

Sunday Worship
March 17, 2019 | 9:00 & 10:15am

PRELUDE | *Aria by Flor Peeters*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | *Rev. Erica Avena*

Visitors, we are blessed that you are here today. We encourage everyone to wear a name tag and complete the information in the pew pad. If you have a prayer request, please complete a prayer card and place in the offering plate.

***CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #471** | *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me (verse 1)*
I want Jesus to walk with me; I want Jesus to walk with me;
all along my pilgrim journey, Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** | *Rev. Erica Thompson*

One: As we gather this morning, may the God of Joseph and all his brothers,
forgive and transcend whatever wrongs exist between us.

All: Grant us the courage to forgive others and to practice reconciliation,

One: By generosity in our speech and in our actions,

All: By the sharing of our time and of our resources.

One: God invites us to be part of God's blessing the world,

All: And to seek peace in our day.

***OPENING HYMN #70** | *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer*

SPIRIT HILL (CHURCH SCHOOL) RECESSIONAL (10:15am)

Children in grades K-5, please follow the Spirit hill flag bearers as you leave the sanctuary. Once in Drew Hall, you will be led to your classrooms.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgiving God, we, who find it hard to forgive, seek evidence of your good purposes at work even in the face of evil. Keep us from judging others or nursing grudges. Help us extend the grace and patience you have shown us. Remove the self-righteous limits we impose when pardoning others, for your grace toward us has far exceeded our deserving. As we gather at your invitation, put us right once again in our relationship with you and with one another.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (10:15am)

GIFT OF MUSIC | *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. D. Shipps and D. Wise
All Church Choir and Orchestra

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood. See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown? Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small; love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 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, for ever. Amen.

OFFERTORY | Sharing our gifts, tithes and offerings

Andrea Williams, Executive Director, ConnectiKids

Erbarm dich mein, o Herre Gott (Have mercy on me, O God) by J.S. Bach

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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

SCRIPTURE READING | *Genesis 50:15-21* (pew Bible pg. 42) | Jeff Doyle, Jacob Carey

SERMON | *Forgiven and Forgiving* | Rev. Erica Avena

***CLOSING HYMN #72** | *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

CHORAL BENEDICTION | *Prayer of St. Patrick arr. John Rutter*

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ above me, Christ beneath me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

POSTLUDE | *Fugue from Concerto in D by Vivaldi/Bach*

Today

For a complete list of events, programs, and volunteer opportunities, please visit ahcc.org.

EASTER LILIES

Beginning today, you may order an Easter lily (\$13 each) to be delivered to church members who are homebound or in our special prayers at this time. Order at the table in Drew Hall after worship or online at ahcc.org/lilies.

OUTREACH FORUM: YOUTH, EDUCATION, AND EMPOWERMENT

Today, 11:30am

Join the Outreach Committee for Network and Nosh, a discussion on Youth, Education, and Empowerment in the Asylum Hill Neighborhood. Attendees will become more familiar with the challenges faced by Asylum Hill youth and the creative ways in which our partner agencies are trying to address them.

AHCC THRIFT SHOP OPEN TODAY

Today is the last Sunday of the Winter Sale featuring half price on ALL clothing for adults and kids. How about a full length beaded gown for \$25? Coats for \$4? Don't miss out on these great savings! The shop is located on the lower level right at the bottom of the stairs – we're waiting to assist you!

JOIN THE AHCC GROWTH TEAM

No meetings! No standing obligations!

As a Growth Team member you and over 100 (200?) of your fellow church members will take part in growing our church and its impact. You will receive and share information about inviting people to AHCC events and worship services. And you will have the opportunity to help out with special events and community impact projects. Stop by the Growth Team table in Drew Hall and sign up, or send an email to growing@ahcc.org.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY MEETING

Today, 11:30am | AHCC Library

All are welcome to work together on a project for the confirmands, relax and work on your own project, and enjoy the company of other knitters and crocheters. New people are always welcome!

Member Engagement | Mia Douglas | 860.216.9834 | mdouglas@ahcc.org

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2020 - THE ALPINE EXPERIENCE

June 30 - July 9, 2020: a 10-day tour of Germany, Austria, and Venice

Tour Leader: Rev. Erica Thompson; Tour Coordinators: Diane and David Hathaway.

Registration is limited to 32 people. Register now at RegisterNow.ittworld.com; using

code Hathaway20. Questions? Contact Diane Hathaway at 719.640.4753 or didihath@gmail.com.

DINE AROUND

Tues, Mar. 19, gather at 5:30pm; dinner 6:15pm | Sake Café, Wethersfield

All are welcome and invited for a Hibachi dinner and show at this Asian-inspired restaurant. Separate checks. Sign up at the Member Engagement table or contact June Day at jday@ahcc.org or 860.874.6430. Handicapped accessible.

LENTEN SPEAKER SERIES CONTINUES

Thursdays, through Apr. 11, doors open 6:45pm; speaker 7:00pm | Sanctuary

(Please note: this is a Speaker Series only. There are no Lenten Suppers.)

We are pleased to offer a Lenten Speaker Series featuring locally and nationally known speakers. Please join us as we set aside time to ask the hard questions of our day, in good company. General admission tickets (\$10) are available at ahcc.org/speakers, or may be purchased at the door with cash or check. Remaining speakers for the series are: Chion Wolf; Dr. Susan Eaton; Rev. Dr. Otis Moss; Rev. Dr. James Forbes.

HELP SERVE A COMMUNITY MEAL

Mar. 24, 3:00pm | Center Church, Hartford

Gather to prepare a meal for community neighbors that includes food prep, cooking, dining room set up, serving, and clean up. Volunteers select the dinner menu and shop for items for the community meal. Teams of 8 to 10 are needed. Individual sign-up at the Faith in Action table in Drew Hall.

Women's Spirituality | Erica Thompson | 860.216.9823 | ethompson@ahcc.org

WINE & CHEESE EVENT

Sat, Mar. 30, 4:00 - 7:00pm | AHCC Come as you are and enjoy wine, cheese, and delectable tidbits as well as non-alcoholic beverages. Let's celebrate time together and the coming of spring! Please RSVP to Laura Repka, 860.856.3332 (call or text) or to repkal@comcast.net.

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUPS

10:00am, first & third Tues of the month, AHCC; 7:00pm, first Thursday of the month, 136 Whiting Lane, West Hartford

Our time together is spirited, joy-filled, prayerful, and full of laughter. No need to commit to being present at every gathering – come as you are, when you are able.

WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

Fri, Apr. 26 - Sun, Apr. 28 | Ender's Island Retreat Center | Mystic, CT

Join us for a weekend of fellowship, laughter, and reflection at the Women's Spring Re-

treat. Registration information at the Member Engagement table or online at ahcc.org/WSF_2019_Retreat

Adult Education | Erica Avena | 860.216.9822 | ewimberavena@ahcc.org

SERIES ON WORLD RELIGIONS

Thu, Apr. 25, 6:30pm: Buddhism, led by Dr. Leslie Desmangles.

This presentation is an exploration of the fundamental concepts of Buddhist philosophy as they relate to issues of social justice and human suffering. We will examine some representative Buddhist scripture passages, the practice of compassion toward others that leads to individual wisdom, the practice of perfections and spiritual enlightenment (nirvana), as well as some of the major differences between the Theravada and Mahayana Buddhist sects.

Sun, Apr. 28, 11:30am; Heart of Islam, Father Calabria, Assistant Professor of Theology and Director, Center for Arab and Islamic Studies St. Bonaventure University

Thu, May 2, 6:30pm; Hinduism, Dr. Leslie Desmangles

FORUM - RACE IN AMERICA: THINGS WE DIDN'T LEARN IN SCHOOL

Sun, Apr. 7, 11:30am | Twichell

All are welcome to attend this SUSO-sponsored interactive session to learn about how our country's history created and supports racism. Facilitated by Martey Rhine, who brings over 30 years of management and mediation experience in the corporate and nonprofit sectors to her new career of promoting racial justice, the forum will provide an opportunity to embark on a journey of self-awareness about how white privilege perpetuates our racist systems. Bring your curiosity and courage.

Music & Arts | Jack Pott | 860.216.9831 | jpott@ahcc.org

MUSIC FOR HUMANITY CONCERT

Sat, Mar. 23, 8:00pm | Gen. Adm: \$20; Students: \$10 w/ID; 18 and under: Free

Tickets at ahcc.org or 860.278.0785

Original, socially conscious jazz composed especially for this concert by Jazz Samaritan Alliance featuring Kris Allen, alto saxophone; Noah Baerman, piano; Chris Dingman, vibraphone; Ike Sturm, bass; Allan Mednard, drums. Agency beneficiary: Malta House of Care, providing a mobile medical clinic offering high-quality, free primary health care to uninsured adults in Greater Hartford.

ART IN MOTION

Mon, Apr. 8, 1:30pm | New Britain Museum of American Art | \$11.00pp

All are welcome to attend a docent-led tour of this special exhibit, *The Beyond: Georgia O'Keeffe and Contemporary Art*. We'll meet at the museum (carpooling suggested) for a tour of over 36 of Georgia O'Keeffe's iconic works alongside the works of 20 contemporary artists. Sign up at the Member Engagement table and place a check in the box, made out to AHCC with NBMAA in the memo. Questions? Contact Susan Simonds,

simondss@comcast.net or Jack Pott, jpott@ahcc.org.

Children & Families | Marcie Jackson | 860.525.5696 | mjackson@ahcc.org

TODAY

Childcare is available on the SECOND FLOOR in rooms 207 & 208 for infants-pre-school during both services. At 10:15am, preschoolers continue their unit on Lent, with focus on confession and forgiveness.

Children in grades K-5 will start worship with their families then recess to Drew Hall during the opening hymn. Children will be led to their classrooms on the second floor to start a unit on Practicing Lent by focusing on the scripture of Joseph and his brothers.

TODAY'S SPIRIT HILL TEACHERS

Sam Feliciano, John Avignone, Kenna Grant, Jaqueline Quinn, Tiana Hercules

LENTEN COLLECTION

Children are invited to participate in a special collection through Palm Sunday, April 14. Children in grades K-3 will collect funds to purchase materials for care baskets to be distributed to our members who might be homebound, in care facilities, or hospitalized. Children in grades 4-5 will collect funds to purchase materials to create school kits for Church World Service. Please contact Marcie Jackson, Dir. of CFM if you have any questions about the collection.

Youth & Teens | Tobey Aubert | 860.216.9835 | taubert@ahcc.org

MIDDLE SCHOOL

10:15am | Youth Lounge

Series: Learning to love like Jesus. Discovering how Jesus lived his life and how to imitate the same love and kindness by examining examples from the actions of Jesus in the four Gospels. This Sunday, we will take a closer look at what happens in the adult service and the "why" behind it as it relates to Lent and Easter. Then we will have some extra time with fun games and snacks!

HIGH SCHOOL

7:00 – 8:30pm | Youth Lounge

St. Patrick's Day-themed fun with games and "Shamrock snacks." We will have small group discussion on our Leadership and Service Retreat and how it relates to what we do in Youth Group throughout the year, and will continue looking at non-profit leaders from our church community.

