



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect

Fifth Sunday of Lent • March 17, 2024 • 10:00am
178 OENOK 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 found at the center of each aisle so that we will know you worshipped with us. Then pass it to your neighbor. The last person to sign the pad should pass it back to the center of the aisle. We suggest you prayerfully allow the silent, sacred space of where you are, and the quiet stirrings of the Holy Spirit to prepare your heart and mind for Worship.

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

THE GATHERING

Prelude

Andante

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

***Call to Worship**

Stacy Arevalo

Leader: Why have you come here today?

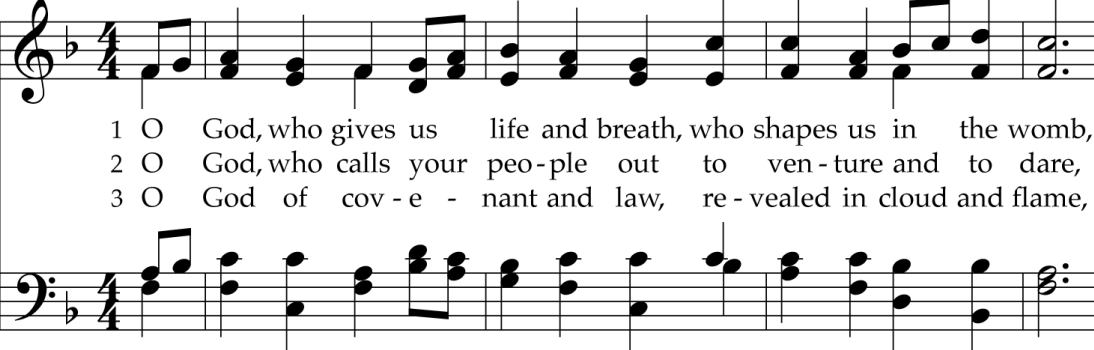
People: We come to see Jesus.

Leader: What have you heard of him?

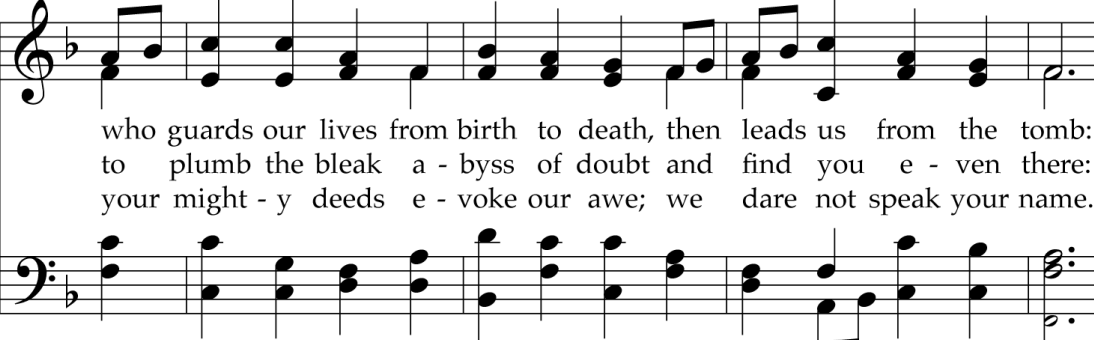
People: That He is the giver of new life.

Leader: Then, come and worship,

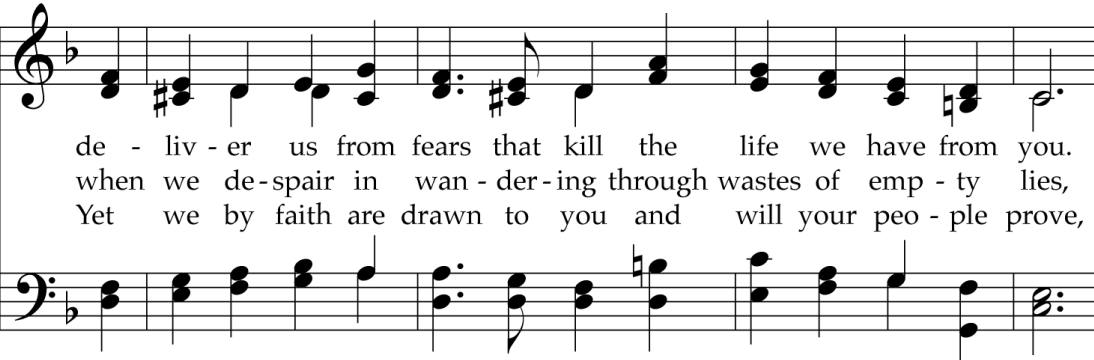
People: for the time has come to see Him.



