



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Second Sunday After The Epiphany • January 16, 2022 • 10 am
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN, CT 06840 • 203-966-0002 • FPCNC.ORG

Grace and peace to you, and welcome!

As you prepare for worship, please sign the red welcome pad, and pass it to your neighbor. At the end of the row, have the last person please pass it back to the center aisle so we can know our fellow worshipers. Then, prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for worship. Out of care for your neighbors, we encourage you to wear a mask at all times, but especially when singing and during the passing of the peace. Thank you!

**PLEASE STAND IN BODY AND/OR SPIRIT.*

THE GATHERING

Prelude:

Prélude sur l'Introit de Épiphanie

Maurice Duruflé

***Call to Worship (from Psalm 29 36:5-9)**

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

Leader: Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens,

People: your faithfulness to the clouds.

Leader: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;

People: you save humans and animals alike, O Lord.

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

People: All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

Leader: They feast on the abundance of your house,

People: and you give them drink from the river of your delights.

Leader: For with you is the fountain of life;

People: in your light we see light."

Leader: And so we come to worship you,

People: Our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer!

If you are attending worship in-person, please sing the hymns with your mask on.

***Glory to God Hymnal No. 363**

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL'S 148TH

4 Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

1 Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;
4 Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "4 Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come". The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics for the four verses are: "1 Re - joi - ce, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!", "2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;", "3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;", and "4 Re - joi - ce in glo - rious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come". The bottom staff is a bass line in 4/4 time, starting with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp.

and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.

Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given.
and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.

The second system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are: "and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.". The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics for the four verses are: "Re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more.", "when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove.", "the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given.", and "and gath - er all the saints to their e - ter - nal home.". The bottom staff is a bass line in 4/4 time, starting with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp.

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

The third system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics are: "Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!". The middle staff is a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The lyrics for the two verses are: "Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Re - joi - ce, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!". The bottom staff is a bass line in 4/4 time, starting with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp.

Invitation to Confession

Cindy Graziano

Leader: Aware of the larger context of destructive climate change, divisive political polarity, and increasing social isolation and individualism, let us together with one voice humbly approach God's throne of grace to confess our sins and present ourselves honestly before our Savior.

Confession of Sin

Leader: **Loving and Generous God, you call us to a higher standard than we have achieved. We, therefore, confess our thoughts, words, and actions which have missed the mark. Within our families, we have loved imperfectly. Among siblings in the church, we have not fully walked in the light. Our congregation does not reflect the rich diversity of your people, nor do we show care for Creation. In our witness to the world, our lives have not adequately testified to the joy and justice of your beloved community. Forgive us, Lord, for permitting ourselves to be distracted from your call to live in the light of the gospel. Heal our brokenness and restore us to you, our first love.**

(silent confession and reflection)

Leader: In Jesus name.

People: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God is a loving God, full of mercy. With God, the best is yet to come, so have hope, be at peace, and respond in grateful service.

People: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made righteous, set free to live in joy. Amen.**

***Passing of the Peace**

Leader: In the midst of a world racked with fear, judgment, violence and darkness, Jesus says "My peace I give to you!" May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

***Response for Regathering**

We Three Kings of Orient Are (Refrain)

KINGS OF ORIENT

O star of wonder, star of might, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!

THE WORD

Prayer For Illumination (unison)

Bob Spangler

Holy God, we need the grace and guidance of your Word. Open our hearts and minds to hear again of your great love and compassion for all. In Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Lesson – Isaiah 62:1-5

Bob Spangler

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the LORD delights in you, and your

land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Epiphany Alleluias

John Weaver

Alleluia, alleluia.
We have seen His star in the East,
And are come to worship Him.
Arise, shine for thy light is come
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Second Lesson – John 2:1-11

The Rev. Scott Herr

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Life of the Party"

The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)**

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children, healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Prayers of the People

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.

Call for the offering

Cindy Graziano

Our God blesses us with extravagance and abundance. Grateful for all we have received, let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

Offertory

Zion's Walls
Lisa Flanagan - soprano

arranged by Aaron Copland

Come fathers and mothers come,
Sisters and brothers come,
Join us in singing the praises of Zion.
O fathers don't you feel determined to meet within the walls of Zion,
We'll shout and go round the walls of Zion.

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Bob Spangler

Just as Jesus turned gallons of water into wine, we too know God's extravagant blessings. Take these gifts we give today and bless them, Holy God, that others may know your abundance and live whole and healthy lives. Amen.

