Avon Congregational Church

Avon, Connecticut United Church of Christ

Sunday, November 1, 2026

All Saints Communion Sunday



The mission of the Avon Congregational Church is to enable people to know God's unconditional love and to be a community of faith helping one another to live as Jesus Christ lived and taught.

GATHERED TO WORSHIP

MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

"I used to think the worst thing in life was to end up all alone. It's not.
The worst thing in the world is to end up with people, who make you feel all alone."

~ Robin Williams, Actor & Comedian

Using the paper leaf provided in your bulletin, you are invited to print clearly the full name of those saints in your own life who, no longer with us in body, live on in your heart and memory.

PRELUDE *For All the Saints* by Roberson

Thank you to Jacob Wilson for graciously sharing his impressive musical talents on the trumpet with all of us during today's service.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Chris Solimene

Name tags and name tag stickers are located in the narthex. **Large Print** hymnals, and hearing amplifiers are available from an usher. **We welcome children in worship**. Special activity sheets are available. Our Nursery is open Sunday mornings until after worship. **If you're visiting today**, we're delighted you're here! We invite you to help us know you better by filling out a pew card and dropping it in the offering plate. Please join us for coffee following the service in our Fellowship Hall.

CENTERING OUR MINDS AND HEARTS ON WORSHIP

*CALL TO WORSHIP Candace Doersch

**Please rise in body and spirit as able*

One: With thanksgiving we acknowledge…

Many: …the saints who walked this path long before us, the saints who pointed out a clear path to us, the saints who guided our way.

One: With admiration we remember…

Many: …the wisdom of saints who shared Your visions, the faithfulness of saints who lived in the hope of Your promises.

One: For all the saints…

All: …accept our gratitude for all saints that have been, are now and will remain in our lives forevermore! Let our worship begin. Thanks be to God. Amen

*GATHERING HYMN For All the Saints (vs. 1,4,6) Red Hymnal #711

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*GLORIA PATRI By Greatorex

Glory be our Creator
And to God's Son
And to God's Spirit, One!
As it was in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be
God's love is now!
Amen, Amen

*SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE Red Hymnal Pg #572

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing.
That's how it is with God's love once you've experienced it;
You spread God's love to everyone; you want to pass it on.

I wish for you, my friend, this happiness that I've found;
You can depend on God, it matters not where you're bound.
I'll shout it from the mountain-top; I want the world to know;
The Lord of Love has come to us, I want to pass it on.

During our sung Blessing, children are invited to Church School

LIFTTING OUR SAINTS ON ONE TREE OF EVERLASTING LIFE

Please come up to Chancel and place your leaf with the name(s) of your saint(s) on the 'tree of everlasting life' during the reflective music. Signal an usher or Pastor Chris who can assist if needed.

"A New Ave Maria for Piano and Trumpet" by Piazzolla

One: We remember, O God…

Many: The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time.

One: We remember, O God…

Many: The tender touch of loved ones, the example of our heroes, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts that today are their legacy.

One: We remember, O God…

Many: The gentle strength of grandparents, the loyalty of dear friends, the kindness of teachers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.

All: For all our saints, living and departed, named today and those yet to be in our lives, we are grateful. Thank You, God, for our saints. Amen

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LISTENING FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING Ruth 1:1-18 Hebrew Bible Page 241

SERMON "Where You Go I will Go" Rev. Chris Solimene

RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*HYMN For All the Saints. (vs 1 & 4) Black Hymnal #2283

INVITATION TO SHARE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Bist du bei Mir- Be Thou With Me By Bach

*DOXOLOGY Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done,
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen

*UNISON DEDICATION

God of All, from our hearts and from our hands, we humbly and gladly present these gifts to You, that they may be used to serve You and to bless Your people. Amen

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

"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

(* Traditional translation, but please feel welcome to use alternatives such as "God," "Creator," or "Mother," as seems fitting for you!)

SHARING IN THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

This church shares God's extravagant love by practicing open Communion. All are welcome to partake. We use non-alcoholic grape juice and a gluten free option for bread is available from the center bowl on each bread plate. Children may participate as parents/guardians deem appropriate.

INVITATION

One: Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week, Jesus Christ was raised and appeared to Mary Magdalene. On that same day he sat at the table with two disciples and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Many: This is the joyful feast of the people of God. For in this place and at this time, God breaks into our midst: to change our hearts, to change our ways, to change our lives. As we are fed, may we see ourselves in a new light, with hope and joy. Let us recall we are nourished from one plate. Women and men, children and youth, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ's welcoming table!

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE STORY IS REMEMBERED AND THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

Sharing of the Bread

Taken after all have been served,
signifying the communion of our church fellowship

Sharing of the Cup

Taken individually when served,
signifying each person's personal communion with God

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bountiful God, we give You thanks for nourishing us with our daily bread in Christ's presence. Through Your love and by our care, feed the world with this bread. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and send us forth in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GOD SENDS US TO SERVE

*CLOSING HYMN I Sing a Song of the Saints of God Red Hymnal #712

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Marche en rondeau: Trumpet Prelude from Te Deum* by Charpentier

With gratitude, we recognize the Special Gift Donations received in memory of church members. Please take a moment some time to peruse the pages of these memoriums. The book is located on a book stand in the Vestibule.