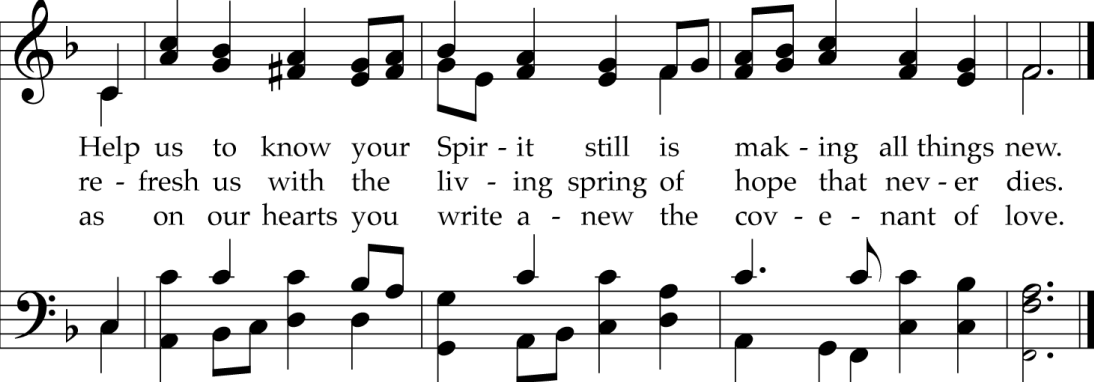
1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,
 2 O God, who calls your peo-ple out to ven-ture and to dare,
 3 O God of cov-e - nant and law, re-vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:
 to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:
 your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.
 when we de-spair in wan - der-ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,
 Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,



Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.
 re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.
 as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Call to Confession

Janet Lanaway

Leader: In Eugene Peterson's translation of one of the Psalms, he writes that what God is after is truth from the inside out. That is what we are about in confession, trying to be truthful about who we are before God, no secrets, no cover-ups, just an openness made possible by the assurance of God's grace. Let us then say how it is with us.

Confession of Sin (unison)

Janet Lanaway

People: **Covenant-making God, Your love knows no bounds, but we draw tight limits around our lives. We focus on ourselves, closing our eyes to those around us in need of hope. We restrict the time we give to You, filling our hours instead with busy routine. We shut out the news that is bad, leaving our community in need of truth. Forgive us. Soften our hearts that Your new law of love may be written there. Then open our eyes to see and our hands to serve the brokenness of the world...**

(silence for further individual reflection and repentance...)

Leader: In Jesus' name we pray.

People: **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (Hebrews 10:16-18)

Janet Lanaway

Leader: Hear God's promise—"I will forgive your iniquity and remember your sin no more."

People: **Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made righteous. Amen!**

*Gloria Patri (No. 581)

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, Amen.**

*Passing of the Peace

Janet Lanaway

Leader: May mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance. May the peace of our Lord Jesus be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Congregation greets one another and shares the peace of Christ

THE WORD

Lighting the Candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace

Stacy Arevalo

Leader: Today we light a candle for God's Global Vision of Compassion, Justice and Peace....

People – Sung response Hymn No. 757, verse 3: Today We All are Called to Be Disciples

Kingsfold

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

First Lesson – Jeremiah 31:31-34

Janet Lanaway

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Gott ist mein Hirt (Psalm 23)

Franz Schubert

*Gott ist mein Hirt,
mir wird nichts mangeln.
Er weidet mich auf grüner Auer,
er führet mich zum frischen Wasser.
Sein Wort er quicket meine Seele.
Er führet mich auf rechter Straße
um seines Namens willen.
Und wall' ich auch
im Todes schatten talle,
so fürchte ich kein Unglück,
denn du, du bist bei mir,
dein Stab und deine Stütze
sind mir immerdar mein Trost.
Du richtest mir ein Freudenmahl
im Angesicht der Feinde zu,
du salbst mein Haupt mit Öle
und schenkst mir volle Becher ein,
mir folget Heil und Seligleit
in diesem Leben nach,
einst ruh ich ew'ge Zeit
dort indes Ew'gen Haus.*

God tends me well:
I shall lack nothing.
He pastures me in verdant meadows,
he guides my path to quiet waters.
He comforts me when I am faint.
He leads me in the ways of justice
because of his great glory.
And, though I walk
in death's great darkened valley,
there I shall fear no evil,
for thou upholdest me;
thy rod and thy supporting hand
shall always be my help.
Thou hast prepared a feast for me
in presence of my enemies;
my head thou hast anointed
and giv'n me fullness of the wine.
Thy blessedness shall follow me
for all my days on earth,
then I for evermore
shall dwell in God's house.

Lisa Flanagan, Allison Gray – sopranos;
Jamie Ratcliffe, Sherry Tate – altos

Second Lesson – John 12:20-33

The Rev. Scott Herr

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love

their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"We Wish to See Jesus..."

