

## In Our Prayers

Micheline Zumbo, (friend of the Berlepschs)\*\*Kristian Charron's friend's mom who is undergoing surgery\*\*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)\*\*Steve Knight, recovering from surgery\*\*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 Tavares 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)

[gross7jeanette1@gmail.com](mailto:gross7jeanette1@gmail.com) (Minister of Music)

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



## Third Sunday of Lent

### March 3, 2024

## What is your name?

**HIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**March 3, 2024**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *Yoruba Lament*  
Traditional/ arr. Fela Sowande

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Deep River* Samuel  
Coleridge Taylor

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Let all of God's people come together and share our faith!

**P: For we are justified by faith and not our works alone.**

L: Once we suffered the wrath and harshness of the Law.

**P: But now we have been set free by our faith unto good works.**

L: Then let us celebrate God's grace and mercy in our songs and praise.

**P: Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

HYMN *The God of Abraham Praise*  
NCH #24

CALL TO REFLECTION

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

MOMENT OF QUIET PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LESSONS FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Genesis 17:1-7,  
15-16

ANTHEM *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*  
Jay Althouse

LESSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Romans  
4:13-25

THE MESSAGE

HYMN Sweet Hour of Prayer (vs. 1 & 2)

NCH #505

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.

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERETORY *Grace Alone*  
Scott Wesley Brown & Jeff Nelson/ arr. Tom  
Fettke

+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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNION HYMN *As We Gather at Your Table* NCH  
#332

COMMUNION

+HYMN *Take Up Your Cross the Savior Said*

NCH# 204

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

RESPONSE *Dona nobis pacem*  
Anonymous

POSTLUDE *Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho*

Traditional / arr. Fela Sowande

**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 Joan Smith by Delbert Smith and family.

**Serving the church today:** (8:00) Charmaine Craggs and Louise Zemina; (10:00) Cathy Knight, Steve Knight, Bruce Ollodart, Kathy Ollodart, Ushers; Cheryl Naski, Debbie Voelker, Rick Voelker Bob Westervelt, Sacramental Ministers; Rick Voelker, Chimes.

Join us for a **Pancake Brunch and Pancake Flipping** today following worship in Congregational Hall. The brunch, sponsored by the Faith Formation Ministry, is rescheduled from the Shrove Tuesday snow-out. Thanks to the Faith Formation Team for your hospitality.

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

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 or link that will be found in the Spire.

We will be commissioning our **Sacramental Ministers next Sunday, March 10**. Sacramental Ministers are a part of the

Worship Ministry. Their call is to prepare and serve Communion and to prepare and help with Baptisms. Each of our new Sacramental Ministers is participating in training and conversation. If you are interested in learning more about Sacramental Ministry, please contact, Pastor Meredith at [pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org](mailto:pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org)

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)

Rev. Dr. Meredith Jeffers, Interim Pastor  
Dr. Jeanette Gross, Minister of Music  
Ms. Maureen Czentnar, Office Manager  
Mr. Tony Annunziata, Sexton  
Ms. Kayla Perkowski, Faith Formation Coordinator