

UNITED CHURCH ON THE GREEN

In the Heart of New Haven, Open to all Seekers



An Open and Affirming Congregation of
the United Church of Christ



We Gather as Church

We'd love to keep in touch with you. If you would like us to send you our weekly eNewsletter, update your mailing address, and/or make you a Name Tag, please email the front office at: office@unitednewhaven.org

** Indicates Congregation should stand as able*

PRELUDE *L'Epiphanie* Charles-Alexis Chauvet
 PAUL THOMA, GUEST ORGANIST (1837-1871)

WORDS OF WELCOME

Peace be with you... **And also with you...**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: O Lord, our Lord there are many places we could go this morning,

Many: but we desire to meet with you.

One: There are many concerns that could drive us away, but we bring them to you.

Many: For you are great and you are good. You are worthy of praise and worthy of trust

One: You overcome sin and death, trounce evil and make all things new

Many: O, Lord, we turn to you. O, Lord, we sing to you!

*** GATHERING PRAYER (Unison)**

Extravagant God, you have promised treasure in heaven that outweighs any we could envision or imagine on earth. Help us to be grateful for the amazing gifts you have already given to us. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by seeking lesser treasure and being dulled by the darkness.

We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

Because of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, and forgive us, O Lord; that we may treasure your Son, and walk in your light, that your kingdom come, and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,

SILENT PRAYER

Lord Let Me Be a Sanctuary

SANCTUARY

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you." The chords indicated are G, Em7, D, A, A7, D, A, G, A7, D.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

That our elected officials may be granted the foresight, wisdom and gumption to resolve the difficult issues facing our cities, our schools, our government no matter the political fallout.

For immigrants and refugees everywhere seeking sanctuary and safe harbor.

For the families of the children of God worldwide, who have died of Covid-19, and for all who suffer in the ongoing pandemic.

For the presence and guidance of God through this time of pastoral transition, that we might navigate the journey with discernment, trust, and courage.

For Prayer Requests, please contact the Pastor at pastor@unitednewhaven.org or 203-787-4195 x104

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

Hear us now as we combine our energy to pray using the words Jesus taught us...

Our Father/Mother/God, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Peace be with you... *And also with you...*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Lead Me, Lord

Samuel S. Wesley
(1810-1876)

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,
Make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord, only,
That makest me dwell in safety.

***DOXOLOGY**

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Nurturing God,
You remind us that faith without love is meaningless. We present
these gifts with love. We rejoice in our ability to share. May this
moment of giving warm our hearts and stir our souls so that we
remember to act consistently out of love in the name of Jesus.
In His name, we pray. Amen.**

*In times like these, the work and word of the church is all the more important.
Please help United continue to offer life-giving ministry by giving online through
our secure website at www.unitednewhaven.org/donate, or use the QR Code on
the back cover of the Bulletin. Thank you for your generosity!*

We Are Sent Out

***HYMN #167**

Arise, Your Light Has Come

FESTAL SONG

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

Michael Bedford
(b. 1949)

Our Worship Has Ended. Let Our Service Begin!
After the service join our remote Zoom Coffee Hour at
<https://unitednewhaven.org/this-weeks-worship>

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Interim Minister	Rev. Kevin Ewing
Director of Music	Caesar Storlazzi
Guest Organist	Paul Thoma
United Church Choir	
Assistant Choir Director	Alex Whittington
Digital Media Administrator	Lizzy Stant
Digital Deacons	Worship & Music Ministry Team
Coffee Hour Hosts	Ruth Anne Olson June Richards
Head Sexton	William Henton
Sexton	Raymond O'Connor

THIS WEEK AT UNITED CHURCH

- Jan 29th:** 10:00AM Worship at United Church – Hybrid
Feb 1st: 1:00PM Staff Meeting – Online
Feb 3rd: 4:00PM Bible Study – Online
6:00PM YHHAP Soup Kitchen – Take Out Only
Feb 4th: 6:00PM YHHAP Soup Kitchen – Take Out Only

SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH THE PASTOR

LET'S TALK SOME MORE...