The Rev. Scott Herr

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 247 Now the Green Blade Rises

Noël Nouvelet

1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,

wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain;

love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Welcome and Reception of New Members

Elder Bob Spangler

Robert and Ferial Aldag
Tadd Spering and Ivy Schultz
Julie Fowler and David Viklund

Elder: On behalf of the Session, Robert, Ferial, Tadd, Ivy, Julie and David have learned what we believe and want to covenant with us to be received into the membership of this congregation.

Pastor: Hear the words of our Lord Jesus Christ: All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (Matthew 28:18-20).

Remembering the words of our Lord and sure of God's presence with us now, we do this.

Friends, in baptism you were claimed by God, marked as Christ's own forever, and joined to His body by the Holy Spirit. You come to us then, not as strangers, but as friends in Christ and members of the household of God. We rejoice that you now desire to join this congregation in the Worship and mission of the Church. Please affirm your faith by answering these questions:

- Who is your Lord and Savior?
Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.
- Do you trust in him?
I do.
- Do you intend to be his disciples, to obey his word and to show his love?
I do.

- Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, giving of yourself in every way, and will you seek the fellowship of the church wherever you may be?

I will.

Then asking the congregation:

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

- Do you, the members of the First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan, welcome these siblings who have witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ, and promise to strengthen their ties with the household of God through your faithful fellowship and love?

We do.

***Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles' Creed, in Unison)**

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Unison Prayer

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

Gracious God, we praise You for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank You for choosing to add to our number these brothers and sisters in faith, and for the gift of Baptism. Together, may we live in Your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to Whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

Welcome and Blessing of New Members

Elder Bob Spangler

We welcome you to this ministry of Jesus Christ, and charge you to live spiritually, love inclusively, learn continuously, and leave a legacy. Go and serve the Lord with joy!

Prayers of the People

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

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

The Rev. Mary Marple Thies

Leader: Following Jesus' model, we are called to live generous lives, lived for others. Let us bring to God our tithes and offerings.

Offertory Anthem

Soon ah will be done

William L. Dawson

Soon ah will be don'; a-wid de troubles ob de worl', goin home t' live wid God.
I wan' t' meet my mother, I'm goin t' live wid God.
No more weepin' an' a wailin'; I'm goin' t' live wid God.
I wan' t' meet my Jesus, I'm goin' t' live wid God.

FPCNC Choir

*Doxology (No. 606)

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Janet Lanaway

Holy God, you have written Your law of love on our hearts. May the gifts we offer of time and talent, money and commitment, be reflections of Your love and bear much fruit in the world. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn No. 301

Let Us Build a House

Two Oaks



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

***Benediction**

The Rev. Scott Herr

***Choral Amen**

***Ringing of the Church Bell**

***Postlude**

"Little" Fugue in g, BWV 578

Johann Sebastian Bach

CCLI #11412435 / ONE LICENSE, License A-734274

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Welcome to Worship on this Fifth Sunday of Lent, the Holy Spring of the Church. Lent is the 40-day period (subtracting Sundays, or “mini-Easters”) from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, just before Easter (this year, March 31st). We are glad that you are here and pray you will take this season of Lent to open yourself up to whatever God desires to give you. This is meant to be a season of repentance (rethinking) and penance (restoring relationships), but only as it brings refreshment (new life) for you! Today we will be reflecting through the lectionary texts from the prophet Jeremiah and the Gospel according to John on what it means to “see Jesus.” We are glad that you are joining us for Worship and pray that you will hear “God’s Word” to you and be spiritually refreshed and socially reoriented for the week ahead.

Note from Worship Committee:

As we progress through Lent and our year dedicated to exploring the search for peace, notice the over 600 cranes that grace the wall to the east of the Chancel and at the back of the Sanctuary. The crane is a Japanese symbol of peace, here in origami form. These cranes were first strung above the center aisle of our Sanctuary five years ago in conjunction with the Confirmation Class of that year although they were folded on commission. In addition to the baskets and burlap that remind us of the Lenten journey through the wilderness, each week we have added candles to the Chancel, reminding us of our search for new understanding, the light for our searching. The number of candles added each week corresponds to the number of the week of Lent which we are entering; thus this Sunday we add four more candles.

All children from Kindergarten age on up are welcome to join us for Sunday School this morning! Children depart the Worship Service for Sunday School after the Blessing for Young Disciples. Sunday School is held upstairs in the “piano room” of the Bliss House (at the top of the stairs closest to the Pastor’s Study). Adults can meet up with their children in the Common Room immediately following Worship. During the winter quarter, we will be learning about Jesus’ life and ministry, the work of his Disciples, and how we can be disciples too!

