



# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN NEW CANAAN

*Where Faith, Families & Friends Connect*

First Sunday in Lent • March 9, 2025 • 10:00am  
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 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:** Präludium Fanny Hensel

**\*Call to Worship (based on Psalm 91)** Stephanie Hare

**Leader:** Where is our home?

**People:** **Our home is in the shelter and shadow of God.**

**Leader:** How can this be our refuge?

**People:** **Because God's angels will guard your house and those in it from evil and threat.**

**Leader:** How can we flourish?

**People:** **Staying close to God's ways will bring our lives to abundance.**

**Leader:** So then we come now to worship and praise the Living God,

**People:** **In the name of the One who is our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer!**

1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all  
 2 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
 3 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed, for us, in  
 4 For us he rose from death a - gain; for us he  
 5 All glo - ry to our Lord and God, for love so

thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tions  
 crown of thorns ar - rayed, he bore the shame - ful  
 went on high to reign; for us he sent the  
 deep, so high, so broad: the Trin - i - ty whom

God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake.  
 sharp he knew, for us, the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 cross and death; for us gave up his dy - ing breath.  
 Spir - it here to guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.  
 we a - dore for - ev - er and for - ev - er - more.

Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Scott Herr

Minute for Music

Terry Flanagan

Blessing for our Younger Disciples

Stephanie Hare

### Call to Confession (based on Romans 10)

Dede Bartlett

Leader: Scripture says, "No one who believes in Christ will be put to shame." Therefore, we do not approach God with shame but with life-giving expectation grounded in our trust of God. For when we confess with our mouth and trust in our heart, we will find healing for ourselves and for the world.

### Confession of Sin (unison)

Dede Bartlett

**God of wide circles, we too often revert to our fear-filled instinct to cut off those unfamiliar and distant. May we evaluate others based on your heart. In Romans, you remind us when we lean into your kingdom agenda, our worldview is expanded to focus on our common humanity. May we embrace your created diversity and include all in our cherished life's work...**

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

### Kyrie: (No. 575)

*Kyrie Eleison (Pardini)*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us; Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us; Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Assurance of Pardon (based on Romans 10)

Dede Bartlett

Leader: Everyone. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Having called upon the wide arms of our gracious God, know that you are forgiven. With joy, may we amplify God's grace into the whole world. Hear and believe the good news:

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new! Amen!**

### \*Gloria Patri (No. 580)

*Gloria Patri (Scottish)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Dede Bartlett

Leader: The first words of the risen Christ to his followers were, "Peace be with you." May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Please share that peace with one another.

*(All share a greeting of peace with one another.)*

**THE WORD**

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

Stacy Arevalo

Minister: 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 – Romans 10:8-13 (page 160 – New Testament)**

Stacy Arevalo

<sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame."

<sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem:**

Wondrous Love

Arranged by Paul Christiansen

What wondrous love is this, O my soul,  
That caused the Lord of life To bear the heavy cross!  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul,  
That Christ should lay aside His crown for my soul.

Nikolas Brannan – tenor; FPCNC Choir

**Second Lesson – Luke 4:1-13 (page 61 – New Testament)**

Dede Bartlett

<sup>1</sup>Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" <sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the

kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” <sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, <sup>10</sup>for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ <sup>11</sup>and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” <sup>12</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Minister: Holy wisdom, holy word.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Wilderness Fasting and Feasting”

The Rev. Scott Herr

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\*Affirmation of Faith – Hymn No. 166: Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

*St. Flavian*

1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and  
 2 As you with Sa - tan did con-tend and did the vic-tory  
 3 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through this Pas-sion-  
 4 A - bide with us, till when this life of suf - fering shall be

pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.  
 win, O give us strength to per - se - vere, in you to con-quer sin.  
 tide, yes, ev - er - more, in life and death, O Lord, with us a - bide.  
 past, an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last.

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

In our deliverance and abundance, we are asked to use the first fruits of our labor to help build the kingdom of God. Let us be prayerful about how we may give generously to the work of our generous God.

**Offertory Anthem:**

Let Us Break Bread Together

Martha Sobaje

Jan Lucie - organ

**\*Doxology:**

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)**

Dede Bartlett

**Now we bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given us. We bow before you and shall celebrate with immigrants and strangers in our community the bounty of all you have given to us and our household. Amen.**