Still plenty of open times for us to chat. If we've already spent time together in conversation, I hope it was enjoyable enough to want to do it again. We can do Zoom or meet in person at the Parish House. Or perhaps meet over coffee or a meal. I added a third option – "Other" – to go along with Zoom or Parish House. Enter the location you'd like to meet and we'll see how to make it happen. I look forward to hearing your stories. <https://calendly.com/kewingct/let-s-talk>

RevKev

This Week's Music:

Charles-Alexis Chauvet: Born in Marines, France, Chauvet made his debut at the organ of St. Remi church at the age of 11. At age 13 he entered the Conservatoire de Paris to study organ with François Benoist and composition with Ambroise Thomas. He was appointed to many organist positions in France. His last appointment was in 1869 as the titular organist of the new Cavallé-Coll organ of the Église de la Sainte-Trinité. Chauvet held this position until his premature death at the age of 34 years.

Michael Bedford: A full-time church musician since 1973, Dr. Bedford is an accomplished music director having led programs featuring a full graded choir program. He studied at Texas Christian University (BMus, BMusEd, and MMus), and with Michael Schneider on a Fulbright scholarship at the Hochschule für Musik in Cologne, Germany. Dr. Bedford is a Past President of the American Guild of Organists, has been a board member of the Choristers Guild, and has been active in numerous other related organizations. He is a firm believer in having young people be active in leadership positions in our churches—
“...children and youth are the future of the Church.”

John Blow: John Blow was an English composer and organist of the Baroque period. Appointed organist of Westminster Abbey in late 1668, his pupils included William Croft, Jeremiah Clarke and Henry Purcell. Apparently well-to-do for an organist, it is said that he owned nine houses, all in the vicinity of Westminster Abbey. Upon Blow's “retirement” from the Abbey (there is speculation that he was dismissed to make way for Purcell), he worked in several other churches in the area. The relatively short prayer anthem sung in the service today is remarkable for its text-painting on the word “incense.”

The pause after that word allows to the sound to rise up to the ceiling, just like incense.

Samuel S. Wesley: S. S. Wesley was an English organist and composer, son of the composer, Samuel Wesley. Famous in his lifetime as one of his country's leading organists and choirmasters, he composed almost exclusively for the Church of England. The popular short anthem *Lead me, Lord* sung in today's service is an extract from *Praise the Lord, O my soul*. Of his hymn tunes the best known are "Aurelia" and "Hereford." UCG's congregation will know "Aurelia" as "The Church's One Foundation." Wesley, with Father Willis, can be credited with the invention of the concave and radiating organ pedalboard. This joint conception has been largely adopted as an international standard for organs throughout the English-speaking world. UCG's Hillebrand organ has a flat pedalboard, and not the concave radiating "AGO Standard" pedalboard, following an earlier style of organ building.

CHURCH NOTES

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MEETING HOUSE WIFI INFORMATION

WiFi Network: UCG Meetinghouse

WiFi Password: 2037874195

Staff Contacts

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Rev. Louise B. Higginbotham, *minister emerita*

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Scott, *minister emerita*

At United Church on the Green, we seek to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God, following in the footsteps of Jesus. We are also a progressive Protestant Christian church, a member of the nationwide United Church of Christ (UCC).

We have a long history.

- Established 1742. Meetinghouse was built in 1815.
- The Amistad Incident? Abolition of slavery? The 1970 Black Panther trials? Divestment in South Africa? United was there.

We believe God is still speaking to the world today... and we're trying to listen.

- Not a "The Bible says it. I believe it. That settles it." kind of church. Questions encouraged. (Actually, they're necessary.)
- "Open and Affirming" of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people since 1989.

We are working with God to build a better future.

- Not interested in "saving souls" or "converting the heathen." God's love is for all.
- Trying to "connect the dots" to grow peace, justice, and compassion in the world.

United Church on the Green, UCC
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