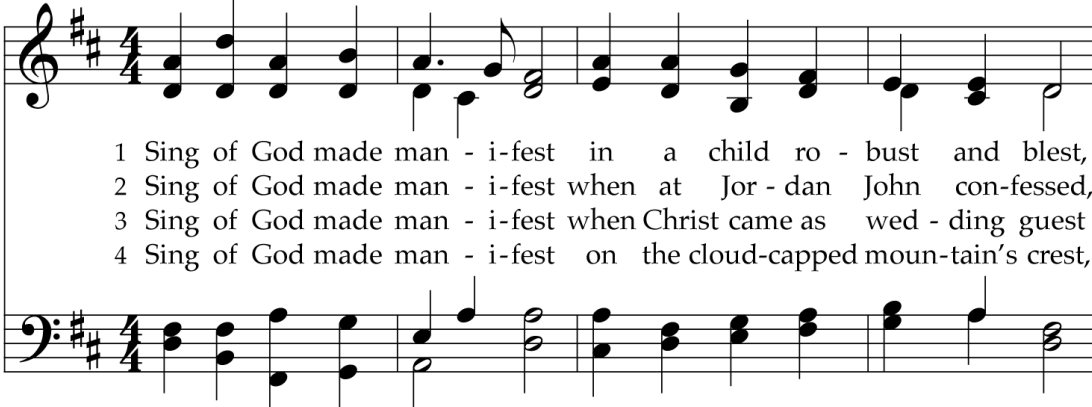
SENDING

If you are attending worship in-person, please sing the hymns with your mask on.