Children are warmly welcome to stay in Worship! For children who stay during Worship, the ***Pray-Ground*** can be found in the area in front of the back pew. The Pray-Ground is a designated place in the Sanctuary where young children can experience Worship through age-appropriate worship materials and tools that will help keep them engaged in what is happening. We will continue to rotate books and coloring materials on an ongoing basis. Although it can seem counter-intuitive to adults, children are often able to process what they hear more effectively when they have something to do with their hands.

Any child worshipping in the Pray-Ground should bring their grown-up with them to the Pray-Ground. Including young children in Worship can sometimes feel a little daunting, especially on days when they’re feeling a little extra fidgety, but we don’t need to be discouraged from keeping children in the Sanctuary. There are many important things that children learn while in Worship, even when we’re not sure if they’re paying attention. Young children learn by observing the adults around them. Children acquire the “language” of worship by listening to and observing the words the adults around them say, much like how they learn their native tongue. Quite simply, children learn to worship by regularly being in Worship. **So families with little ones should feel free to worship together in the Pray-Ground!**

FPCNC also offers **babysitting during our Sunday Service** provided by Saturnina Greeves-Cooper and Lizz Reyes from Wee Care Nanny Agency. Our Nursery is located just off our Common Room vestibule down the long hall from the Sanctuary and is available between the hours of 8:45–11:30am. **Parental and guardian sign-in is required and we do ask that you pick up your child promptly after the Service.**

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 the Church office.

Cents-ability. We're now leaving the Cents-ability jar in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. If you have any spare change, please drop it into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you're in Church. You can also take home a small cents-ability bank to collect change. All change collected will be donated to the New Canaan Food Pantry. Thank you for your awareness and generous response to hunger.



SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:



DONATE:



ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC

This morning's prelude is composed by **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** (1756-1791), the Austrian composer widely recognized as one of the greatest composers in the history of Western music. With Haydn and Beethoven, he brought to its height the achievement of the Viennese Classical school. Unlike any other composer in musical history, he wrote in all the musical genres of his day and excelled in every one. His taste, his command of form, and his range of expression have made him seem the most universal of all composers; yet, it may also be said that his music was written to accommodate the specific tastes of particular audiences.

Our women's quartet will sing the first musical offering today, composed by **Franz Peter Schubert** (1797-1828), an Austrian composer of the late Classical and early Romantic eras. Despite his short life, Schubert composed more than 600 secular vocal works, seven complete symphonies, sacred music, operas, incidental music, and a large body of piano and chamber music. Schubert showed uncommon gifts for music from an early age. His father gave him his first violin lessons and his elder brother gave him piano lessons. In 1808, at the age of eleven, he became a pupil at the Stadtkonvikt school, where he became acquainted with the orchestral music of Joseph Haydn, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and Ludwig van Beethoven. He left the Stadtkonvikt at the end of 1813 and returned home to live with his father, where he began studying to become a schoolteacher. Despite this, he continued his studies in composition with Antonio Salieri and still composed prolifically.

Our offertory anthem is composed by **William Levi Dawson** (1899-1990), an African American composer, choir director, and professor specializing in black religious folk music. In 1912, Dawson ran away from home to study music full-time as a pre-college student at the Tuskegee Institute (now University) under the tutelage of school president Booker T. Washington. The years 1921-1925 were spent earning his B.A. He enrolled in composition and orchestration at Washburn College in Topeka, and theory and counterpoint at the Horner Institute of Fine Arts in Kansas City, where in 1925 he graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Theory and in Composition. In 1926, Dawson moved to Chicago, Illinois to study composition at the American Conservatory of Music, where he earned his Master's Degree in 1927. In September 1930, Dawson accepted Tuskegee Institute's invitation to direct its School of Music, a position that he held until his retirement in 1955.

ABOUT TODAY'S MUSIC (Cont'd)

Our postlude is composed by **Johann Sebastian Bach** (1685-1750), a German composer and musician of the late Baroque period. From 1723, he was employed as Thomaskantor (cantor at St Thomas's) in Leipzig. There he composed music for the principal Lutheran churches of the city, and for its university's student ensemble Collegium Musicum. The "*Little*" *Fugue in G* is a piece found in many copies from Bach's day. Around 100 years after his death, it was published no fewer than four times in rapid succession. Bach's pupil Johann Georg Schübler thought the theme was so successful that he made a fugue out of it himself. It was an immensely popular piece. The piece as a whole has an Italian feel to it and the opening is reminiscent of a violin melody, which is handy to play with an open D string. When organists refer to this piece as the "*Little*", it is not meant to be denigrating, but is purely to avoid confusion with Bach's other, longer fugue in G minor, BWV 542, the "*Great*".

TODAY

First Presbyterian 3rd Floor Apartment Open House – Sunday, March 17!