**SENDING**

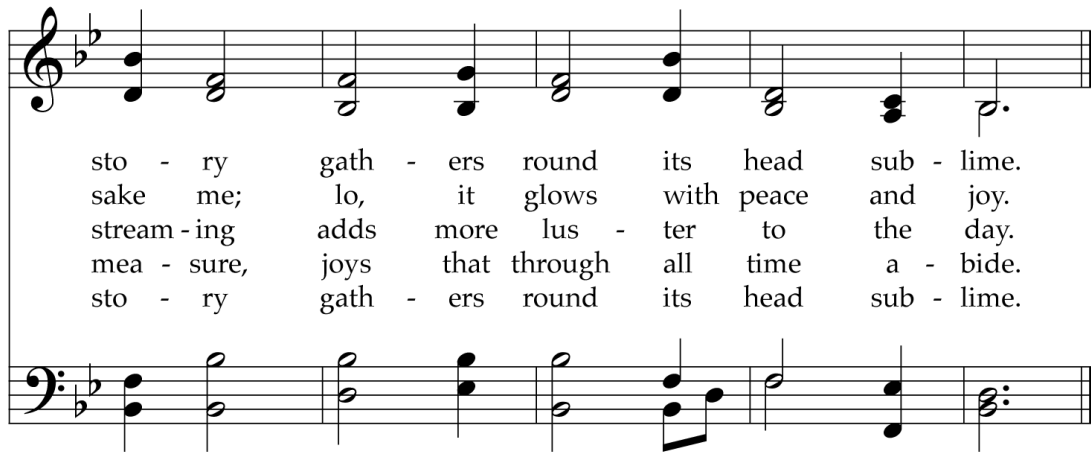
**\*Hymn No. 213:**

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

*Rathbun*

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the  
 5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -  
 love up - on my way, from the cross the ra - diance  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no  
 o'er the wrecks of time; all the light of sa - cred



sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.  
 sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.

**\*Benediction**

The Rev. Scott Herr

**\*Choral Amen**

**\*Ringing of the Church Bell**

**\*Postlude:**

Postludium

Fanny Hensel

CCLI #11412435 / ONE LICENSE, License A-734274

***Join us in the Common Room after worship for a time of fellowship, coffee/tea and snacks and stop by the Welcome Table.***

### TODAY IN WORSHIP

**Welcome to worship on this First Sunday of Lent**, the Holy Spring of the church and a time for spiritual growth and formation. This year, on each of the Sundays of Lent we will focus on a spiritual discipline (with a follow up learning time for all ages at Wednesdays at the Well). Today we focus on fasting as a spiritual discipline. II Corinthians 13:14 ends with a benediction that blesses the church with "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit." It's that phrase "the fellowship of the Holy Spirit" that we will be focusing on during our Lenten Journey this year. Today we will explore through the lens of the Lectionary texts from Luke and Romans how and why the Holy Spirit leads Jesus into the Wilderness for a time of fasting to be tested. We are glad you are worshipping with us, and pray that you will be spiritually refreshed and socially reoriented for the week ahead.

**Sunday School!** Join us as we explore Bible stories and all our questions about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the world around us. Children begin worship in the Sanctuary with their families then following the Blessing for Young Disciples, we move to our Sunday School classes upstairs in the Bliss House.

If your child is participating in Sunday School, please fill out this very short form so that we have up-to-date family contact numbers, and you can provide us with any information about your child that will help us minister to them: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/2024SundaySchoolStudents>

Adults or older teens who want to come be part of the fun of Sunday School, we need you! Join us and bring your own sense of wonder and joy as we learn together what it means to be part of God's big family. Let us know of your interest by filling out this form: <https://fpcnc.breezechms.com/form/Teachers2024-25>, or reach out to Steph Hare – [stephanie@fpcnc.org](mailto:stephanie@fpcnc.org).

## TODAY IN WORSHIP (Cont'd)

FPCNC also offers **childcare during our Sunday Service** provided by Saturnina Greeves 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.**

**Have a prayer request?** We are called to pray without ceasing... In addition to receiving prayers during the Service with the microphone, our **prayer box** offers the opportunity to submit handwritten prayer requests at any time. The box is in the back of the church adjacent to the Sanctuary entrance. Any prayer requests will be brought into the Sanctuary for worship by the Ushers. These requests will be included in our Prayers of the People for that Sunday. You will have the option to exclude your prayer from the communal prayer if you prefer. All prayers will be held and prayed over in confidence. Any questions or concerns, please contact Stacy ([sarevalo@fpcnc.org](mailto:sarevalo@fpcnc.org)).

Our **Welcome Table** is available each week as a resource for you to ask questions and learn about different ways to be involved in the life of this congregation, including music, study, fellowship, prayer and service opportunities in the church and community. Feel free to stop by after worship during Coffee Hour



Our **COMMUNITY** is growing! Honoring the Session-adopted theme of COMMUNITY for 2025, the installation on the "chapel" wall of the Sanctuary continues to grow showing our church community and the communities to which we reach out: Covenant House, Pacific House, ABC, and the Pacific Presbyterian Church affected by the fires, to name a few. Come up close and find these and perhaps your name! Our prayers are inspired by these reminders! *Jan Lucie, Chair WMA*

**Cents-Ability** – The Cents-ability jar is in the hallway on the way to the Common Room. Please drop your spare change into the jar either on the way to Coffee Hour or whenever you're at 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

