

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 3, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.

Welcome! We're glad you're here today! For more information about our church, please see our brochure in your pew. You are invited to return the enclosed information card to share your contact information and/or your pastoral needs; and you are welcome to sign our guestbook at the rear of the sanctuary. Infant/toddler care: 8:45 am in Room 1.

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

MEDITATION: *Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks! Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle. But you shall be a miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself, at the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God. ~ Phillips Brooks*

PRELUDE Susan Skogerboe

GREETINGS and CHURCH LIFE Rev. Ann Aaberg

One: This is the day our God has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

SUMMER CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #261 (Blue Hymnal)
Sweet, Sweet Spirit

CALL to WORSHIP

One: Turn them off, put them away and come into the house of the Lord!

All: We have left behind our laptops and cellphones, video games and ear buds – all our devices, digital and manual, mental and physical, all which distract us from this hour!

One: Focus your eyes, open your ears, turn your minds and hearts to the living, loving God!

All: We come to open ourselves to the One who can fill our hearts with love and hope, with renewed yearnings for service and peace.

Unison: Let us give thanks and praise! Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN SING** *Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!*
(Verse 1 of the hymns of your choice)

*PRAYER of CONFESSION

(Adapted from "Litany of Labor" by Nancy Light Gottshall from Before the Amen)

One: Ruler of the heavens, who came to earth as a humble carpenter, hear our prayers this Labor Day weekend: We give thanks for the gift of work, which can help give meaning and purpose to our lives, and which can offer us a way to serve you.

All: Companion of our labor, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for all whose work is truly their calling that they may continue to find joy in their labor, and through their labor be drawn closer to you.

All: Joy in our lives, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for all whose work is not a joy, who work simply because they must, and who suffer boredom and exhaustion from jobs that do nothing to feed their spirits.

All: Source of all meaning, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for all whose work leads them into ethical conflicts, who struggle to do what is right in the midst of frustrating circumstances.

All: Guide for our path, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for all who are unemployed, who face daily the financial and personal anxieties that unemployment brings, who begin to wonder about their worth in the world.

All: Savior in the stress, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for all who are retired, those who enjoy retirement, those who have lost purpose in their lives, and those who struggle to make a faithful use of their days.

All: Teacher of quietness, hear our prayer.

One: We know, Gracious God, that our lives depend on the faithful labor of other workers, often those who are underpaid and overworked. Keep us aware of how our choices affect the labor of others.

Unison: Gracious God, forgive us when we fail to see work as a gift, when we question others' calling, when we fail to honor ethics in the workplace, when we lack compassion for those who struggle in their work, for those who cannot find work, for those who miss work and for those workers who are treated unfairly. Through your grace, grant that all the work we do brings you honor and glory. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*ASSURANCE of PARDON

*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*GLORIA PATRI #35

 (Blue Hymnal)

Glory be to the Father (Creator) and to the Son (Christ) and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the Beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Prayer cards are provided in your pew if you would like to make a prayer request. They will be collected during the silent portion of the prayer. Please pass your card toward the center aisle for collection. If unable to pass your prayer card, you may raise it to ensure visibility and the pastor or a deacon will collect it.

***HYMN #7** (Red Hymnal) *Immortal, Invisible God, Only Wise*

PROCLAIMING the GOOD NEWS in WORD & SACRAMENT

SCRIPTURE Romans 12:9-21 (Pew Bible, N.T. page 162)

ANTHEM Summer Choir

SCRIPTURE Exodus 3:1-15 (Pew Bible, O.T. page 50) Rev. Ann Aaberg

COMMUNION REFLECTION "Divine Remedy" Rev. Ann Aaberg

MOMENT of SILENT REFLECTION

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

CALL to GIVE OUR TITHES and OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #46** (Blue Hymnal)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him (God) all creatures here below; praise Him (God) above, ye heavenly host; praise Father (Creator), Son (Christ), and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN of PREPARATION #590 (Blue Hymnal) *Kum ba Yah*

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

The Bread and the Cup

(Participation in the sacrament of Holy Communion is open to all. All are welcome to come forward and receive the elements: dip a piece of bread into the cup of unfermented grape juice, partake and return to your seat. If you require assistance, please raise your hand and a deacon will carry the elements to you.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, we thank you for life in the Spirit of Jesus, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion: oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and risen life that never ends through Jesus Christ. Amen.

***HYMN #24** (Blue Hymnal) *The God of Abraham Praise*

***OUR COMMON COMMISSION** (unison)

Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*BENEDICTION

***CONGREGATIONAL AMEN #320** (Blue Hymnal)

POSTLUDE

*All who are able, please stand.



Please join us immediately following the service for refreshments and fellowship. All are welcome!



Flowers

In loving memory of their parents, Reba & Thomas Curran, and Helen & Laurence Davis, from Diane & Franklin Davis

NOTES OF PARISH LIFE

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Those with hearing aids so equipped may switch to the "T" setting on their aids to use our Hearing Loop system. Individual units are also available. Please ask an usher.



DONATIONS FOR FOOD, HOUSEHOLD & HEALTHCARE ITEMS are continually collected and then taken to the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center (PNC) or the Groton Human Services Food Lockers. Food stamps do not cover diapers or other sanitary supplies so those items are welcomed as well.

COVENANTAL PRAYERS THIS WEEK are for the Roxbury Congregational UCC, Congregational Church of Salisbury UCC, Scotland Congregational Church UCC, Seymour Congregational UCC, Huntington Congregational UCC (in Shelton), and our partner churches Dongbu Sunlin in South Korea and Church of the City of New London.