As many of you know, we invested a great deal of effort and resources last summer refurbishing our Bliss House third floor apartment. Its occupants, Kate Stringfellow and Matt Ziance, can't stop raving about the positive changes, including the installation of brand new Andersen windows. Now you can see what their excitement is all about! Today during coffee hour, Kate and Matt will graciously open their living space to members of the congregation for a look-see at the extensive improvements.

Please join us... It will be a tour de force!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Sunday School is growing, and we can use your help! If you are interested in helping Steph teach Sunday School this year, please reach out to Stephanie Hare (stephanie@fpcnc.org) or by completing this short form here: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2023-24>. Let's help our young disciples grow in their understanding and relationship to God!

STEWARDSHIP 2024

The Stewardship Committee and the Church want to thank everyone who has made a pledge for the 2024 Church year. Pledges are extremely important to the budgeting and operation of the Church. Your participation is very much appreciated. Thanks to all.

Robert and Ferial Aldag	Julie Fowler and David Viklund	Pam and Peter Ogilvie
Barbara Auchenbaum	Jennifer Frazer	Howard and Anne Palmer
Jim and Dede Bartlett	Maxine Gaddis	Traci Pascarella
Peter and Cory Bayer	Andrew and Lisa Gifford	Susan Pfeil
Jim and Barbara Beall	Doug and Serena Gillespie	George Post
George and Patricia Benington	Mike and Kristie Godina	Marlene Powers
Sue Benko	Len and Cindy Graziano	Keith Simpson and Debera Prosek
David and Judy Bentley	Jen Gulden	Michael and Julie Reeves
Erica Bergmans	Drew and Allison Gurley	Jim and Denise Riehl Jr.

Evelyn Bergstrom	Nick and Gigi Guthrie	Charles and Sarah Robinson
Scott Beyer and Allison Gray	Karen Hanson	Rebecca Roth
Estate of Marion Blose	Darlene Harmon	Barbara Schneider
Anna Mae Bondor	Jeannie Hart	Judy Schurman
Christopher Bondor	Scott and Kim Herr	Carolyn Scott
Gloria Bridgman	David and Donna Hill	Sue Sherwood
Julian and Kay Brix	Dan Hodges	Ellen Sisson
Maru Brown	Trip and Julia Hoffman	Marilyn Smith
Anne Brownley	Richard and Cathy Hollingsworth	Roger and Nell Smith
Sherman and Peg Bull	Peggy Hooker	Bob Spangler and Joanne Powell
Tom and Libby Butterworth	Lynn Jackson	Sue Speers
Betsy Carter	Peggy Jay	Tadd Spering and Ivy Schultz
Mark and Renee Chmiel	Jeniam Foundation	Wendy Starr
Chan Koo Chung	Paul and Angela Johnson	Lennox and Elizabeth Stuart III
Carole Clarkson	William Knobloch	Alex and Jan Sulkowski
George Conner	Mark and Brett Kristoff	Dennis and Kathy Swanson
Margaret Cooper	Bob and Nancy LaBadie	Sherry Tate
Jenny Della Ripa	John and Ruth Laird	Dennis and Carol Taylor
Warner Depuy	Janet Lanaway	Armin and Mary Thies
Joan Dionne	Jim and Mary Lee Lesko	Art and Kate Trotman
Susan Dishart	Brian Lombardi and Natasha Moore	Mike and Caroline Turpin
Kathy Edwards	Jim and Jan Lucie	Steve and Jennifer Van de Graaf
Jim and Lis Ely	Denise Lynch	Homero and Lynne Villarreal
Thomas Emmons	Mark Magnusen	Norma von Jena
Harold and Valerie Erichs	Paul and Linda Martin	Stephan and Patty von Jena
Mike and Kip Farrell	Dan and Dede McEvoy	Gretchen Watkins
Randy and Linda Ferguson Jr.	Suzanne Megrue	Barbara Wentzel
Mimi Findlay	Elizabeth Miller	Eva Wingate
Terry and Lisa Flanagan	Eric Musa	Peter and Kristina Woods
Peter and Nancy Flournoy	Jo Ann Nerenburg	Rick and Trish Worden
Ted Foster	Katie O'Brien	

THIS WEEK



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

Holden Evening Prayer

Dona Nobis Pacem

Mid-week fellowship, music, readings, and
a light supper every Wednesday February
21st through March 20th.

All ages welcome,

6:30-7:30 pm

178 Oenoke Ridge
For more info call us at 203-966-0002 ext. 1

NEXT SUNDAY



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

FRANK AND MARY FETCHET

MARY FETCHET IS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT VOICES
FRANK FETCHET IS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AT VOICES

MARCH 24TH, 2024

178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN CT

10 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

11:30 AM ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING:

OUR JOURNEY

AFTER 9/11:

BUILDING

RESILIENCE

AFTER LOSS

ALL
ARE
WELCOME!