Today is Woman Composer Sunday. Established in 2021 by the Society of Women Organists and Royal College of Organists in the United Kingdom, and adopted a year later by the American Guild of Organists. Woman Composer Sunday raises awareness of the contributions of female composers during Women's History Month. AGO Members are encouraged to include works by women in their services, and so, our organ prelude and postlude are composed by **Fanny Hensel** (1805-1847), a German composer and pianist of the early Romantic era. Born Fanny Mendelssohn, she was known as Fanny Hensel after her marriage. She grew up in Berlin and received a thorough musical education from teachers including her mother, as well as the composers Ludwig Berger and Carl Friedrich Zelter. Her younger brother Felix Mendelssohn, also a composer and pianist, shared the same education and the two developed a close relationship. Owing to her family's reservations and to social conventions of the time about the roles of women, six of her songs were published under her brother's name in his Opus 8 and 9 collections. In 1846, despite the continuing ambivalence of her family towards her musical ambitions, Fanny Hensel published a collection of songs as her Opus 1.

Our FPCNC Choir's anthem is arranged by **Paul Joseph Christiansen** (1914-1997), an American choral conductor and composer. As the youngest son of F. Melius Christiansen, he was brought up into the Lutheran Choral Tradition and quickly developed his own style of conducting and composing that furthered the tradition started by his father. He spent the bulk of his career developing The Concordia Choir and conducted the choir from 1937-1986. He is also credited with establishing the Concordia Christmas Concert which is seen yearly by more than 30,000 people.

Jan Lucie will play an organ piece composed by **Martha Sobaje** (b. 1948), a Fellow and Professor of Sacred Music and Minister of Music and Education at Phillips Memorial Baptist Church in Cranston, Rhode Island, and Adjunct Instructor of Music at Community College of Rhode Island. She previously held faculty positions at the University of Northern Colorado (Jan's hometown!), Barrington College, and Gordon College. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, a Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and a Doctor of Sacred Music from the Graduate Theological Foundation. Dr. Sobaje attended the Oxford Theology Summer School at Christ Church College of Oxford University in 2001.

## TODAY



**New Members!** We welcome you to worship *every Sunday*, and if you are new to the New Canaan area and looking for a church community to join, are you interested in attending our **New Members' Orientation Class today after worship?** We will discuss "who we are," "what we believe," "how we live out our faith" and what First Presbyterian is about. The class will take place immediately following worship from

11:30am – 1:00pm (in the Parlor/Library off the Common Room) and will include a light lunch. Please join us. ***We will then be welcoming New Members on March 23 during our Worship Service.***

## THIS WEEK

**THE MEN'S GATHERING** will continue our series on the Parables of Jesus. Join us this coming **Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**, for a discussion around the challenging teaching in Luke 16:1-13, otherwise known as "The Parable of the Dishonest Manager." Does this parable give us license to be dishonest in our business dealings? Are we just "rubes" to try to uphold morality and ethics in our business dealings? What is Jesus really teaching here? Get a cup of joe and join us at 7:00am for a robust discussion of this parable. Contact Wendy or Mark for the link....

**MEN'S  
GATHERING**



## *Wednesdays At The Well For Lent*

Join us each Wednesday evening from March 12 through April 9. Each week we will enjoy dinner and practice a spiritual discipline through activities, songs, and Bible study as we journey through the season of Lent together.

**March 12 – Fasting:** whether giving up a particular food or taking time away from media or other forms of consumption, fasting is a way to create time in our lives so that we can keep company with Jesus. We often think about fasting during Lent as a way to commemorate the time that Jesus spent fasting in the wilderness in before beginning his public ministry.

**March 19 – Praying:** prayer is a spiritual discipline in and of itself as well as being integral to all other spiritual disciplines. Prayer is the way we talk to God, which sounds simple, but there are so many ways to pray.

**March 26 – Listening to God:** if prayer is how we talk to God, the next question is how do we listen to God? We can listen for God's voice in many different places and parts of our lives. Listening to God is an important part of being in conversation with and deepening our relationship with God.

**April 2 – Embracing Simplicity:** practicing simplicity can impact how we spend our time, how we arrange various aspects of our lives, as well as with which possessions we choose to surround ourselves. When we embrace simplicity as a spiritual discipline, we also have the opportunity to practice compassion and being non-judgmental toward others.

**April 9 – Unplugging:** related to both fasting and embracing simplicity, unplugging from our regular schedules and/or technology for short or long stretches of time can be especially helpful in our increasingly noisy and busy society. Finding time for silence and solitude can help us appreciate the beauty of the world around us and discover feelings of gratitude for all of God's creation and everyone in it.

We meet in the Common Room from 6 – 7:30 pm. All ages are welcome!

