

## In Our Prayers

Pastor Rich (cancer)\*\*Andrew (brain cancer)\*\* Friends of Cynthia Bruestche\*\* Keith Charron (kidney failure)\*\*Micheline Zumbo, (friend of the Berlepschs)\*\*\*\*Gladys Wells, (David Well's mother)\*\*Fred Merrow (Dawn Charron's brother-in-law)\*\*Michael May, recovering from a hit and run\*\*Lisa Wigforss (Helen Hartel's daughter)\*\*Healing for Justin Weekes, son of Sandy Weekes\*\*Butch Ziacks (dear friend of Bob Blakeslee)\*\* Bob Blakeslee, recovering from surgery \*\*Those impacted by nature's fury\*\*Joseph Tavares (cousin of Pam Tavare Savanelli)\*\*Deborah Masella (new cancer diagnosis\*\* Tina Caldwell\*\* Kim Baldwin (Lori Folk-Barron's friend)\*\*Diane Geiss\*\* Shirley Breedlove (Tina Caldwell's mom)\*\*Sally Coleman\*\* Amanda Otfinoski, victim of a hit and run\*\* Megan Perkowski \*\*Alexander Karacsonyi \*\*Cousin Jean Farrell and Aunt Joyce Gorsky (the McKenna Family) \*\*A Friend Diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer\*\* Mark and Lynn Bailey (friends of John and Sherry Perkowski)\*\* Tim Keogh\*\* Charmaine Craggs\*\* Ashley Sibley (Bernie and Tony's great-niece)\*\*Tom Jastermsky\*\* Connie Ferrara (Sue Keogh's mom)\*\* Gabe and Jude Heidenis (Bernie and Tony's grandsons)\*\*Jack Grotti (friend of Sally Coleman)\*\* Wendy Riddle, sister of Sandy Weekes \*\* Cathy Kovi\*\* Holly Arce (Daughter-in-law of Manuael Arce and Deborah Sinon)\*\* Sandy McCume\*\* Betsy-Sue Eisenman\*\*Anne Stevens (Ken's mother)\*\*Janice Frey\*\*David Lick\*\* Beverly Lastig\*\* Those around the world who live in areas of conflict and war.



### The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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[pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org](mailto:pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org) (pastor)

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Website: [www.firstchurchwallingford.org](http://www.firstchurchwallingford.org)



To make a gift to First Church



**At the First Congregational Church, UCC of Wallingford, CT, we have discerned the following vision and mission for our faith lives together:**

### Vision

**Our faith – rooted in the compassion and teachings of Jesus Christ – is the foundation of our love for one another and service to the world around us.**

We offer a home for those seeking deeper meaning or purpose in their lives through the exploration of Jesus Christ's teachings. The love and compassion found in those teachings commit us to up lift each individual and celebrate our shared humanity.

### Mission

**We will foster spiritual growth, loving communication, and mutual care, thereby empowering us to confront issues that impact our community and the world, including poverty, isolation, and exclusion.**

We commit to developing a nurturing environment where all are loved, valued, and inspired to meaningful participation in the life of the church. Through our Christian faith, compassion, and service, we will dedicate ourselves to making a positive impact on the lives of people in our community and beyond.

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# First Congregational Church Wallingford, CT



## Fourth Sunday of Lent

**March 10, 2024**

**Let Your Light Shine!  
One Great Hour of Sharing**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT  
March 10, 2024  
ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *Restrospection*  
Florence Price

*In Quiet Mood* Florence

Price

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Adoration*  
Florence Price

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Share the light  
P: **like a city on a hill.**  
L: Shine the light for the world to see.  
P: **Be the light so that our neighbors can find their way.**  
L: You are the light and it will not be extinguished.  
Do not hide your light.  
P: **We will share the light.**

+HYMN *When Morning Guilds the Skies*  
NCH #86

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Your first word of creation, O God, was “Let there be light” and there was. Jesus came as the light of the world and then called us to become light-bearers in our lives. As we come to worship on this special day called One Great Hour of Sharing, may we shine our light here in this place as well as in the world to which you have called us to live. It can be so easy to get so caught up in our own lives that we forget the simple act of illuminating the world around us with our love, compassion, acts of service, justice and advocacy and kind words to others. Forgive us when we forget your call. Show

us the paths where we might follow in the footsteps of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen

MOMENT OF QUIET PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

HYMN - *This Little Light of Mine*

NCH #524

COMMISSIONING OF OUR SACRAMENTAL MINISTERS

ANTHEM *Steal Away* Spiritual/ arr.  
Patricia Cota

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* Spiritual/ arr.

Patricia Cota

LESSON FROM SCRIPTURE - Matthew 5:13-16

MESSAGE - Kaleidoscopic Shining

+HYMN *I Want to Walk As a Child of the Light*

(insert)

PRAYERS OF THE 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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.

OFFERTORY *We Will Walk in This Valley in Peace*  
Spiritual/arr. Undine Smith Moore

+DOXOLOGY *O How Glorious Full of Wonder* (melody)

O how glorious, full of wonder is your name o’er all the earth  
God who wrought creation’s splendor, bringing suns and stars to birth!

Rapt in reverence we adore you, marveling at your mystic ways.

Humbly now we bow before you, lifting up our gifts in praise.

+HYMN *I Am the Light of the World*

NCH #584

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

L: You are the people called into God’s own household.

P: **We are children of light, living together,**

L: Grounded in loving connection to each other and all creation.

P: **We are co-creators with God,**

L: Bringing peace, harmony, unity, compassion, care, love—

shalom—right now.

P: **We leave to share the light and love of Christ Everywhere we go.**

RESPONSE *Walk with Me*  
John S. Rice

POSTLUDE *Swing Low Sweet Chariot*  
Marianne Kim/ Traditional Spiritual

**Announcements**

**Welcome to the First Congregational Church of Wallingford!** If you are visiting with us this morning, we extend a special welcome and greeting to you. First Church is a part of the United Church of Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here!

**The flowers** on the altar are given in memory of Joseph, Rose, and Joseph W. Hevesy by Michael and Cheryl Naski.

**Serving the church today:** Matt Bushey, Jay Mather, Cheryl Naski, Ushers; Bernie Annunziata, Chimes.

A new fund raiser is planned for Lent! **Homemade Peanut Butter and Coconut Easter Eggs** will be created and sold to benefit the ministries of the church! To volunteer to help with this fun and delicious project, sign up downstairs. We will need candy makers, wrappers, sales, publicity, supply procurement, and planners....

We look forward to **Welcoming New Members** into the life of the church on April 28. Two one-hour classes will be held to prepare for membership. If you would like to learn more to

prepare for membership, speak to or email Pastor Meredith at [pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org](mailto:pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org)

In preparation for the new Settled Pastor, we are updating our **Directory**. Please fill out the form in your bulletin, seek one from an usher, or fill out via the QR Code below or link that is found in the Spire.



Rev. Dr. Meredith Jeffers, Interim Pastor  
Dr. Jeanette Gross, Minister of Music  
Ms. Maureen Czentnar, Office Manager  
Mr. Tony Annunziata, Sexton  
Ms. Kayla Perkowski, Acting Coordinator of Sunday  
School and Youth