VOICESCENTER.ORG
WWW.FPCNC.ORG



THIS MONTH

The Lenten season is here! This year, our theme is *Dona Nobis Pacem*, which means Grant Us Peace. FPCNC has a lot planned to make this a meaningful Lent with opportunities for spiritual growth while we await the resurrection hope of Easter. In preparation for Lent, you can pick up Lenten devotionals, One Great Hour of Sharing coin fish banks for your children to help save, brown bags/grocery items for food pantry donations, and learn more about the Labyrinth.

Wednesday Weekly Bible Studies, led by Darlene Harmon, meets every Wednesday at 10:00am and they will be studying the book of Acts. Please come at 9:45am to share a cup of tea or coffee. We hope you can come join us! Everyone is invited!

*Fill Our
Sanctuary With
Flowers During
Easter*

If you would like to contribute contact Wendy
203-966-0002 ext. 1
Deadline March 27th

To contribute in honor or memory of a family member or friend, please call the Church Office or mail those details and a check marked "Easter Flowers and General Church Beautification" along with the necessary information to FPCNC: 178 Oenoke Ridge Rd, New Canaan, CT 06840



Join Us For Our Easter Egg Hunt

Kids of all ages can enjoy the fun of finding dozens of eggs in the gardens of the First Presbyterian Church next to the Nature Center

Sunday, March 31st
Egg hunt starts, 11:30 am



All Are Welcome!
Every Sunday – Worship/Sunday School @ 10am
Visit fpcnc.org or call us at 203-966-0002 ext 1

Come Join Us!

Lent & Holy Week Services

Holden Evening Prayer - Dona Nobis Pacem

6:30-7:30pm Dinner and Worship

Every Wednesday Feb. 21- March 20

Palm/Passion Sunday - March 24, 10am Worship

Maundy Thursday Tenebrae - March 28, 7pm Worship

Good Friday - March 29, 5pm Worship

Easter Sunday

March 31, 7am Sunrise Service

8am Breakfast (Common Room)

10am Worship Service

11:30am Easter Egg Hunt (weather permitting)



178 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT
www.fpcnc.org 203-966-0002 ext. 1



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
NEW CANAAN

ANNUAL LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Share the Spirit of Giving during Lent
Live Our Mission!

Bring your donated items to Church
throughout Lent starting on
ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH –
PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH

New Canaan Food Pantry suggested items needed:

- Milk (Non-perishable) - powdered or Parmalat
- Cereal (sweet or healthy)
- Standard size (not large) tubs of oatmeal
- Boxes of oatmeal packets
- Broth
- Canned Fruit in water (no syrup)
- Standard size jars of creamy peanut butter
- Dish soap
- Breakfast Snacks (individually wrapped)
- Rice - White or Brown (2 lb. container or less)
- Juice boxes

Monetary donations always accepted and can be mailed to
Human Services at: 77 Main St, New Canaan CT 06840.
Please make checks payable to the "New Canaan Food Pantry".



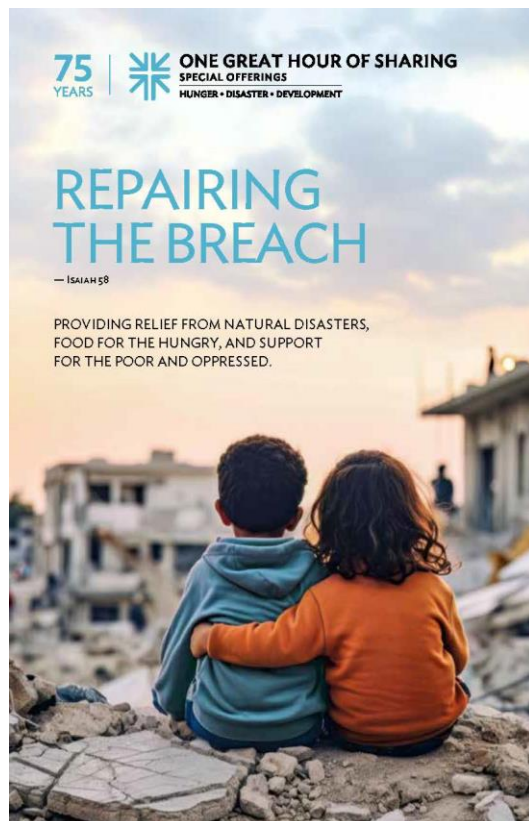
Grab a bag with list of items from back of Church.
Bags donated by Walter Stewart's.