## NEXT SUNDAY



**BUILDING ONE COMMUNITY**  
THE CENTER FOR IMMIGRANT OPPORTUNITY

**MARCH 16, 2025**  
178 OENOKE RIDGE, NEW CANAAN CT

**10 AM** WORSHIP SERVICE  
**11:30 AM** ADULT FORUM

DISCUSSING: BUILDING ONE COMMUNITY, IMMIGRATION, AND HOW CHANGES IN RULES IMPACT US AS A CHURCH

LUNCH AND CHILDCARE PROVIDED

WWW.FPCNC.ORG

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
NEW CANAAN

building one  
community  
The Center for Immigrant Opportunity



### About the Building One Community Speaker – Ivonne Zucco

Ivonne Zucco MBA, PCC, serves as the Deputy Director of Building One Community. Ivonne has led important organizational development projects, including the relocation and space renovation during the Stamford east side expansion, strategic planning for various programs, training for managers, standardization of HR practices, staff professional development, as well as initiatives related to Care and Culture, and Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) teams. Since September 2024 Ivonne has been part of a statewide initiative to establish and manage the execution of a proactive responsive framework to meet the needs of immigrant communities, engage stakeholders and strengthen Connecticut's public and private support of immigrants.

## WEEKLY PROGRAM(S)

**Wednesday Weekly Bible Studies**, led by Darlene Harmon, meets **every Wednesday at 10:00am**. The focus of the study will be on King David and the Psalms. Please come at 9:45am to share a cup of tea or coffee. We hope you can come join us! Everyone is invited! *\*Bible Study will not meet on Wednesday, March 19.*

## LENT AT FPC

**LENT** – We began the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday Service last week, the forty day period before Easter. This year, each of the Sundays of Lent we will focus on a spiritual discipline, and with a follow up learning time for all ages at Wednesdays at the Well. II Corinthians 13:14 ends with a benediction that blesses the church with "the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit." It's that phrase "the fellowship of the Holy Spirit" that we will be focusing on during our Lenten Journey this year. In addition to our weekly worship and Wednesdays at the Well gatherings, we encourage you to take and use a daily Lenten devotional. While we feed our souls, we also believe God is calling us to feed our neighbors, so pick up brown bags/grocery items for food pantry donations, *One Great Hour of Sharing* pamphlets for donations towards PC(USA) – Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Self-Development of People, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. You may also want to learn more about how to use the Labyrinth as a tool for meditation and prayer. Either way, we look forward to a Lenten season that opens us individually and as a community to the new life to which God is calling us!

## LENT AT FPC (Cont'd)

**Action and Contemplation for Lent...** The Sanctuary will be open for members Mon-Fri from 9:00am-5:00pm 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.



**Lenten devotional booklets are here!** Please take a copy of "Coming Back to Life." This is a booklet of weekly devotions and activities designed to help us all stay grounded as we enter this season of Lent together. Feel free to take an extra copy to share with others.

**During the season of Lent (March 5 – April 13),** 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. This special offering envelopes and literature are available at the Usher's table throughout the season of Lent. **(One Great Hour of Sharing Offering is allocated as follows: the Presbyterian Hunger Program receives 36 percent; the Self-Development of People receives 32 percent, and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance receives 32 percent.)**

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

# Repairing the breach

ISAIAH 58

PROVIDING RELIEF FROM  
NATURAL DISASTERS,  
FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY,  
AND SUPPORT FOR THE  
POOR AND OPPRESSED.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

MATTHEW 25

March 5–April 20, 2025

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](https://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](https://pcusa.org/oghs)

## LENT AT FPC (Cont'd)



### Come Join Us! Holy Week Services

**Wednesdays  
at the Well** Dinner and Worship during Lent  
Every Wednesday  
Mar 12 – Apr 9, 6:00-7:30pm

**Palm Sunday  
Service** April 13, 10:00am

**Maundy Thursday  
Service** April 17, 7:00pm

**Good Friday Service:  
Seven Last Words  
of Christ** @ NC Community Baptist Church  
April 18 - (12 noon-3:00 pm)

**Easter  
Sunday** Sunday, April 20  
7:00am, Sunrise Service  
8:00am, Breakfast  
10:00am, Easter Service  
followed by Easter Egg Hunt

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



## 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, MARCH 5TH –  
PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH**

### 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.

## UPCOMING CONCERTS @ FPC



New Canaan Chamber Music  
Andrew Armstrong, Artistic Director

### The Link from Mozart to Film



Stella Chen, violin  
Geneva Lewis, violin  
Matthew Lipman, viola  
Ani Aznavoorian, cello  
Andrew Armstrong, piano



March 20 at 3:00 pm | March 21 at 7:30 pm

First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan

[newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets](http://newcanaanchambermusic.org/tickets)

## SAVE THE DATE



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
NEW CANAAN

# Open Mic Night

FPCNC Open Mic: Diverse Expressions

You are invited to an evening  
to share music and/or poetry  
(originals and covers  
welcome)!