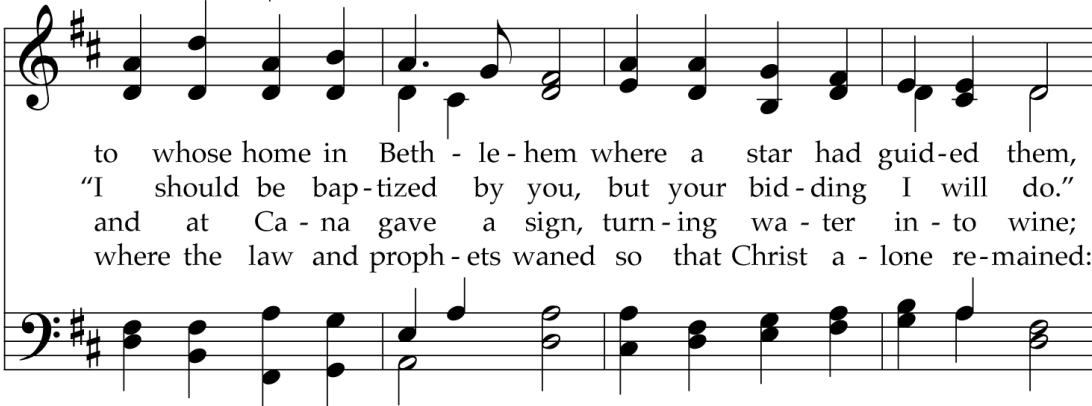
*Glory to God Hymnal No. 156

Sing of God Made Manifest

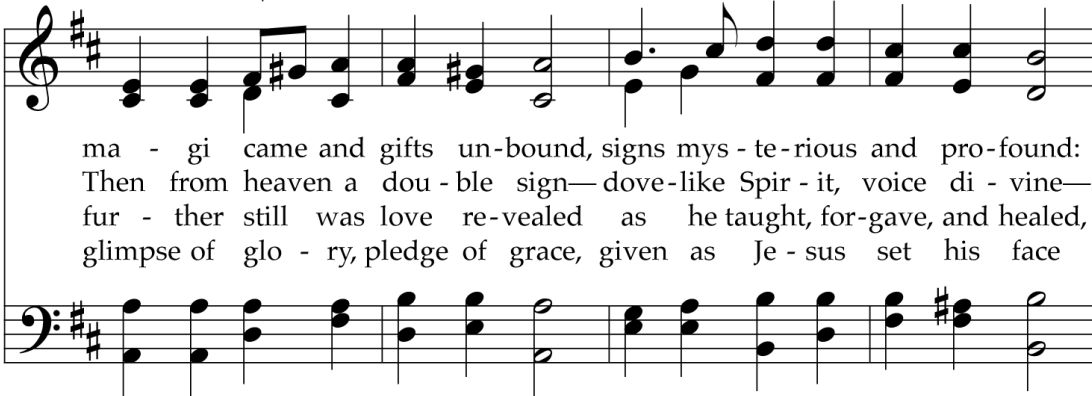
SALZBURG



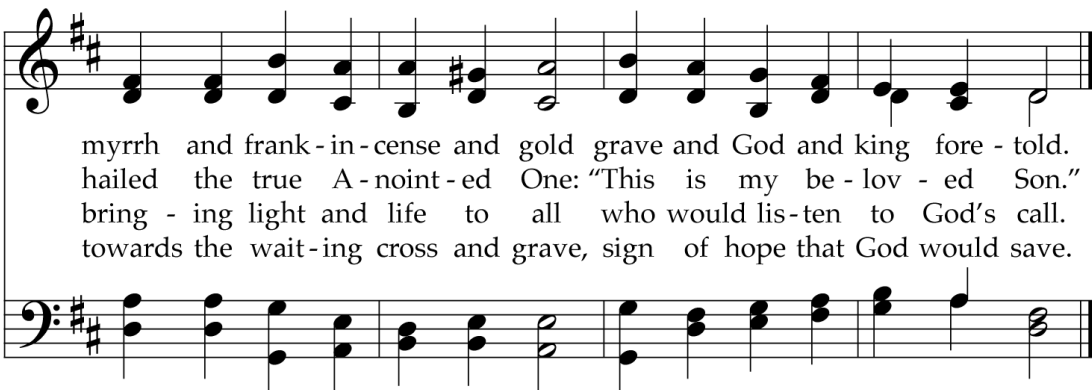
1 Sing of God made man - i - fest in a child ro - bust and blest,
2 Sing of God made man - i - fest when at Jor - dan John con - fessed,
3 Sing of God made man - i - fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest
4 Sing of God made man - i - fest on the cloud - capped moun - tain's crest,



to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid - ed them,
"I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."
and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
where the law and proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re - mained:



ma - gi came and gifts un - bound, signs mys - te - rious and pro - found:
Then from heaven a dou - ble sign—dove - like Spir - it, voice di - vine—
fur - ther still was love re - vealed as he taught, for - gave, and healed,
glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face



myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.
hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
bring - ing light and life to all who would lis - ten to God's call.
towards the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

Choral Amen

*Ringing of the Church Bell

*Postlude

Toccata for Organ

John Weaver

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to worship! Thank you for joining us in for this service and we pray you will experience the grace of God's welcome and be spiritually renewed and socially reoriented for the coming week. Scott will be reflecting on the significance of Jesus' first miracle through the lens of the two lectionary texts from Isaiah 62:1-5 and John 2:1-11.

In accordance with CDC guidelines, masks inside the building are optional for those who have been vaccinated. Masks are still required for the unvaccinated and during any singing during worship or elsewhere. Thank you for your cooperation. The in-person Sunday service will continue to be simultaneously streamed online via *LocalLive* at 10:00 am. Thank you for your cooperation.

All children are welcome in worship, but childcare is also provided in the nursery. There are monthly curriculum bags for kids and a craft corner in the rear of the sanctuary. Church wide events hosted by the YLC are inclusive of all ages. Watch the event schedule and sign up to explore faith and share in fellowship with our wonderful inter-generational church family.

About Today's Music: Today's prelude is by well-known French organist Maurice Duruflé. Duruflé became titular organist of St. Étienne-du-Mont in Paris in 1929, a position he held for the rest of his life. The music is for the Epiphany season. Duruflé is best known for his Requiem (1947), which will be performed in our Sanctuary by Charis Chamber Voices on Sunday, March 13 at 4PM. I will be playing the organ!

Given the celebratory nature of today's theme, our vocal music will be festive. The choir will sing John Weaver's *Epiphany Alleluias*. In 1970 John Weaver became the Director of Music at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church where he remained for 35 years until his retirement in 2005. John Weaver was my teacher and served as chair of the organ department at the Curtis Institute of Music from 1971-2003 and chair of the organ department at the Juilliard School from 1986-2004. He said "Organ playing should be exciting—this is rule number one. And if you must break all the other rules, so be it!" The offertory solo is by the American composer Aaron Copland. At the age of twenty, he left New York for the Summer School of Music for American Students at Fontainebleau, France. In France, Copland found a musical community unlike any he had known. It was at this time that he sold his first composition to Durand and Sons, the most respected music publisher in France. One folk song that Copland used in several works was a Southern revival song, *Zion's Walls*. Originating at camp meetings in Georgia, it was notated and published in 1855 by John G. McCurry and became part of the shape note tradition of Southern folk hymnody.

Finally, last week's postlude was from the French tradition and composed by Widor. This week, a toccata of a different nature from John Weaver. I chose it for its rollicking nature.

