour, via Zoom
Password is **Joy!**

Participating in today's service: Damon and Ty Kelliher
Musician: Ian Shearson

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. R. Scott Herr, Senior Pastor • The Rev. Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate

OUR STAFF

Victoria Shields, Director of Music and Arts • Sherry Tate, Cherub Choir Director

Courtney Steininger, Director of Youth and Children Ministries

Jim Riehl, Interim Church Administrator • Tina St. Armand, Office Manager

Edgar Torres, Day Sexton • Kate Stringfellow, Operations Manager

NOTICE FROM NEW CANAAN HUMAN SERVICES
REGARDING COVID VACCINE APPOINTMENTS FOR SENIORS

New Canaan has posted information regarding the COVID Vaccine Schedule. Click on this link: [Information About COVID.pdf \(newcanaan.info\)](#). The fourth paragraph allows you to access the Vaccine Administration Management System (VAMS) by “clicking here”. This will take you to the following link: [Online VAMS Enrollment \(ct.gov\)](#) which allows you to begin the registration process to receive the vaccine.

When asked your occupation, click on the first choice “I am eligible because I am 75 or older”. It may change to 65 or older!!

After you register, you are told to wait for 2 confirmation emails. It may take up to 24 hours. The emails will come at different times. One is the password to successfully get onto the link, which is in the other email. *Make sure you check your spam or junk mail to see if it has gone into there!*

Once registered, you will then be able to choose an appointment time and place. Click on the location and then scroll down to the times/dates available, if any. Appointments may be made outside of New Canaan but understand the vaccine supply is not as large as the demand. As a result, appointment times may have to be made at later dates than desired. Also, as more vaccine becomes available, more appointments will open up so keep looking on a daily basis if you are having difficulty finding a vaccine administration site where there are openings.

For those individuals who do not have an email, call 877-918-2224, the Vaccine Appointment Assistance Line. Calls are accepted Monday – Friday, 8 AM – 4:30 PM.

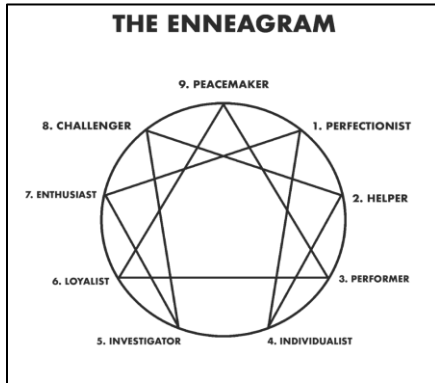
Please reach out to Human Services for further assistance. The main line is 203-594-3076.

Adult/Senior Caseworker: Marcy Rand, LMSW 203-594-3083 marcella.rand@newcanaanct.gov

Youth/Family Caseworker: Jackie D’Louhy, LCSW 203-594-3081 jacqueline.dlouhy@newcanaanct.gov

Director: Bethany Zaro, RN, MPH 203-594-3093 bethany.zaro@newcanaanct.gov

New Adult Class began Wednesday, January 13th! The Enneagram Journey.



WHAT?

The Enneagram Journey is a curriculum designed to help participants learn about the Enneagram, a powerful ancient tool for understanding motivation, behavior, and experience. This video-based curriculum is led by Suzanne Stabile, a master teacher and guide and founder of “Life in the Trinity Ministry.” This course was created to help participants experience new self-awareness and spiritual transformation as a community for those who participate.

According to the curriculum, this class is “not just to teach an intellectual understanding of the Enneagram, although you will get a good grounding in its basic concepts. Knowing your Enneagram Number and learning about the Enneagram are not enough to help you work with your personality and promote spiritual growth. Transformation and growth take place as a community of people experiences the Enneagram together. That is why we have called this curriculum *The Enneagram Journey*—it’s a shared experience designed to help you connect with other members of your group and learn with and from each other.” For more information about the Enneagram and Suzanne Stabile, go to: <https://www.theenneagramjourney.org/about>

Each participant will receive a hard copy Participants Guide which can be picked up on Sunday, January 10th at the church after 11:00.

WHO?

Any member or friend of the FPCNC who wants to learn together using the ancient tool of the Enneagram. This is mainly for adults, but older teens might also benefit from this course. The class is limited to 20 participants and requires pre-registration. *The deadline for registration is January 8.*

WHEN?

This 12-week class will begin on Wednesday, January 13, and meet weekly through March 31. The class will meet “virtually” using Zoom each Wednesday evening from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. There will be a one-hour video presentation followed by a half hour of interactive conversation.

WHERE?

The course moderated by Rev. Scott Herr using Zoom technology.

HOW MUCH?

There is a \$20.00 donation to cover the cost of the Participant Guide.

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Please sign up by contacting Tina at: tina@fpcnc.org and send a check for \$20.00 to First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan, with Enneagram printed in the memo line by January 10. Sign up today, as this class will fill up!