Thursday March 20

6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

178 Oenoke ridge,  
New Canaan CT

Walk-ins Welcome

Contact Nick Depuy at  
[nickdepuysite@gmail.com](mailto:nickdepuysite@gmail.com)  
to sign up and for more information

## SAVE THE DATE (Cont'd)



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN  
NEW CANAAN**

# Bereavement Group

Join us each Monday from March 24 through May 12 at 6:00pm  
A safe place to process grief after the death of a loved one

For more information and to register for the group, please contact Stacy directly at [sarevalo@fpcnc.org](mailto:sarevalo@fpcnc.org) or (203) 966-0002 ext 6



### **New Covenant House (NCH)**

Can you help with prepping and serving a meal at New Covenant House in Stamford, CT? If you're interested, contact Cindy or the church office. Please use Signup Genius to sign up to help on **April 5 or May 3 – what's needed: 2-3 cooks and 2-4 servers.** Or can you pick up food at Costco the Wednesday or Thursday before that Saturday? For more information, please reach out to Cindy Graziano [c\\_graziano@msn.com](mailto:c_graziano@msn.com) or Wendy in the church office.



Signup Genius for NCH:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A44A5AE28A7FF2-newcovenant>

## **Scottish Heritage Sunday Sunday, May 4**



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! for additional information or to join the Scottish Sunday Committee, contact Steve Van de Graaf ([stevevdg01@gmail.com](mailto:stevevdg01@gmail.com)).

## MISSION & OUTREACH

As we enter a new year, there are many new needs and upcoming opportunities. We strive to be a church that donates a minimum of 10% to outreach efforts.

The need for tremendous assistance continues with the aftermath of the **fires in California**. We have made a \$5,000 donation to **Pacific Palisades Presbyterian Church** (<https://www.palipres.org/>) who lost their building, and of course most of the homes, schools, businesses, and medical offices in their area.

If you would like to make a personal donation, please do so or consider one of the following charities:

First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica: [www.fpcsantamonica.org](http://www.fpcsantamonica.org)

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Wild Fire Fund: <https://pcusa.org/donate/dr000165-us-wildfires>

The American Red Cross: <https://www.redcross.org/about-us/our-work/disaster-relief/wildfire-relief.html>

Americares: [www.americares.org](http://www.americares.org)

World Central Kitchen: <https://wck.org/news/first-alert-ca-fires-jan25>

(Animals) California Wildlife Emergency Disaster Response Fund: <https://www.worldanimalprotection.us/>

### **Cemetery Restoration project**

We are considering a donation on behalf of FPC to the New Canaan Cemetery restoration project of headstones at our cemeteries. This donation will impact many but particularly veterans whose tombstones have been neglected. Look for final announcement regarding this in the spring. If you'd like to donate to this cause, please contact Cindy or the church office.

**Other Spring Donations:** We will be making a donation to Pacific House for \$1,000 in March, recognizing their need for mattresses at their shelter. Our *March Mattress* donation of \$1,000 goes a long way for new mattresses and/or sheets and towels.

### **ABC House**

A few generous members made donations totalling \$11,050 to ABC House. This goes under our church outreach to care for children at risk. We are so grateful! If you want to add to that amount, you can make a donation online on our website via "Donate" tab through PayPal or you can write your check to FPC with the memo notation "ABC House" and we will add it to the donation.

We are also looking at a mission trip in the summer...interested? More to come! Contact Cindy Graziano [c\\_graziano@msn.com](mailto:c_graziano@msn.com) with any questions.

*"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."*

Thanks for planting seeds this month!



## STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE 2025

The Stewardship Committee and the Church want to thank everyone who has made a pledge for the 2025 Church year. Pledges are extremely important to the budgeting and operation of the Church. Your participation is very much appreciated. Thanks to all! *The Stewardship Committee*

