

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF VERNON, UCC

Holy Communion
September 4, 2016

WELCOME!

We're glad you are here. It is our hope that you will encounter God here, experience the love God showed the world in Jesus, and be inspired to share that love with the world.

PRELUDE	"Le Tic-Toc-Choc"	Couperin
	"Work for the Night Is Coming"	arr. Ashford
	"Prelude"	Bach
	"Overture"	Wagner

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL to WORSHIP

Greg Mias

Leader: In our sharing bread today we include in companionship

People: the saints alive and the saints resurrected.

Leader: In our sharing of bread today we include in companionship

People: the poor, marginalized and rejected of this world.

Leader: In our sharing of bread today we include in companionship

People: those known to us and those not known, who need Jesus now.

Leader: In our sharing of bread today we include in companionship

People: Jesus, our incarnated, broken and risen Lord.

Leader: Wine is for sorrow and for joy, for suffering and for celebration, for forgiveness and for new relationship.

People: We are being filled until Christ returns.

Leader: Let us pray together:

Redeeming God, remind us, through this bread and juice, of the love and forgiveness you have for us because of Jesus' death and resurrection. Empower us, and send us out to work for the Kingdom. Make us people of hope, fanning the flames of redemption and resurrection in the world. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** #384 "Here at Thy Table, Lord"

SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive communion.

INVITATION

from Bread for the World Worship Aids by Henderson, Larson, Quinn

PRAYER of BLESSING/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.

WE REMEMBER/SHARING the BREAD and the CUP *(served in the pew; gluten-free bread is available. Please indicate your preference to a Deacon. We will receive the elements when all are served.)*

PRAYER of THANKSGIVING *(unison)*

Generous God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace. Amen.

***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.

SCRIPTURE Esther

SERMON Rev. Robin Bird

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS/MORNING PRAYER

CALL to OFFERING

OFFERTORY "How Beautiful" Twila Paris
Duet - Dave and Michelle Bower

***DOXOLOGY**

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

***PRAYER of DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN** #615 "I Shall Not Be Moved"

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE "Alleluia" Mozart

****All who are able are invited to stand.***

Join us for coffee and conversation after the service in Fellowship Hall.

In Our Ongoing Prayers

Claudette Weingart recovering from hip replacement surgery; Helen Dyar; Bill Bennison; Michael Doyle and his wife Kathy; Dean Hockenberry; Helen Dahling; Dave Hollister; Ryan Meneses; Joyce Smith; John Arthur; Brian, 11 years old, fighting cancer; Meg, Bill and Holly Boutwell's sister/sister-in-law; the homeless; the hungry; gun reform; acceptance of religious diversity/skin color/sexual orientation; Daniel Burnett-Pollack; Debbie Chase; Dick Myer; Margaret Klukas; Paul Westerberg; people struggling with mental illness, and their families; the people of Syria, Belgium & Pakistan; Heidi Howie; Mason Bower; Michael Turner; Martha Fowler; Michael Bebrin; Cooper Doyle

*New additions in **bold print***

Deacons Serving Communion: Michelle Bower, Barbara Grigg, Greg Mias, Susan Pilkons

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Board of Music: 11:30 AM, Library

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Labor Day: Monday, September 5. The Church Office is closed.

Craft Workshop: Wednesday, September 7, 11 AM, Fellowship Hall

Council: Wednesday, September 7, 7 PM, Fellowship Hall

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Thursday, September 8, 7:30 PM

Grief Support Group: Friday, September 9, 10:30 AM, Library

Missions: Saturday, September 10, 10 AM, Library

Rally Sunday and Church Cookout September 11

Join us for the beginning of our program year followed by a time of fun, fellowship and games! Food and beverage will be provided.

School Store, Rally Sunday, September 11 during Coffee Hour, sponsored by the Board of Missions. We have purchased school supplies that will be available for you to "buy" by making a donation to cover the cost of the item(s). Supplies have already been delivered to the Hockanum Valley Community Council for distribution to local children in need to insure they start the new school year with needed school supplies. Please consider supporting this worthy cause.

Junior Choir rehearsals will begin on Sunday, September 11 at 11:30 AM in Kellogg Hall. Children in grades K-6 are welcome to come and sing. Contact Althea Madigan, 860-870-5185, if you have questions.

The Grounds Committee will be taking **orders** for **bulbs**, to be planted in October, next Sunday, September 11 during Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall. Stop by our table to see all the wonderful selections.

Please Note: Beginning on Rally Sunday, September 11, with the intention of providing a more worshipful service, we will refrain from making announcements during the Sunday morning worship service. For information on all church meetings/activities, please check the weekly email, Sunday bulletin, Carillon or website (www.firstchurchofvernon.org). Thank you.

Clean-up and painting is ongoing in Kellogg Hall and much work needs to be completed by Rally Sunday. If you would like to help, please contact Millie Oliphant, 860-872-7106. **We are also in need** of "gently used" toddler toys for our Child Care Room. Please see Debi Hockenberry if you have any to donate.

Child Care is available for church activities/events when notice is given 3 days prior to the event. Contact Child Care Coordinator, Jen Jensen, 860-875-4095.

The **Care Network** is offered by the Deacons as a helping hand during difficult times. If you are in need of a ride to church, the doctor, hospital, grocery store, etc., in need of meals or a visit, contact Cheryl Purnell, 860-712-8124 or Sue Pilkons, 860-875-4122.

To request a visit with the pastor, please call the Church Office, 860-875-7580.

Church Office	860-875-7580
Email	church.secretary@firstchurchofvernon.org
Website	www.firstchurchofvernon.org