THIS WEEK AT FPCNC

Church Office hours next week:

Monday, Jan. 17 – CLOSED for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday – Friday, Jan. 18-21 (8:30am – 4:30pm)

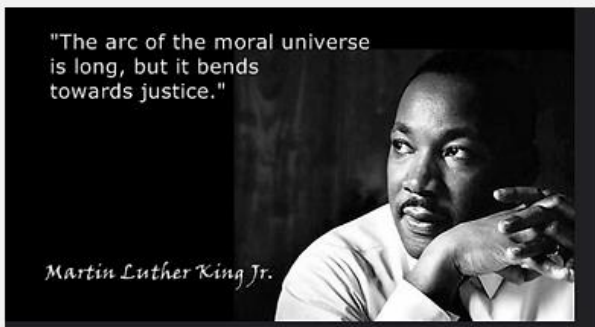
Any urgent Pastoral Care needs, please contact Scott at 203-921-7536, or call Wendy at 203-966-0002 ext.1 or wendy@fpcnc.org.

Thank you from Jan Lucie – My sincere thanks to the congregation of FPCNC for the appreciation extended to me as Interim Director of Music and Fine Arts. Everyone has been so kind, and I am touched by the lovely glass cross and gift card. I will be returning to sing and ring when the incidence of illness abates as my husband's health comes first. I did not want Terry Flanagan to have to face this situation, but I hope we can all support his music ministry in the coming months.

LOOKING AHEAD

Mark your calendar: The annual Martin Luther King Jr. service presented by the Interfaith Council of New Canaan will once again take place this year on Monday January 17th. The virtual event will be shown on Channel 79 at 10:30 am and also be available on You Tube. Our own Pastor Scott will be participating along with other Faith Leaders from New Canaan and area Houses of Worship. Please see the details below.

On January 17, 2022, the Interfaith Council of New Canaan will present a virtual celebration of the life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., centered on his words "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice".



The Service is an Interfaith recognition of Dr. King's accomplishments, celebrated through beautiful music with stories and messages from clergy and members of local houses of faith, as well as the young men of the ABC House.

The program will be broadcast at 10:30 a.m. on Channel 79, and can also be later viewed at:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/NCTV79>

Donations will benefit local residents through the New Canaan Community Foundation's Touch a Life Initiative <https://www.newcanaancf.org/Receive/Grants/TouchALife.aspx>



A Community Conversation

Coping with Grief, Trauma, and Loss

with Chelsea McGee & Julianne Green from:
Family Centers: The Center For HOPE & The Den for Grieving Kids



This safe space will help families learn how to process and cope with traumatic events, and provide tips for talking with children.

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 10 am via Zoom

Register at www.NewCanaanCARES.org

Coping with Grief, Trauma, and Loss (A Community Conversation) Tuesday, January 18th at 10am via zoom.
Register at www.NewCanaanCARES.org.

Service of Prayer for New Canaan – Join our local faith leaders to pray for our community on Wednesday, January 26th at 7:30pm at Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church.



Service of Prayer for New Canaan

Join our local faith leaders to pray for
our community

Wednesday, January 26th | 7.30pm

Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church
21 Cherry Street, New Canaan

- The Congregational Church of New Canaan ■ First Church of Christ, Scientist ■ First Presbyterian Church ■ Grace Community Church ■ Saint Aloysius Roman Catholic Church ■ St. Mark's Episcopal Church ■ Saint Michael's Lutheran Church ■ United Methodist Church of New Canaan ■ Waveny LifeCare Network Spiritual Services

PARTICIPATE IN CHRIST'S MISSION



W+2 is a formula for Spiritual Health. It's simple: When you are in town and able, come join us for Worship every week for spiritual refreshment and a reminder that you are loved. Then, find another source of revitalization during the week, whether a class or small group or service opportunity that feeds your soul. Finally, commit to a regular way of sharing your gifts for ministry. Service is not an option for followers of

Christ, *it's our way of life*. You can serve anywhere, but we would welcome you sharing your gifts of time and talent in the church through helping on a Sunday Morning. Ministry options are varying from reading of scripture and liturgy, ushering, greeting, serving communion, or helping to prepare for communion, etc. We will prepare you fully for what you sign up for. It's pretty easy, and usually very rewarding! If you have questions, please feel free to contact Jan Lucie at 309-331-3468 or one of our pastors, or simply sign up [here](#). Either way, thank you for joining the ministry!