LENT AT FPC (Cont'd)

Action and Contemplation for Lent... During Lent the Sanctuary will be open for members who want to spend time for prayer and meditation, using the Labyrinth or if you simply want to enjoy some quiet time sitting in the Sanctuary, you are welcome. This is a great opportunity to bring your food donations for the New Canaan Food Pantry, to pray for ourselves and our larger community. We believe prayer and service go together. **Instructions for the Labyrinth are posted or you can reach out to Scott or the Church Office for guidelines.** The Labyrinth is designed to lead one into private meditation via following the intricate path that takes us to the center. It's not a maze, but a purposeful passage that may be entered into with gentle song, prayer, or quiet meditation. We ask that you remove your street shoes, so please wear socks or bring your slippers from home.



During the season of Lent (February 14 – March 31), our congregation collects a special offering for **One Great Hour of Sharing**. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Special Offering envelopes will be available on Palm and Easter Sundays or ask the Ushers for one. One Great Hour of Sharing envelopes and coin fish banks are located in the back of the Sanctuary and the coin fish banks will also be provided in Sunday School.



February 14–March 31, 2024

Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry, and support for the poor and oppressed.

This Lenten season, please give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing.

WAYS TO GIVE —

- + Through your congregation
- + Online at pcusa.org/give-oghs
- + Text OGHS to 91999 to give

— or —

You can help sustain the important ministries and programs that are supported by One Great Hour of Sharing Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



Thanks to your heartfelt gifts, One Great Hour of Sharing currently supports projects in over 100 countries.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

To learn more about how your gift to One Great Hour of Sharing makes a difference, visit pcusa.org/oghs

CALENDAR-AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesdays During Lent	Holden Evening Prayer (February 21–March 20 at 6:30-7:30pm)
Sunday, March 17, 11:30am	First Presbyterian 3rd Floor Apartment – Open House
Sunday, March 24, 10:00am	Palm Sunday Worship Service
Sunday, March 24, 11:30am	<u>Adult Forum</u> – Frank and Mary Fetchet (Voices Center)
Sunday, March 31, 7:00am	Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, March 31, 10:00am	Easter Sunday Worship Service
Sunday, March 31, 11:30am	Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 6	New Covenant House Stamford, CT (2:00pm Meal Prep / 4:00pm Serve Food)
Sunday, April 7, 4:00pm	Enoch Megrue and George Megrue Memorial Concert
Wednesdays at the Well	(April 10–May 15 at 6:30-7:45pm)
Thursday, April 11, 3-5:30pm	New Canaan Chamber Music Concert
Friday, April 12, 7:30-9pm	New Canaan Chamber Music Concert
Sunday, April 21, 11:30am	<u>Adult Forum</u> – Mark Labberton
Saturday, May 4, 11:00am	Ruth Swanberg Memorial Service & Reception

SAVE THE DATE

Scottish Heritage Sunday 50th Anniversary – Sunday, May 5



Mark your calendars and invite family and friends to this year's big event. Come share the pageantry of the Mount Kisco Scottish Pipes & Drums band, the grace and joy of the the Scottish Country Dancers, the tartans and kilts, the shortbread and haggis, and all the fun for young and old! Contact Steve Van de Graaf (stevevdg01@gmail.com) for additional information or to join the Scottish Sunday Committee.

WILTON CANDLELIGHT CONCERTS
presents the final concert in our 76th season

David Finckel and Wu Han

MARCH 17, 2024

David Finckel, Cello, and Wu Han, Piano

"Mr. Finckel and Wu Han gave eloquent and deeply committed performances. He played with a deep and burnished tone and she with a sparkling virtuosity. Best of all was how keenly they listened to each other."

(The New York Times)

These esteemed and influential musicians return to Wilton with a program of works by Mendelssohn, Shostakovich, and Grieg.



Sunday afternoon at 4 p.m. at the Wilton Congregational Church
located at 70 Ridgefield Road (Route 33), Wilton CT 06897.

Tickets available at the door or at our website www.wiltoncandlelightmusic.org.
General admission: \$30; students FREE. 203-417-7203

COMMUNITY (Cont'd)



NAVIGATOR *Alzheimer's at Home for New Canaan*

Providing support and
guidance to those impacted by
Alzheimer's in New Canaan

All Communications Confidential

- » Personal Alzheimer's Navigation Specialists
- » 24/7 accessibility
- » Complimentary grant based program
- » Exclusive respite apartment
- » Access to adult day programming
- » Assistance with trusted affiliated resources
outside of the Waveny Network
- » Wellness checks
- » Alzheimer's-specific caregiver support groups
- » Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- » Dedicated mobile app

Contact us for a consultation
Phone: 203-594-5289
Email: Navigator@waveny.org

In collaboration with



NEW CANAAN
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

**Domestic violence doesn't take a break
for the holidays.**



**If you or someone you know needs help, call DVCC's
24-hour hotline at 203.588.9097 or visit the website
at DVCCCT.org for more information.**

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Please keep the following people in your hearts.

