

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST – MAKING HIM KNOWN



COME WORSHIP THE LORD!

PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS

(Entering worship, let us prepare our hearts, reflecting on this.)

“The life that Jesus offers is available to others through you. Don’t discount what you have to give to those who are hurting. Christ’s life within you is more than sufficient to meet every human need. When people encounter you, they encounter Christ within you. You do not know all the answers, but you have Someone within you who does!” – Henry & Richard Blackaby

PRELUDE:
WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

July Scripture: Proverbs 3:5-6
Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

PRAISE TO AN AWESOME GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 84:10-11
INVOCATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (debts)

***GLORIA PATRI**
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. Amen. Amen.

***THE PEACE**
***HYMN:** “Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

PRAYER TO A LISTENING SAVIOR

***OLD TESTAMENT:** Psalm 34:1-12
***GOSPEL:** Matthew 25:37-40

PRAYERS TO A LISTENING SAVIOR

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
OFFERING SENTENCE AND PRAYER
OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY:**
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

Hymnal #805

Hymnal #562

Bible p.550
Bible p.984

Hymnal #808

PREACHING THE WORD

SERMON: "Beacons Reflecting the Light-Source"
Ephesians 5:8-21 **Bible p.1159**
“Our church will be a beacon for Christ-led ministry that supports underserved individuals within our community.”

PROCLAIMING THE GLORY OF CHRIST

***HYMN:**“I Will Sing of My Redeemer” **Hymnal #492**
***BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN**
POSTLUDE

(*Congregation, please stand if able.)

COME GATHER FOR FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE FOR CHILDREN UP TO AGE THREE.

Please let an usher know and they can direct you to the Nursery area.

CALENDAR

July 20th - 26th

(Links for online meetings may be found at shermanchurch.org)

Sunday:

Worship Service at 10 A.M.
(Also Live Streamed)
Sunday School
4:00 P.M.

Monday

Christian Ed at 12 P.M - Office

Wednesday

AA at 7:00 P.M FH

Thursday

Prayer In The Parlor
at 6:45 P.M
(See dial-in Info. on the back of the bulletin)
AA at 7:00 P.M FH

OUR CHURCH:

Interim Pastor:
Rev. John Loring Carpenter

Ministers:
The Congregation

Minister of Music:
Carolyn Kopsick

Moderator:
Charles Mastroni

Flowers:
Penny LeMasurier
In Memory of Phil LeMasurier

Announcements:
Aimée Suhie

Prayers of the People:
Cindy Moschitta

Reader:
Cindy Moschitta

Coffee Hour Host:
Barbara Hoag

Nursery:
Kristin Stephens

Usher:
Ken Leach

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Eliza Capehart, serving in the United States Air Force.
- John Langworthy, back injury.
- Brian Barnier, health.
- Jim Beddows, health.
- Nicole Thorp, health.
- Amos Munch, health.
- Jim and Christine Munch, health.
- Roberta Judd, health.
- Christopher Siebert, healing of foot.
- Rev. Daniel Morton, health
- Mark Gerber, health
- Betty Freeman, health
- Chris Freeman, Strength in the care of her mother

OUR MISSIONARIES:

Mesa Global: Robert & Nina Bruneau; 4C Church Re-Planting: Green Mountain Church, Chester, VT.; Lion of Judah Academy, Hope Academy of the Bronx.

DEACONS of the church are always available to meet with you, pray with you, and hear your concerns.

PRAYER IS ALWAYS OUR MISSION

Prayer is a vital part of our ministry at The Sherman Church.

You are invited to join in prayer each Thursday to pray for our church on a telephone conference call by **Dialing 667-770-1484; when prompted use access code 357664#.**

You may also make a prayer request anytime by calling the church office. Our Church Administrator will ensure the prayer request is communicated to our Pastor and Deacons. Outside of office hours (9:00 AM – 2:00 PM) or for an emergency prayer or pastoral request contact the Chair of Deacons (deacon@shermanchurch.org or 860-733-9972) or the Pastor (pastor@shermanchurch.org or 860-350-5151). Let us join together in prayer!

FIRE EXITS are located at the rear of the sanctuary through the double doors and at the front through the doors on both sides of the altar.

THE SHERMAN CHURCH

Gathered In 1744

Continuing to invite all to know the love of Jesus

A MEMBER CHURCH OF THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE
6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784
860-354-6114

info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

THE SHERMAN CHURCH



July 20, 2025

Gathered In 1744

Continuing to invite all to know the love of Jesus

NEXT WEEK: We end our series on the Vision Statement of our church. Scripture: Romans 12:4-16. How do keep a healthy body?

