

**This Week's Participants:**

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Lee Ireland  
Organist: Sue Stottlemyer  
Lay Reader: Doris Pulaski  
Youth Director: Rachel Measimer  
Videographer: Richard Stottlemyer  
Video Editor: Lisa Gorman  
The Groton Congregational Choir & Handbell Choir

**Announcements:**

**Ladies Night Out—June 8<sup>th</sup> 6pm at Tony Ds. We will order individually off the menu. Please sign-up at the church, by emailing the office, or by contacting Sally.**

**Delightful Treasures—June 12<sup>th</sup> 9am-2pm. Drop off your donations for the sale on June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> from 9am-3pm in the church parking lot.**

Our weekly Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 5:30pm and Bible Study at 6:30pm  
If you are not receiving our weekly Zoom invitation, please email the office.

## The Groton Congregational Church

United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Church  
Founded in 1702



**May 30, 2021**

Groton Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
The Order of Morning Worship  
May 30, 2021 Memorial Day Sunday  
Worship 10 a.m.

“To you from failing hands we throw the torch; be yours to hold it high!”

*In Flanders Field* **John McCrae, 1872 – 1918**

**-We Gather in Community as God’s People-**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Doris Pulaski

**Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather today, seeking the peace Christ gives.

**People: We gather, in spite of many a conflict, many a doubt, within our souls.**

Leader: We gather, longing for the breath of God’s Spirit to give us the love, courage and renewal to share in this world.

**All: Come, Christ Jesus, be our guest. Bless us through the power of your spirit, and give us the courage to live as your disciples day by day. Amen.**

**\*HYMN** “Eternal Father, Strong to Save” **CH #85**

**\* Prayer of Invocation**

**God, your changes touch our lives with mystery and hope. We come to this sanctuary today, eager to see your power in this place and working through us. Guide us to be open to your Word, and to answer your call as we carry the torch forward, being mindful of those who have done so in the past. Bless us this day as we pause from the busy-ness of our lives and join together in worship this day.**

**\*Song of Praise (Gloria)** (No. 759 in the New Century Hymnal)  
*Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit, Three in One. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**-We Express Our Gratitude-**

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory “Did You Think to Pray?”

**\*Doxology** (No. 515 in the Pilgrim Hymnal)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

**We bring these offerings because of the love you have poured out on us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Your gift calls for a response that cannot be contained in envelopes or baskets. We come with ourselves and offer as we can to help with the spreading of the Good News out into the world. Bless our offerings both tangible and intangible which we give this day in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Children’s Message

Rachel Measimer

**-We Share Our Concerns With God And Each Other-**

Joys & Concerns of the Church in Prayer

Rev. Lee Ireland

Prayer Time in Silence & Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

**\*HYMN** “This is My Song” **CH #722**

**We Hear God’s Words and Guidance For Our Lives-**

Hebrew Bible Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8

Gospel Reading: John 3: 1-17

Rev. Lee Ireland

**Sermon** “*Born of Water and the Spirit*” **Rev. Lee Ireland**

**\*HYMN** “O, For a World” **CH# 683**

**\*Benediction:** May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant us to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Jesus Christ, that together we may glorify God now and forever. Amen.

**\*Benediction Response** “**Blest Be the Tie That Binds**” vs 1

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love:  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Postlude

“Loud Organ Voluntary” by Manuel Emilio

**\*Those who are able, please stand.**

*Enter to Worship*

*Depart to Serve*