

***Second Congregational Church of Attleboro
United Church of Christ
September 17, 2023***



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Find us on Facebook

The Reverend Dr. S. William Sencabaugh — Pastor
William A. MacPherson, PhD — Director of Music
Katrina Lay — Executive Director, Jack and Jill School
Fred Saunders — Administrative Assistant
Jack Baptist — Sexton

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation
BULLETIN AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT

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***Second Congregational Church, UCC
September 17, 2023***

Prelude Variations on “Slane” Michael Burkhardt

Welcome!

Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Elaine Killough, Liturgist

Liturgist: When God led Israel out of Egypt...

People: ...the sea looked and fled.

Liturgist: Tremble, O earth, at God's presence...

People: ...at the presence of the God of Jacob.

Liturgist: He turns the rock into a pool of water.

People: He turns the flint into a spring of water

(based on Psalm 144:1a, 3-4, 7-9)

***Hymn** “Give to Our God Immortal Praise” No. 63

***Prayer of Invocation**

All: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer: We stand before you this morning in awe of your overflowing generosity. With the rising and setting sun we recognize that we are not our own but yours. And yet, you never begrudge us your guiding and protecting hand. Instead, we have only to reach out to feel that you are already there. We are never alone in your presence. Whether enveloped by darkness, trapped by circumstances, or rejoicing in success, you show yourself faithful in providing what we need. Come, Lord, lead us this morning to your purpose, your desire, your will. Amen.

Response *“Gloria Patri” No. 734*

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

Anthem “He, watching over Israel” Felix Mendelssohn

Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday School Dismissal

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of Joys and Concerns of the People

Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray as Christ our savior has taught us.

All: 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, forever. Amen.

Offertory

***Doxology** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" No. 34

***Prayer of Dedication**

Scripture

Exodus 14:19-31

OT pg. 60

Sermon

"Won't Get Fooled Again"

Reverend Dr. Will Sencabaugh

*Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

No. 502

*Benediction

Response

"Savior, Again to Your Dear Name"

No. 711, vs. 1

**Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
we give you thanks before our worship cease,
and now departing, wait your word of peace.**

Postlude

"Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals"
(*"Israel's Song of Victory, in the style of Handel"*)

Sigfrid Karg-Elert

If you are leaving the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly.

*Throughout the bulletin, when you see an * you are invited to stand if you are able.*

Give to Our God Immortal Praise 63

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise: mer - cy and
 2 He built the earth, he spread the sky, and fixed the
 3 He fills the sun with morn - ing light; he bids the
 4 He sent His Son with power to save from guilt and
 5 Through this vast world he guides our feet, and leads us

truth are all his ways: won - ders of grace to
 star - ry lights on high: won - ders of grace to
 moon di - rect the night: his mer - cies ev - er
 dark - ness and the grave: won - ders of grace to
 to his heav - enly seat: his mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure, when suns and moons shall shine no more.
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
 shall en - dure, when this our world shall be no more.

WORDS: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)
 MUSIC: John Hatton (ca. 1710-1793)

DUKE STREET
 L.M.

Be Thou My Vision

502

1 Be thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my Wis - dom, and thou my true Word,
 3 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

thou my best thought, by day or by night,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall.

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light,
 high King of heav - en, my Treas - ure thou art,
 still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

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The Lead Deacon this month is Marcia Weidner.

Meetings and Activities

Sunday, 17 th	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Sunday School Christian Education Committee Meeting
Monday, 18 th	2:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry
	7:00 pm	Facilities Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 20 th	6:30 pm	Cub Scout Pack 33 Den Meetings
Thursday, 21 st	6:30 pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, 23 rd	9:00 am	Intergenerational Sacred Dance Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	<u>Drive to Sing</u> – Fellowship Hall
Sunday, 24 th	10:00 am	Worship
	11:15 am	Sunday School Church Council Hybrid Meeting

Today we will have a **Blessing of the Backpacks!**

Who's invited? Everyone! All ages are invited to participate in a special blessing as we welcome fall, the return to school, and new adventures at all stages of life! Bring your backpack, favorite tote, water bottle, sports bag, instrument case, or anything that you carry with you daily that you can attach a tag or a sticker.

Why bless the backpacks? We believe in the power of prayer, the importance of community, and the mission to show and share God's love with all. These small tokens will be a reminder to us in our everyday lives to follow that mission and also serve as a hint to others that we are a friend and ally they just haven't met yet.

Drive to Sing: All are invited to a FREE screening of this uplifting and award-winning documentary about the joys and challenges of singing through the pandemic. The filmmakers will be present for a Q & A following the movie. September 23, 7:00 pm, at Second Congregational Church of Attleboro. Want to know more? Here's a link: <https://www.thedrivetosing.com/press>.