Please join us for refreshments immediately following Worship in our Fellowship Hall

All are Welcome joyfully and unconditionally!

As an open and affirming church, we welcome with pleasure all who chose to worship with us today.

Feeling lonely, have a spiritual question, looking for a prayer partner or listening ear? For pastoral care, home or hospital visits, prayer or theological conversation, Pastor Chris is available by phone or email.

Prayers are requested for: Rob Rudewicz, Joan C, Audrey Palmer, Theresa Dendell, Ed Barrett, Clark D., Judy Lennon, Karen Bergman, Paul, Elaine, Phil G, Robbin A, Hunt Alvord, Jill Rizzo, Jim H., Lorraine Fenton-Anthony, Linda Ellsworth, Karen Merkle, Melissa Cyr, Michelle Troconis, and Satiyaraj

Worship Volunteers: Communion Elements - Barbara Ruppert, Reader - Candace Doersch, Usher - Dick Lytle, Trustee - Susan Elliott, Videographer - Betsy Van Loon
Coffee Hour Host - Charlie Zaorski, Food Provider - Joan Miller

Birthdays: (Sunday, November 1 - Saturday, November 7) Terry DiRusso, Alex Harris, Karen Zaorski, Ray Ramezzana

Church Calendar

Sunday 11/1	10:00 AM	All-Saints Communion Worship Service
Sunday 11/1		Daylight Savings Time
Sunday 11/1		Censorship and Book Banning Display
Sunday 11/1	6:00 PM	AA Open Meeting
Tuesday 11/3		Avon Nursery School Off
Wednesday 11/4	5:30 PM	Hand Bells
Wednesday 11/4	6:30 PM	Choir
Thursday 11/5	10:00 AM	Avon Nursery School--Twoodles
Thursday 11/5	12:30 PM	Chair Yoga
Friday 11/6	5:30 PM	First Friday Dinner
Sunday 11/8	10:00 AM	Worship Service
Sunday 11/8	11:30 AM	New Member Orientation
Sunday 11/8		Quilts of Valor Presentation
Sunday 11/8	6:00 PM	AA Open Meeting

Announcements

First Friday Dinner Friday, November 6, 2026 "Autumn in New England" featuring Glazed Roast Pork Loin with house made gravy, New England bread, cranberry & walnut stuffing with fresh herbs, Jennie's House Made Apple Sauce, Tender Green Beans Almandine, Fresh Greens Salad with beets, apples, walnuts goat cheese (on the side) and homemade champagne vinaigrette, Fresh-baked Dinner Rolls & our Dessert and Hot Beverage Buffet!

Serving 5:30–6:30 PM Dining till 7:00 PM
$20/meal No Reservations Necessary Take-Out Available

New Member Orientation, Sunday, November 8th, 11:30 AM - Does God call you to share your gifts in ways that will provide you with deep meaning? Do you seek lifelong friendships here with us? A New Member Orientation Lunch will be held on Sunday, November 8th, following the worship service. We warmly invite you to come and discover how you can become a member of our church community.

New Member Sunday, November 15th, during worship- On this special day new members are introduced to the congregation, who recognize their choice to join our journey of faith. A meaningful ceremony is held as part of the service. This is a joyful time that strengthens the bonds of the church community - we look forward to welcoming our newest members and walking together on the path of faith. *If you haven't already spoken to Pastor Chris, and you have discerned that God is calling you to be a new member here, please call 860-678-0488, ext. 11.*

Our Statement of Inclusion

In keeping with the life and teaching of Christ Jesus, we joyfully and unconditionally welcome all people of any age, gender, sexual orientation, race, culture, ability or social or economic status into our community of faith. We affirm the humanity of all people as unique individuals made in God's image. We also affirm the special gifts that each person has to offer. We invite all to participate in the full life of the church and covenant of our Christian community.

Staff Contact List – Online Church Information

Rev. Chris Solimene, Pastor	pastor@avon-church.org
Karen Levan, Dir. of Music Ministries/Organist	music@avon-church.org
Jolene Tefoe, Dir. of Avon Nursery School	ANS@avon-church.org
Office Manager, Charry Salmon	office@avon-church.org
John Carlson, Finance Administrator	administrator@avon-church.org
Lenny Lebatique, Sexton	

Scan to Donate

Church Address: 6 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001
Church Number 860-678-0488
Website: avon-church.org
Wifi PW: avonchurch

Steering Circle 2026 – 2027

Moderator – Jerry Humble; Treasurer – Bob Linderman; Clerk – Candace Doersch; Worship – Alex Harris and Kent May; Nurturing – Lee Egan and Joan Miller; Outreach – Lynn Del Cegno and Leslie Desmangles; Support – Kate Allen and Betsy VanLoon; Members at Large – Fran Festa and Kate Rickson-McNally