

**today**

**Flowers:** The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Heather and Bill Kaliden in celebration of their 16<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this week.

**9/16/2018 Worship Attendance:**

**8:00 – 21; 9:00 – 77; 10:30 – 111; Total = 209**

**Church School Attendance: 51**

**Total Attendance: 260**

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**Our Pastor** – Gene Ott

**Music Director** – Bridget Scarlato

**Organist** – Kari Miller

**Contemporary Music Director** – Dorothy Cowles

**A Stephen Ministry Church**

(See back of announcements for a full staff listing)

**Early  
Communion  
Service**

**Simsbury United Methodist Church**

*“Draw the  
Circle Wide”*



*“Standing as a witness in all things means being kind in all things, being the first to say hello, being the first to smile, being the first to make the stranger feel a part of things, being helpful, thinking of others' feelings, being inclusive.*

*~ Margaret D. Nadauld*

**8:00 a.m.  
Sept 23, 2018**



**09.23.18** – 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Ordinary Time

**Worship Service – 8:00 a.m.**

### Welcome

Prelude | “A Cuban Folk Song” arr. Kevin Norris

### ◇Call to Worship

Leader: Today, in this moment, in every moment, we are offered life.

**People: Now it is before us – God’s call to a new world, to God’s way of knowing the world, to God’s world of knowing.**

Leader: Let us, now, once more, take our first steps together with God as our guide. Welcome to the adventure.

◇Opening Hymn | *Together We Serve* #2175

◇Opening Prayer | (unison)

**God, your world of mercy, of hope and of peace is present right now, as we gather. Remind us, encourage us, teach us and be with us as we imagine, explore, and celebrate what it means to be your people in your world. Amen.**

First Lesson | Proverbs 31: 10-31

Second Lesson | Mark 9: 30-37

Message | “Draw the Circle Wide” Pastor Gene Ott

Hymn of Response | *Draw the Circle Wide* #3154 (see insert)

### Pastoral Prayer

God, today we pray for the vulnerable of the earth, for children. We know that sometimes to be vulnerable is a great gift and a great opportunity for learning. But too often, in too many places, people have no choice and are made vulnerable to pain, disease, violence, and death. Today we pray for the vulnerable of the earth. For the victims of tyranny, famine, and war we pray. For refugees and asylum seekers. For children who live in families and homes that are not safe places. For children without access to books and to learning. For children everywhere. God, we know that you know each of us by name and are with each of us in every moment of our lives. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer | Blue hymnal #895

## HOLY COMMUNION

A Service of Word and Table | *Hymnal* #12

Leader: The Lord be with you,

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts,

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*(There follows prayers of praise for God’s acts of creation, concluding...we join with the song of unending praise, saying:)* **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your Glory. Hosanna in the highest, blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.”**

### Prayer of Consecration

Sharing of the Meal | “A Flute Song” by Dennis Eliot

**Prayer After Receiving: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this Holy Mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go now into the world, in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

◇Closing Hymn | *Let All Things Now Living* #2008

◇Benediction

Go into your day with the energy and enthusiasm of youth, the wisdom and empathy of age, and the love and the grace of God. Amen.

◇Benediction Response | *Go in Peace*

**Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always. Celebrate and share the joy, celebrate new life. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.**

Postlude | “In dir ist Freude” (*In Thee Is Gladness*) by Johann Sebastian Bach  
*\*you’re invited to remain seated for the postlude*

◇ *please stand as you are able*