PRAYER CHAIN is active! 15 of our fellow parishioners have gathered around this important ministry. If you have a concern which you feel could be helped by the prayers of this group, call Lynda Hewitt at (XXX)XXX-XXXX, or the Pastor at (860)536-4259 Ext.112. All prayer requests are held in the strictest confidence.

CONTACTING PASTOR ANN

Confidential Voice Mail at any time: (860)536-4259 Extension 112

Email: ann@mysticucc.org

Pastoral Emergency: (XXX)XXX-XXXX

QUESTIONS ABOUT MCC SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH or MUSIC PROGRAMS:

respectively, Genviève Spitale (Director-Children’s Ministries) at genviève.mysticucc@gmail.com or 860-536-4259 Ext. 119, Pastor Christa Swenson at christa.mysticucc@gmail.com or 860-536-4259 Ext. 120 or, or Andrew Howell (Director-Music) at andrew@chorusofwesterly.org or 401-864-8066.

OTHER CHURCH CONTACTS For any other issue, question or concern, in addition to contacting the Pastor, you may also contact Church Moderator Katie Korpi at XXXXX@XXX.XXX and XXX-XXX-XXXX or Personnel Committee Member Laurie Alfieri at XXXXXX@XXX.XXX\ and XXX-XXX-XXXX.



HABITAT for HUMANITY BUILDING in MYSTIC!

Habitat for Humanity has begun rehab construction on an existing home at 235 Yetter Road in Mystic and has approached area churches for volunteers. Whether you are interested in joining a group from Mystic Congregational Church to volunteer on a Saturday or you would like to plug in on your own and volunteer individually (Tue, Thur, or Sat), all must begin by:

- (1) **Training** – online at www.habitat.org/volunteer/training
- (2) **Waiver** – print and fill out waiver found at www.habitat.org/volunteer

Then, when you’re ready...

- (3) **Sign up** – for your volunteer day
 - Go to www.habitat.org
 - Click the Volunteer UP link in the top right corner
 - Log In or Register if new
 - Return to the Calendar
 - Click the preferred day under the column
 - Choose the shift, email reminder and team name.
 - Click “sign up”

Contact Pastor Ann by email at ann@mysticucc.org if you would like to be part of a Saturday group. If you want to help but can’t participate at the work site, crews always need to eat! Volunteer with snacks, baked goods, packed lunches!

RESPONDING to HURRICANE HARVEY

For those wishing to help relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Harvey, the United Church of Christ “[Emergency USA Fund](#)” insures that 100% of the funds received will be used in direct emergency relief efforts. Please make checks payable to Mystic Congregational Church with “Hurricane Harvey” in the memo line.

MORNING MINISTRY

Ministers:All Members of the Church
 Pastor:.....Rev. Ann M. Aaberg
 Associate Pastor:.....Rev. Christa D. Swenson
 Director of Music:Andrew Howell
 Director of Children’s Ministries:Genviève Spitale
 Parish Care Coordinators:Jane Donnel & Karin Stuart
 Nursery Attendants:Kathy Graham, Alexis Dempsey, Caroline Parker
 Flowers:Diane Davis
 Hospitality:Pam McGee
 Deacon for the Month:Nancy McLoughlin
 Scripture Reader:Kathleen O’Beirne
 Ushers:Dave Benvenuti, Laurel Butler, Pam McGee, Nancy McLoughlin
 Trustees:Jane Fitzpatrick, Kay Tower

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday, 9/03	8:45 am	- Nursery Care (Room 1)
	9:00 am	- Worship & Communion Service
	10:15 am	- HS Youth W.A.R.M. Meal Preparation (Kitchen)
Monday, 9/04	LABOR DAY – OFFICE CLOSED	
	Meals on Wheels	
	6:30-9:00 pm	- AA (Parish Hall)
Tuesday, 9/05	9:30 am	- Women’s Fellowship Board (Library)
Wednesday, 9/06	10:00 am	- Staff Meeting (Pastor’s Office)
	7:00 pm	- Council (Library)
Thursday, 9/07	7:00 pm	- Senior Choir (Music Room)
	7:00-9:30 pm	- AA (Music Room)
Friday, 9/08	Meals on Wheels	
Saturday, 9/09	8:30 am-2:30 pm	- Habitat for Humanity Build (235 Yetter Road, Mystic)
Sunday, 9/10	8:00 & 10:00 am	- Worship Services
	9:00 am	- Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
	9:40 am	- Confirmation Meeting (Library)
	9:45 am	- Nursery Care (Room 1)
	10:15 am	- Sunday School
	11:00 am	- Confirmation Meeting (Library)
	11:30 am	- HS Youth Group (Youth Space)

Mystic Congregational Church
 United Church of Christ

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 Mystic, CT 06355
 Tel. 860-536-4259
 Email: office@mysticucc.org
 Website: www.mysticucc.org
www.youtube.com/mysticcongregational

MYSTIC CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

Organized in 1852 at Mystic, Connecticut



*“I was glad when they said unto me,
‘Let us go into the house of the Lord.’”
~Psalm 122:1*

September 3, 2017
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 a.m.

Our Mission Statement: To joyfully bring the Christian principles of faith, hope and love to all through quality worship, education, fellowship and outreach.

ALL ARE WELCOME
An Open and Affirming Church