

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

August 3, 2014

Those who are able may stand where marked (\*).

Gathering Music #391 "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

Welcome and Announcements *Ann Craxton*

Opening Prayer

Prelude "Bist Du Bei Mir" *Bach*

Ministry of the Acolyte

Responsive Reading: *Isaiah 55:1-5*

One: Hey! Everyone who is thirsty, come!

Come to the waters of life!

**All: Hey! Everyone who is penniless, come!**

**Come and buy food, wine and milk without price!**

One: Why waste your money on things that don't nourish?

**All: Why work for things that can never fulfill?**

One: Listen to me, come and eat what is good!

Enjoy the rich food of my table!

**All: Open your ears and come! Come to me.**

**This is my covenant; you will be my witnesses;**

**I will send you out into all the hungry world,**

**and you will lead my scattered people home.**

One: O come, let us feast at God's abundant table.

**All: O come, let us celebrate God's love.**

\*Hymn *insert* "As We Gather at Your Table"

Confession: **Kind and generous Friend, you nourish us always with God's abundant goodness, but we don't trust you. Our world is so often full of violence and rage. We want to feel safe, so we try our best to take control of everything around us. Full of anger and sorrow, suspicion and fear, we do not**

**abide in your generous love. We harden our hearts against you and our neighbors and injure the world you came to save. And still you offer us forgiveness, and still you invite us to return and abide in you. And so, kind and generous Friend, as we come to your table of blessing today, we ask you to welcome our humble hearts and restore us to fruitful lives; for we pray in the fullness of your precious love. AMEN**

\* Assurance of Pardon

\* Gloria Patri #813

\* Statement of Faith (*inside front cover of hymnal*)

Anthem "Panis Angelicus" *Franck*

Moments of Concern and Celebration (please fill out a blue card)

Pastoral Prayer and Savior's Prayer ("trespasses")

Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "Be Thou My Vision" *Traditional Irish*

\*Doxology #815 with Offertory Prayer

Scripture: Matthew 14:13-21

Sermon "In Jesus' Loving Hands"

\*Hymn #207 "We Have Come to Join in Worship"

The Sacrament of Holy Communion *see insert*

\*Hymn #293 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

\*Benediction

\*Response #231 "Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart"

\*Ministry of the Acolyte

Postlude "Alleluia" *Mozart*

*We offer our special thanks to Sue Openhowski who is bringing us our special music today.*