

October 9, 2022

## Order of Worship

10:00am

*An asterisk (\*) indicates times when you are invited to stand. Selections in **BOLD** are responses spoken by the congregation.*

### Welcome and Announcements

Deacon

### Prelude

*Lyric Prelude (from Opus 25 No. 5)*  
Frederic Chopin (1810-1849), arr. by Franklin Ritter

Norman McFarlane

### Call to Worship

Deacon

Psalm 66:1-12

One: Shout for joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of God's name; make God's praise glorious. Say to God,

**All: "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you. All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name."**

One: Come and see what God has done, God's awesome deeds for humankind! God turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot—come, let us rejoice in God. God rules forever by power, God's eyes watch the nations—let not the rebellious rise up against God.

**All: Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of praise be heard; God has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping. For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver. You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs. You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us to a place of abundance.**

### \*Gathering Hymn

*How Firm a Foundation*

# 618, vss 1-3

### Stewardship Moment

Brita Gotberg

### Message for All God's Children

Sarah Pradhan

*Joy and Concern cards will be collected by the Deacons*

*Sing "This Little Light of Mine" as Children proceed to Sunday School.*

### Scripture

Deacon

As we hear the words of scripture

**Let us listen in the words for the Word of God.**

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

29:1 These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

29:4 Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

The grass withers and the flower fades

**But the Word of God shall stand forever**

<b>Sermon Message</b>	“Emerging from Exile”	Spencer Law
<b>*Hymn</b>	<i>Blest Be the Tie That Binds</i>	#433
<b>Prayers of the People for the World</b>		Spencer Law
	Lord in your mercy <b>All: hear our prayers.</b>	
<b>The Lord’s Prayer</b>		Spencer Law
	<b>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, now and forever. Amen.</b>	
<b>Choir Anthem</b>	<i>The Lord’s Prayer</i> West Indian folk tune, arr. by Carlton R. Young	
<b>*Closing Hymn</b>	<i>Leaning on the Everlasting Arms</i>	# 560, vs. 1 & 3
<b>*Benediction</b>		
	<b>Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; Be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; Render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; Support the weak; help the afflicted; Honor all people; love and serve God; Rejoicing through the power of the Holy Spirit. The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen</b>	
<b>*Parting Song</b>	<i>God Be With You ‘Till We Meet Again (modified)</i>	
	<b>God be with You till we meet again. By God’s counsels guide, uphold you. God will place arms all around you. God be with you till we meet again.</b>	
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>Majestic Postlude</i> Mark L. Williams	Norman McFarlane

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Our guest minister today is Spencer Law. Spencer is a Master of Divinity student at Yale Divinity School, where he is a member of Andover Newton Seminary. He comes to Connecticut from Richmond, Virginia, after graduating from James Madison University and serving as Pastoral Intern at Tabernacle Baptist Church. Spencer currently works in chaplaincy at Yale New Haven Health, as a minister in Yale’s Marquand Chapel, and serves as a leader in student government. Spencer lives in the Prospect Hill neighborhood of New Haven and enjoys the vibrant community there.

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**This is an Open and Affirming Church**

We affirm the dignity and worth of every person, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, mental or physical ability or sexual orientation. We offer sacraments and rites to all who enter our circle of faith. We celebrate the gifts that each person brings to First Congregational Church and invite them to share in all areas of its service, leadership, activities, responsibilities and privileges.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

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