NEW prayers and concerns:


Continued prayers and concerns: Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); Sherman Bull; Gloria Bridgman recovering from surgery; Judy and Tom Duncan (Lisa Flanagan's parents); Ashley (Lisa Flanagan's cousin) who had a heart transplant; Joseph and Barbara Esterly (Kristie Godina's parents); Peter Findlay (Mimi Findlay's brother-in-law) who was recently diagnosed with glioblastoma and about to start chemotherapy treatment in NYC, and his wife, Patty Findlay, and his sons, Ian and Josh; Amy Granato, who is battling lung cancer; Mark Harmon (Darlene's husband); Family of Gail Elder Harden (Lucy) who died March 1, 2024; David Johnson, son of Elsbeth Johnson, as he is suffering from ALS; Jim Lucie; Denise Lynch; Sandy Nissley; Marlene Powers; Devon Reich (Wendy Starr's friend's daughter) who is battling brain cancer; Joan Scherman (Mark Magnusen's friend) whose cancer has returned; Kathy Ullerich (Wendy Starr's friend) who is undergoing chemo and surgery for pancreatic cancer; Family of Julia Voorhies who died March 3, 2024; Family of Toby Woods (Kristina, Peter and Nicholas) as 18 year-old Toby died February 21; the Abo Noktah family (the Syrian family FPCNC sponsored): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin, Zain and Hayat, and sons Yaman and Ahmed, and Khaldoun's mother, Nam Abo Noktah.

We continue to pray for the families and friends of the victims who have been affected by all the mass shootings.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance is our presence around the world when disasters happen. Through them we are on the ground around the world, responding to the enormous needs following wildfires and earthquakes and during war.

For the following PSNE Clergy: John Hwang, Jessica Jones, Johanna Jung, Steven Jungkeit, James Keller, David Kelsey, Gregory Keosaian, Erin Keys, Do Hoon Kim, Ik Tae Kim, Patricia Koons, Kibbie Laird, Maria LaSala, and John Lindner.

GROW IN FAITH

 **SILVER HILL HOSPITAL** If you know of someone in urgent need of mental health support, please remember the resource that our town has in the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. The town, in partnership with Silver Hill Hospital, is prepared to offer psychiatric assessment and tailored referral for ongoing care. The Program serves children, teens and adults who are New Canaan residents free of charge. To schedule an intake call, email NCUA@silverhillhospital.org or call Silver Hill Hospital admissions at 1-866-542-4455 and indicate that you are asking about the New Canaan Urgent Assessment Program. For more details use this link: <https://silverhillhospital.org/new-canaan-urgent-assessment-program/>

Pastoral Care Team: Do you know of someone who needs a visitor or a phone call? Our congregation is fortunate to have a team of people who are ready to reach out to church members who are facing a life crisis. They may be in declining health, shut-ins, living in a care facility, grieving, or struggling with a significant change in their circumstances. Our Pastoral Care Team, made up of Peg Bull, Daniel Mason, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, and Mary Thies, is ready to provide pastoral care to church members who are dealing with such a situation. If you know of someone who could benefit from this ministry or if you have questions about the work of the Team, please call the church office 203-966-0002 (ext 1).



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of NEW CANAAN

SUNDAY, March 17

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Worship Service in-person/LocalLive
11 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am New Members' Welcome Reception
11:30 am FPC 3rd Floor Apartment Open House

MONDAY, March 18

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
2-8 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons (Choir Rm)
8 pm Purple Heather Dancers

TUESDAY, March 19

9:30, 10:30, 11:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
10:30 am Staff Leadership Meeting
8 pm Men's A.A. Group (closed)

WEDNESDAY, March 20

10 am Weekly Bible Studies
4:30 pm English Handbells Rehearsal
6:30 pm Holden Evening Prayer (Common Room)

THURSDAY, March 21

3:30 pm Special Church
7 pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, March 22

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)
3-8 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons (Choir Rm)

SATURDAY, March 23

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

SUNDAY, March 24

9 am Music Rehearsals
10 am Palm Sunday Worship Service
(in-person/LocalLive)
11 am Coffee Hour
11:30 am Adult Forum: Mary & Frank Fetchet (Lunch)

THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

The First Presbyterian Church Choir
with:

Lisa Flanagan – soprano, Jamie Ratcliffe – alto, Nickolas Brannan – tenor, Devin Mitchell – bass

Lay Reader: Janet Lanaway

Ushers: Serena and Doug Gillespie

MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

OUR PASTORS

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

OUR STAFF

Terence J. Flanagan, Director of Music and Fine Arts • Stephanie L. Hare, Director of Family Ministries
Jim Riehl, Business Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager
Stacy Arevalo, Seminary Intern • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers

SIGN UP to Read, Usher or Greet <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4aaaad2aa31-sunday>

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:



DONATE:

