**GATHERED FOR WORSHIP**

**PRELUDE, OPENING PRAYER, WELCOME, & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GREETING:** “My beloved speaks and says to me: ‘Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away, for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth; the time for singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.” - Song of Solomon: 2:10-13

**\*HYMN:** #28 *“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**We confess, O God, how easily we forget that our lives are a gift. We find ourselves mostly removed from a state of grace. In our preoccupations with Self we are often quick to anger and slow to empathize. We neglect the calling to be “doers of your word,” and so others fail to find you in the witness of our lives. Forgive us, we ask, and lead us into a newness of faith. Break through the barriers that keep us from you and from one another. For we ask this in Christ’s name. Amen**

**\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND THE PASSING OF PEACE**

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**JAMES 1:17-27** Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.\* 18In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. 19 You must understand this, my beloved:\* let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. 21Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. 23For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves\* in a mirror; 24for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. 25But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. 26 If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. 27Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

**MARK 7:1-8, 14-15** Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, 2they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. 3(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands,\* thus observing the tradition of the elders; 4and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it;\* and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.\*) 5So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live\* according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ 6He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; 7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.” 8You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’ 14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: 15there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’\*

**SERMON**

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD**

**\*HYMN:** #207 “*Just As I Am”*

**JOYS & CONCERNS, PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

 Lord, in your mercy… **Hear our prayers.**

**PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**OFFERING**: Thank you for [supporting our ministries!](https://trumbullcongregationalchurch.breezechms.com/give/online)



**SENT TO SERVE**

**\*HYMN:** #43 *“Love Divine All Loves Excelling”*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

Thank you for worshiping with us at TCC!

Pastor: Rev. Tim Hare, tim.hare@trumbullcc.org

 Music Minister: Ilana Ofgang, Ilana.ofgang@trumbullcc.org



 *To add to our prayer list please email Pastor Tim with a brief description of your prayer. Please indicate if you would like the prayer to be listed on an ongoing basis.* tim.hare@trumbullcc.org.

~The family of Herb Gratrix, grieving his recent death.

~Rose Heiser, Angela Hare’s mother, struggling with health concerns

~Stephanie Marko, Jo Ann Hunt’s friend, who lost her son (48 years old) to heart failure

~Karolina Szabo’s sister, Irma, experiencing health concerns.

~Charlotte Coe and family, Jo Ann Hunt's friend with dementia and cancer

~The parents of Paul Nestro, experiencing health concerns

~The family of Brian Smith, Wendy Corris's brother-in-law & longtime friend of

 Barbara DeAngelo, who is grieving his recent death.

~Maria Coffin, prayers for healing and peace as she goes through chemotherapy

~The family of Shirley Knecht, grieving her recent death.

~Ian and Jacqueline Sugrue-Tait and Griffin (6th months) who struggles with significant health issues

~Rev. John Russell, former TCC Pastor, experiencing health concerns

 ***\*LOVE ONE ANOTHER, SUPPORTING THE “TCC EXPERIENCE”:*  Our giving campaign for the 2024-2025 program year is well underway. As of August 21st, we’ve collected 37 Giving Estimates for $90,956 in support of our life together as a congregation. Please let the office know if you would like a link to our online giving estimate form or simply use a hard copy form by the offering box. *\*Reminder: the new giving cycle begins on Sept. 1.***

**\* *LEMONADE ON THE LAWN:* We’ll do Lemonade through Labor Day weekend. After that we’ll be back in the Round Room. Please sign up online to host a Sunday. It’s easy, and the fellowship time makes a big difference to our time together. Instructions are on the Signup Genius.**

**\*ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: All members are requested to attend this meeting after worship on Sept. 15 to discuss programmatic priorities for the year, approve the budget, and receive nominations.**

**\*LEADERSHIP MEETING: All current and incoming Board/Committee members are encouraged to attend a dinner meeting in the Round Room on Sept. 3 from 6-8pm. We have a packed agenda, so please save the date.**

***\*WOMEN’S LUNCHEON -*  The women’s group will be meeting on Wednesday September 4th, at 12:00 at Old Towne Restaurant. Please RSVP to Barbara or Karolina as we will need to make reservations in advance - we hope to see you there !!!**

 **OFFICE HOURS:**Please feel free to reach out to Lisa – Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am-12pm at 203-268-2433 or at office@trumbullcc.org.