If you wish to place flowers in the sanctuary to celebrate an anniversary, baptism, or birthday, or to memorialize a beloved family member or friend, please contact Barbara Wentzel, Flower Coordinator, 203-966-5402 or barbarawentzel@mac.com.

FPCNC Flower Committee needs your help. Their mission is to decorate the sanctuary, adding beauty, color, and nature each week. Flower arrangers and plant waterers are needed. We'd love your help! We're happy to help or teach you on simple decorating. For more info contact Patty von Jena: 203-655-1321 or pvonj@optonline.net.

Volunteers Needed to prepare or serve food! FPC is privileged to have the opportunity to prepare and serve dinner on the first Saturday of each month at the **New Covenant House** in Stamford. This is a rewarding way to give your time and efforts. **We are seeking 3 volunteers for these upcoming dates: February through June 2022, to help prepare meals (2-4pm) or serve meals (4-6pm).** To sign up, or if you have any questions, please contact Cindy Graziano: 203-968-1302 or c_graziano@msn.com. If you're interested in being part of the soup kitchen shopper team, contact Wendy in the church office.

GROW IN FAITH

Learning with Scott: Study "Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living" which examines how to integrate what we believe with how we live. The study focuses on the practice of hospitality, looking at stories from scripture. When we are intentional about welcoming all, we affirm the worth of all of God's people. **All are welcome to come, Sunday mornings at 8:30 am in the Common Room!** Coffee/tea, and continental breakfast are provided.

Take Home a Memory. Upon action of the Worship Committee, we are offering back to you the Presbyterian hymnals in good shape that GLORY TO GOD replaced. Look for the table in the Common Room where you will find the hymnals arranged by alphabetical order of the dedication. Help yourself!

Youth Leadership Committee (YLC) is run by parent volunteers with a commitment to spiritual growth, the YLC meets for the 2021-2022 school year. *Their next event will be a baking event scheduled around the Easter holiday - more details will be announced in February. The event will be open to the whole congregation.* YLC is a platform for the youth of our church to connect not only with each other, but also the greater community of our church and New Canaan. Their goals are to learn leadership and management skills and partake in fellowship and outreach with our church and community, all while building strong relationships with those around them. They meet once a month from 4pm-5:15pm in the Tate Youth Barn at FPC and next meeting is on Sunday, February 13. All high school students, friends and members are welcome. For more information email megan.wunderlich@gmail.com.



PRAYER AND CONCERNS

Birth: We share the joy of Ellen Sisson as she announces the birth of her first grandchild, Charles Parker Curtis, born on January 13 in Boston to her daughter Mary and her husband Parker Curtis.

Please keep the following people in your hearts. *New concerns:* George Post; The family of Teddy Balkind, along with the St. Luke's and Brunswick School communities; The family of Charlotte Conner, who died on 12/28/21
Continued concerns: Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); Evelyn Bergstrom's sister, Joan Walter; John Edwards; Tindley Whipple Gilbert; Mary Bolling Hoffman; John Lanaway; Denise Lynch; Sandy Nissley; Spencer Reeves; Art Sjogren; 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.

THIS WEEK at FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

8:30 am Learning Time with Scott
10 am Worship Service in person and via LocalLive
(Rev. Scott Herr preaching)
11 am Coffee Hour via Zoom only

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Office Closed)

3:30 pm Jumpin' Jams (Barn)
4:30 pm Jumpin' Jams (Barn)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

9:30 am Jumpin' Jams (Barn)
10 am Music w/ Marcus
10 am Leadership Team
10:30 am Jumpin' Jams (Barn)
11:30 am Jumpin' Jams (Barn)
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

10 am Music w/ Marcus
4:30 pm Confirmation (Barn)
7 pm Choir Practice

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21

10:45 am Jumpin' Jams (Barn)
3:30 pm Jumpin' Jams (Barn)
4:30 pm Jumpin' Jams (Barn)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

9:15 am A.A. Group (closed)
10:30 am A.A. Group (open)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

8:30 am Learning Time with Scott
10 am Worship Service in person and via LocalLive
(Rev. Scott Herr preaching)
11 am Coffee Hour via Zoom only

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

The First Presbyterian Church Choir
with

Lisa Flanagan, soprano; Jennifer O'Neill, alto; Evan McCormack, tenor; and Bryan Murray, baritone

Lay Readers: Bob Spangler and Cindy Graziano

Greeters: Sue Sherwood and Barbara Wentzel

Usher: Jen Gulden

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

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

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Arts • Sherry Tate, Cherub Choir Director • Jim Riehl, Interim Church Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager • Kate Stringfellow and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers