

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

July 25, 2010

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE “Prelude in F” (from *Well-Tempered Clavier*)

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

TIME OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP

As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and water bears them,
**as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,**
so would I learn to attain
freefall, and float
into Creator Spirit’s deep embrace,
**knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.**

Denise Levertov, “The Avowal”

*HYMN “God of the Sparrow God of the Whale” No. 70 (vv.1-3)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are rooted in a tradition of self-examination, repentance
and forgiveness of sin. In the presence of God, in the silence
of prayer, let us name that which separates us from God and
neighbor.

Silent prayer

* the congregation is invited to stand
(Bold print designates a collective response)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

No effort earns God's grace.

The love of God is unconditional and free.

God does not measure how far we have strayed,
but God welcomes us like a mother embraces her child.

Receive this gift of forgiveness.

It is given in love.

Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE (seated) "God of the Sparrow God of the Whale"

No. 70 (vv. 4-6)

ANTHEM "This Is My Song" (Finlandia tune)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Children and teachers will leave for Church School
in Fellowship Hall.*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 20:1-15 page 854

SERMON A Bitter and Sweet Day Among the Grapes

*HYMN "Amazing Grace!" No. 546

OFFERING

Invitation

Collection of Gifts (including Food Shelf)

Offertory "Sarabande" (from *Holberg Suite*) Edvard Grieg

*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. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Gathering of Prayers

Pastoral Prayer 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 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, for ever. Amen.

*HYMN

“Now Thank We All Our God”

No. 715

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Prelude” (from *Holberg Suite*)

Edvard Grieg

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Andrew Nagy-Benson, Pastor

Rich Carpenter, Lay Reader

Jeff Buettner, Organist

Tony Preston, Bell Ringer

Nancy Rucker, Janet Winkler, Deacons

TJ Springthorpe and Tony Preston, Greeters

Dick and Joan Weed, Cindy Marshall, Fellowship Hour

We thank the Chalice Choir for sharing their musical talent with us
this morning.

A NOTE TO VISITORS

If you are visiting for the first time, please take a minute at the end of the worship service to fill out a visitor's card in the pew and sign the guest book at the back of the Sanctuary. After the service, we invite you to enjoy a time of fellowship downstairs in Fellowship Hall.

Large-print hymnals and hearing-assisted units are available from ushers.

Nursery care is provided by Carlie Wright in the room off the Fellowship Hall closest to Seymour Street for children up to 3 years of age.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are always happy to honor your requests for special prayers for persons or situations. Simply speak to one of the Deacons before the service, or else offer the prayers yourself during the “Prayers of the Church”.

GROUP SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY

Children will attend the first part of today’s service, and then leave for a group Sunday School class with teacher Steve Abbott in Fellowship Hall.

FOOD SHELF TODAY

Donations of canned and packaged goods for the Emergency Food Shelf at HOPE are being accepted today. Baskets are at the back of the Sanctuary for your donations. If you would like to write a check, please make it payable to: The Congregational Church, earmarked for Food Shelf, and place it in the offering plate. The Church Treasurer will then write one check for all received.

SUMMER CHURCH BBQ TODAY

Where: Branbury State Park at Lake Dunmore

When: July 25, 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Sponsored by: the Board of Christian Development

Bring your own everything. Look for the Church picnic tables. When you get to the gate, let them know you are with the Congregation Church of Middlebury group, and you will get a discount (just \$2 a person).

STAFF OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Rev. Andrew Nagy-Benson, Pastor

Jeff Buettner, Organist

Jessica Allen, Music Director

Joyce W. Foster, Church Office Manager

Mal Chase, Facilities Manager and Adult Handbell Director

Jennifer Smith, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

Carlie Wright, Nursery Care provider