Barbara Achenbaum	Julie Fowler and David Viklund	Jo Ann Nerenburg
Sam Alnouri and Charlotte Allen	Jennifer Frazer	Tom Nissley
Charles and Cynthia Altchek	Maxine Gaddis	Katie O'Brien
Stacy Arevalo	Andrew and Lisa Gifford	Howard and Anne Palmer
Robert and Ferial Aldag	Doug and Serena Gillespie	Traci Pascarella
Jim and Dede Bartlett	Mike and Kristie Godina	Marlene Powers
Jim and Barbara Beall	Len and Cindy Graziano	Michael and Julie Reeves
George and Patricia Benington	Jen Gulden	Jim and Denise Riehl Jr.
Sue Benko	Drew and Allison Gurley	Charles and Sarah Robinson
David and Judy Bentley	Nick and Gigi Guthrie	Barbara Schneider
Erica Bergmans	Karen Hanson	Judy Schurman
Evelyn Bergstrom	Darlene Harmon	Carolyn Scott
Scott Beyer and Allison Gray	Jeannie Hart	Sue Sherwood
Anna Mae Bondor	Scott and Kim Herr	Stephen and Marian Sieke
Christopher Bondor	David and Donna Hill	Keith Simpson and Debera Prosek
Gloria Bridgman	Dan Hodges	Ellen Sisson
Anne Brownley	Trip and Julia Hoffman	Marilyn Smith
Sherman and Peg Bull	Richard and Cathy Hollingsworth	Roger and Nell Smith
Tom and Libby Butterworth	Peggy Hooker	Bob Spangler and Joanne Powell
Mark and Renee Chmiel	Lynn Jackson	Sue Speers
Chan Koo Chung	Peggy Jay	Lennox and Elizabeth Stuart III
Carole Clarkson	Jeniam Foundation	Alex and Jan Sulkowski
Chris Cluett	Paul and Angela Johnson	Dennis and Kathy Swanson
George Conner	William Knobloch	Sherry Tate
Margaret Cooper	Mark and Brett Kristoff	Dennis and Carol Taylor
Warner Depuy	Bob and Nancy LaBadie	Armin and Mary Thies
Joan Dionne	John and Ruth Laird	Art and Kate Trotman
Susan Dishart	Janet Lanaway	Mike and Caroline Turpin
Kathy Edwards	Jim and Mary Lee Lesko	Steve and Jennifer Van de Graaf
Jim and Lis Ely	Ed and Melody Libonati	Homero and Lynne Villarreal
Thomas Emmons	Janet Lindstrom	Norma von Jena
Harold and Valerie Erichs	Morgan and Jessica Lister	Stephan and Patty von Jena
Mike and Kip Farrell	Brian Lombardi & Natasha Moore	Gretchen Watkins
Randy and Linda Ferguson Jr.	Jim and Jan Lucie	Barbara Wentzel
Mimi Findlay	Mark Magnusen	Allen and Janet Williams
Peter and Sally Finnican	Paul and Linda Martin	Eva Wingate
Terry and Lisa Flanagan	Marcia McCrum	Peter and Kristina Woods
Peter and Nancy Flournoy	Dan and Dede McEvoy	Rick and Trish Worden
Ted Foster	Suzanne Megrue	

# VOICES Community Preparedness Training

## Preparing Individuals and Families for an Emergency



Tuesday, March 18th  
6:30pm to 8:30pm

New Canaan Public Library  
Jim & Dede Bartlett Auditorium

**ARE YOU PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY?** Voices Center for Resilience is offering a Community Preparedness workshop to provide individuals and families with strategies to prepare in advance of an emergency. The presentation includes an overview of the basic components on how to be better prepared in your home, work and community, whether sheltering in place or evacuating. The program includes a panel discussion to promote the organizations that serve the New Canaan Community.

### THE WORKSHOP INCLUDES GUIDELINES ON:

- Developing a plan for yourself or your family
- Accessing water, power and food
- Protecting documents and valuables
- Safety and security requirements
- Establishing a communications plan
- First Aid and personal hygiene
- Identifying resources to achieve your goals
- Steps to make you and your family safer

### Speakers

Mary Fetchet, VOICES Executive Director  
Dionna Carlson, First Selectman, Town of New Canaan  
Russ Kimes, New Canaan Director of Emergency Management  
Stephanie Landau, VOICES Community Program Director

### Panelists

Albert Bassett, New Canaan Fire Chief  
Jim Davis, CERT Co-Executive Director  
John DiFederico, New Canaan Chief of Police  
Nick Jossem, Region One Preparedness Coordinator  
Susan Morse, 2nd Lieutenant, New Canaan EMS



The first 25 registrants will receive a Preparedness Backpack!

For more information, contact Stephanie Landau at: [slandau@voicescenter.org](mailto:slandau@voicescenter.org) or call 203-966-3911.

A special thank you to our generous sponsors

The event is free. Registration recommended.



NEW CANAAN  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



TO LEARN MORE  
AND REGISTER  
SCAN THE CODE





# SUPPORT MEETINGS

**THIRD TUESDAY EVERY MONTH**

**March 18**  **April 15**  **May 20**

**6:30-7:30pm**

**Congregational Church of New Canaan  
Meet in the Parlor or Library**

Are you or is someone you care about a member of the LGBTQ+ community? Come and join PFLAG Stamford, right here at our church, to share our joys and struggles and lift each other up.

Founded in 1973, PFLAG is the first and largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

RSVPs aren't necessary, but feel free to email [polly.obrienmorrow@gmail.com](mailto:polly.obrienmorrow@gmail.com) for more information.