JULY 28, 7:00 pm – CHURCH GATHERING
“Structuring for the Church’s Future”

Come to coffee and dessert discussion on the structure of our church!

All are invited to a discussion to take place Monday, July 28, at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall on possibly changing the organizational structure of our church. Our present structure of multiple boards and committees is from a time when the church had many more members. Pastor Loring will present examples of church structures that are commonly used and work in many old and well-run Congregational churches. All are invited to attend, and we especially hope to hear from those in present and former leadership roles. Church Council will provide desserts and beverages.

If you plan to attend, please email the church office so we get an estimate of attendance for desserts at info@shermanchurch.org.

PRAYER – THE FOUNDATION TO A CHRISTIAN WALK

Last fall we engaged in a prayer effort that involved Prayer Triplets. Those involved felt it meaningful to their walk with Christ that they wanted to continue. Some are still meeting regularly and have missed the Prayer Guides offered. If possible, we will include a section for **Sermon Notes and Prayer Guide**. If you are still meeting, it can offer some focus on your prayer. If you are not part of a Prayer Triplet, why not form one. Just find two others who are willing to meet every week or every two weeks to share in prayer.

In addition, we are planning a **24-Hour Prayer Vigil August 23-24**. As the search process moves forward and we anticipate some exciting new opportunities for ministry in the fall, prayer is essential. Congregations have found this kind of experience monthly opens hearts and minds to God’s guidance and strength in ways that see God’s handiwork unfold in amazing ways. What is involved? A willingness to pray for an hour (guides will be provided) for those in need, the church, the community, the world. The goal is to have one or more praying for each hour segment. Stay tuned for more details.

THE SHERMAN CHURCH

Invites you to

CHRISTMAS

In July

Featuring the hilarious, and
heartfelt movie...

Bring your sleeping bag, picnic blanket, lawn chair and cozy up
with us for...



THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

FRIDAY

JULY 25TH

6:30PM

SMORE'S BAR
FROZEN HOT CHOCOLATE
ORNAMENT MAKING
AND MORE..

[RSVP HERE](#)

<https://forms.gle/nUdY9LvXuqpFmDCP9>



SERMON NOTES & PRAYER GUIDE

July 20, 2025

VISION STATEMENT - April 7, 2024

Our vision is to be known as the place to find peace and joy and experience the passion of a personal relationship with Christ.

We want everyone to feel welcomed, to have a safe and comfortable place to be, ask questions, find help, have fun, and ultimately participate in a Christian journey.

We feel God's call to make ourselves accessible by having a presence at local events in Sherman and neighboring communities, and providing a listening and understanding ear to those who are in need, such as pre-teens and seniors.

Our church will be a beacon for Christ-led ministry that supports underserved individuals within our community.

Our congregation will identify how best to use their gifts to encourage and welcome these people. Music, prayer, and hospitality are vital parts of this vision.

SERMON NOTES on Ephesians 5:8-21

Qualities of Light

Results of Being the Light

Children of Light are Beacons

PRAYER GUIDE for Personal, Triplets, Groups

GATHERING, WELCOMING, CENTERING

What has happened in your life since we last met, and how is God at work in it?

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:8-21

DIALOGUE:

What resonates with you most from Paul's instructions? Why? Which of those instructions feels most difficult to follow in our culture?

Verses 15-17: What steps can we take to grow in wisdom?

Where are you currently tolerating harmful habits that seem minor in comparison to the really bad stuff in our world?

What is the difference between "being careful how you live (v. 15) and being a total bore?"

How does Paul's version of the Spirit-filled life compare with your own life? What can you do to allow him to fill you more?

PRAYER

[Prayer Psalm – Psalm 34]

If praying aloud is new to you, consider using the A-C-T-S format:

- *Begin with **ADORATION**, praising God for who God is.*
 - ☐ Lord, I have seen your light shine in my life when....
- *Move to **CONFESSION**, acknowledging failures and our selfish willfulness.*
 - ☐ Lord, I find that too often prevents me from sharing with others my praise of you.
- *Offer **THANKS** for what God has done in your life and in the life of the church.*
 - ☐ Lord, I thank you that I have tasted of your goodness when...
- *Conclude with **SUPPLICATIONS**, asking God for the things you need*
 - ☐ Give me the conviction and power to speak truthfully of my love for you as I ...
 - ☐ I pray that (name) will sense your nearness today as they...