

The
CONGREGATIONAL



CHURCH of EASTON

The church on the hill

First Sunday in Lent

Rev. Blake Brown

March 9, 2025

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Pastor)

****HYMN #1 PH** *“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”* verses 1 - 4

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS OF THE COMMUNITY

PRAYERS

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (Unison):

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

****Those who are able may stand.**

PH-Red Pilgrim Hymnal NCH-Black New Century Hymnal BH-Little Blue Hymnal

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

Gathering of the gifts

Presentation of the gifts with praise

****UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Abba Father, we thank you for the ways in which you have enfolded us in your love and called us by name to follow your son, Jesus. May these gifts and our lives be used to enfold others in your love. Amen.

*****Gloria Patri #513 PH 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. A-men. A-men.***

UNISON CALL TO CONFESSION (built around the Beatitudes)

O Lord Our God, we believe that You are the God of all Mercy and so we come before you to seek your forgiveness. It is difficult to recognize our own sin and painful to confess it to You. Yet we know that You know us better than we know ourselves and You urge us to bring our whole lives before you in prayer and confession. And so we do.

Jesus told the crowd that those who are meek are blessed for they will inherit the earth. Our pride hinders us from depending upon You for all things. We do not glory in our lowly estate but seek to rise above it by our own striving. We confess that too often we see meekness as a sign of weakness rather than a sign of strength. We are not able to turn the other cheek when struck by others. We find it difficult to go the extra mile when forced to go the first mile. We are not gentle with others as You have been with us. Help us to be humble even as Christ humbled himself even to the point of death on a cross. Be gracious to us and let us know the depth of your forgiveness. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(Eph. 1:4-5, 7)

Pastor: Hear what comforting words the Lord says to all who repent and come to Him: "For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight. In love, he predestined us to be adopted as His sons and daughters through Jesus

Christ, in accordance with His pleasure and will. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace".

HYMN #177 PH *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"* all 4 verses

SCRIPTURE

Job 2:7-10
Romans 8:15-18

SERMON **"The Threshold of Heaven"**

****HYMN #438 NCH** *"It Is Well with My Soul"* all 4 verses

****BENEDICTION**

****PASSING OF THE PEACE**

POSTLUDE

There will be a Special Meeting of the Congregational Church of Easton this morning immediately following the conclusion of the Worship Service.

Following the Special Meeting, please join us for coffee and fellowship across the street. Further, during the Coffee Hour, we invite you to a special question-and-answer discussion with Reverend Blake Brown about the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

Confirming Deacon for March - Jon Stock
Offering - Caren Laskay and Jon Stock
Collectors - Daisy Colonnese and Nathalie Taranto
Today's Flowers are provided by *Barbara Trup* in celebration of the birthdays of her daughter, Lisa, and her granddaughter, Kailey.
Coffee Hour - Barbara Trup

“Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 1:7, NIV)
Welcome to the Lord’s house for worship! If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest book, and we hope all will join us across the street for fellowship after worship.

Prayer List - Please keep our members and friends in your prayers, and especially at this time:
June Logie’s brothers, Claude and Nick Chiaia - both are dealing with medical issues, Rosie Cassatt and her family, Elizabeth Boyce and her family, Suzanne Lovejoy’s mother and family, the Waterbury Family, the family of Barbara Lee, and Richard McLaughlin.
Please pray for all who mourn or need special prayers of intention, for our congregation, and for friends of our community. You may fill out a Prayer Request card, or call or email the church office to add or remove a name from the list. Thank you for your prayers.

CALENDAR

Church Office Hours - Thursday, March 13, from 10:00 a. m. to 1:00 p.m.

An Evening of Traditional Irish Music - Instructors from the Connecticut Academy of Irish Music will perform in the Congregational Church of Easton Church Hall on Thursday, March 13, at 7 pm.

St. Patrick’s Dinner at the Staples Academy, Saturday, March 15, from 4 to 8 p.m.

Dinner includes Corned Beef, Cabbage, Potatoes, Salad, Soda Bread, Dessert, Coffee/Tea.

Tickets: \$20 for Adults, \$10 for Seniors and Children under 12.

Next Food Kitchen will be Tuesday, March 18. Chicken, any style, or any main dish of your choosing, mac and cheese, or pasta, vegetables, fruit, rolls, and/or dessert. Food may be dropped off on the prior Sunday or Monday mornings, between 8:00 and 10:00 a.m., or no later than Tuesday, March 18, at 9:30 a.m. Please indicate that it is for the Food Kitchen. Food should not be warm or hot. Containers cannot be returned. The Sign-up Sheet is located in the Church Hall. For more information, contact Gen Waterbury (203) 981-9373, g.e.waterbury@gmail.com

Lenten Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m. have been scheduled for Thursdays, March 20 and April 3.

There will be a short program with discussion. Please contact the Church Office to RSVP or see the Sign-up Sheet in the Church Hall.

History Talks Lecture: Easton Public Schools 1845-1959, Thursday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the Church Hall of the Staples Academy

Join us at the Easton Boy Scout Troop 66 Annual Gourmet Breakfast on Saturday, March 29, at the Easton Community Center. Please join our church community at 9-9:30 a.m.

The 2025 Annual Meeting of the Congregational Church of Easton has been scheduled for Sunday, March 30, at 11:00 a.m., immediately following the Worship Service.

Maundy Thursday Service with Communion will be on April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Church Hours for prayer, meditation, contemplation, will run from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. Please contact the Church Office for more information.