**CONNECT WITH PFLAG STAMFORD**

**[PFLAGStamford@gmail.com](mailto:PFLAGStamford@gmail.com) / **FB: PFLAG Stamford** / **IG: @PFLAGStamford****

## COMMUNITY (Cont'd)



Taking a break and enjoying personal time during the day is a crucial step in managing the stress of caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's or other dementias.

The Adult Day Program (ADP) offers a safe and supportive environment for individuals with Alzheimer's or dementia while providing caregivers with much needed time for themselves to run errands, go to appointments, see friends or simply rest.

### What can families and participants expect?

- Disease specific, cognitively stimulating activities and programs provided by professionally trained Waveny staff
- Socialization with peers
- Quiet space for independent activity and rest
- Light breakfast and multi-course lunch
- Transportation through local resources
- Monday thru Friday scheduling
- 9:30am-3:30pm
- full- and half-day options

### What care needs and levels of support are provided?

- General supervision
- Light personal care including bathroom assistance
- Meal set-up, supervision and cueing
- Guided activities with Waveny's Therapeutic Recreation team

*The ADP program is made possible by the generosity of The New Canaan Community Foundation, local philanthropists Jim and Dede Bartlett, and Waveny LifeCare Network.*



Navigator: Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan  
203-594-5289 | [navigator@waveny.org](mailto:navigator@waveny.org)



## Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Group

**When:** Fourth Wednesday of every month at 2pm

**Where:** The Tate Room, New Canaan Library  
151 Main Street, New Canaan

Join Chris DiElsi, LMSW and Navigator at Waveny LifeCare Network for a peer support group at New Canaan Library. Attendees can find guidance, offer support, and ask questions in a safe environment.

Each meeting you can expect to:

- Discuss and provide coping techniques and strategies
- Share stories and experiences of your own journey
  - Share feelings, needs, and concerns
  - Learn about community resources

**Space is limited, registration is required**

Visit <https://www.newcanaanlibrary.org/event/> to register

Questions? Call 203.594.5289 or email [navigator@waveny.org](mailto:navigator@waveny.org)



**COMMUNITY (Cont'd)**



Waveny Lifecare Network's

**NAVIGATOR**

*Alzheimer's and Dementia at Home for New Canaan*

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

*All Communications Confidential*

- 24/7 access to dedicated Alzheimer's and dementia specialists
- Complimentary grant-based program
- Exclusive respite apartment
- Exclusive social model adult day programming
- Expedited access to Waveny's continuum
- Access to trusted resources outside of Waveny
- Wellness checks and safety assessments
- Education on disease progression and healthcare resources available
- Assistance with insurance and public benefits
- Coordination of care, advance care planning, discharge planning
- Emotional support
- Alzheimer's and dementia caregiver support group
- Dedicated mobile app

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

*In collaboration with*



**NEW CANAAN  
 COMMUNITY  
 FOUNDATION**

**SAVE THE NUMBER  
 SAVE A LIFE  
 CALL OR TEXT 988**

Add this number to your phone now. It could save a life later.

**988  
 SUICIDE & CRISIS  
 LIFELINE**

nimh.nih.gov/suicideprevention

Save the number, save a life. Add the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (988) to your phone now—it could save a life later. Trained crisis counselors are available to talk 24/7/365.

**NEW CANAAN  
 Behavioral Health  
 ALLIANCE**

Finding the right behavioral health support for yourself, family member or a friend can feel overwhelming. The New Canaan Behavioral Health Alliance (NCBHA) is excited to announce the launch of its website. New Canaan Human Services, NCCF and Silver Hill Hospital have partnered with over 30 local agencies and organizations to encourage, develop and support a greater community awareness of behavioral health issues and resources in our area. To talk directly to someone that can help navigate available resources, or just to see what behavioral health events are happening around the area, visit [www.newcanaanbha.org](http://www.newcanaanbha.org).

**Support for domestic violence victims is available through the holidays.**



**24-hour Hotline:** (203) 588-9097

**CT Safe Connect 24-hour Hotline:**  
 (888) 774-2900 (call/text)

**Main Business Line:**  
 (203) 588-9100

[www.dvccct.org](http://www.dvccct.org)

**Our services are free and confidential, multilingual and multicultural. Help is available.**

*DVCC is the only state-certified domestic violence agency recognized by the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence (CCADV) serving the communities of Norwalk, Stamford, New Canaan, Darien, Westport, Weston and Wilton.*

## PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

**Please keep the following people in your hearts.**

***NEW prayers and concerns:*** family of Tom Duncan (Lisa Flanagan's father) as he died March 6.


***Continued prayers and concerns:*** Tim and Kate Albert (friends of the Holden family); David Altchek undergoing medical treatments (Charles Altchek's father); Audrey (Jessica Lister's grandmother); Joe Baird and his family (Maxine's friend) as Joe has entered into Hospice; Joan Brode (friends of Barbara Wentzel and other PEO Sisters), died February 25; Kip Farrell; Peter Findlay (Mimi Findlay's brother-in-law); Joan Flanagan (Terry Flanagan's mother) is healing from a rabid fox attack; Amy Granato (Julie Fowler's sister); Gigi Guthrie, 2<sup>nd</sup> hip replacement on February 27; Chris Harris (Dede Trefts' lifelong and beloved friend) is in the last stage of a very long battle with cancer; Dan Hodges; Barbara Holt (friend of Nancy LaBadie); David Johnson (Elsbeth Johnson's son); Ben Krevitz (Nancy & Bob LaBadie's nephew) who died February 24; Maryanne Lombardi (Brian Lombardi's mother) who has brain cancer; Mary (Barbara Wentzel's sister); Mark Martelle (friend of Maxine Gaddis) diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease; Sandy Nissley; Nancy Russell (Linda Martin's sister) who is suffering from lung failure and awaiting a lung transplant; Joan Scherman and Kevin Bedford (Mark Magnusen's friends); Charlie Stewart (Jim Riehl's brother-in-law) who's in hospice; Homero Villareal; and 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 gun violence.

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, hurricanes and earthquakes and during war.

PSNE Community Prayer: PSNE Staff: Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo, Rev. Kate Carlisle, and Jenelle Hopkins

## 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](mailto: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 Stacy Arevalo, Peg Bull, Kathy Edwards, Debera Prosek, Ellen Sisson, and The Rev. 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**

**CALENDAR – UPCOMING WEEK**

**SUNDAY, March 9**

**9 am** Music Rehearsals  
**10 am** Sunday Worship  
**11:15 am** Coffee Hour  
**11:30 am** New Members' Orientation Class

**MONDAY, March 10**

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)  
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons  
7 pm Deacons Meeting (Zoom)  
7 pm Session Meeting  
7 pm Purple Heather Dancers

**TUESDAY, March 11**

9:30 am St. A's Walking with a Purpose  
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 12**

10 am Weekly Bible Studies  
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

**WEDNESDAY, March 12**

4:30 pm English Handbells Rehearsal  
6 pm Wednesday @ the Well during Lent

**THURSDAY, March 13**

3:30 pm Special Church  
7 pm Choir Rehearsal

**FRIDAY, March 14**

9:30, 10:30, 11:30, 3:30, 4:30 Jumpin' Jams (Tate Barn)  
2-9 pm Wilton Studios–Music Lessons

**SATURDAY, March 15**

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

**SUNDAY, March 16**

**9 am** Music Rehearsals  
**10 am** Sunday Worship  
**11:15 am** Coffee Hour  
**11:30 am** Adult Forum – Building One Community

**CALENDAR – MARCH–MAY**

<b>Every Wed – Mar 12 – Apr 9</b>	<b>Wednesdays at the Well weekly during Lent (6:00pm-7:30pm)</b>
<b>Thursday, March 20, 3:00pm</b>	<b>New Canaan Chamber Music Concert</b>
<b>Friday, March 21, 7:30pm</b>	<b>New Canaan Chamber Music Concert</b>
<b>Sunday, March 23, 10:00am</b>	<b>Welcome New Members</b>
<b>Sunday, April 6, 11:30am</b>	<b>Adult Forum – Dionna Carlson, First Selectman (w/ lunch)</b>
<b>Sunday, April 13, 10:00am</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Service</b>
<b>Thursday, April 17, 7:00pm</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday Service</b>
<b>Friday, April 18, 12:00-3:00pm</b>	<b>Good Friday Service: Seven Last Words of Christ (@ Community Baptist Church of New Canaan)</b>
<b>Sunday, April 20</b>	<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>7:00am Sunrise Service (followed by Breakfast at 8:00am)</b> <b>10:00am Easter Service (followed by Easter Egg Hunt–weather permitting)</b>
<b>Saturday, April 26, 2:00pm</b>	<b>Nancy Helle Memorial Service</b>
<b>Saturday, May 3, 11:00am</b>	<b>George Post Memorial Service</b>
<b>Sunday, May 4, 10:00am</b>	<b>Scottish Heritage Sunday</b>
<b>Sunday, May 4, 4:00pm</b>	<b>Charis Chamber Voices Concert</b>
<b>Sunday, May 14, 7:00pm</b>	<b>New Canaan High School Choirs Concert</b>

**THOSE PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:**

The First Presbyterian Church Choir

with:

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

**Lay Readers:** Dede Bartlett, Stephanie Hare and Stacy Arevalo

**Ushers:** Jim Ely and Sarah Robinson

**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  
Stacy Arevalo, Director of Pastoral Care, Adult Discipleship and Spiritual Formation  
Jim Riehl, Business Administrator • Wendy Starr, Office Manager • Kate and Matt Ziance, Operations Managers

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

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