

In Our Prayers

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**Jill as she begins a new medical trial**Those impacted by nature's fury**Joseph Tavares (cousin of Pam Tavares Savanelli)**Deborah Masella (new cancer diagnosis)**Family and friends of Claire Fowler** Tina Caldwell**Paul and Melissa Masi and friends mourning the loss of Hayden Steinhilper**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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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



Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

February 11, 2024

Transfiguration Sunday

Boy Scout Sunday

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

February 11, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue in D Major* Dietrich Buxtehude

Fantasy: "The Lord Will Come and Not Be Slow" Brenda Portman

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *How Brightly Shines* David Bednall

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: It is easy to stand here in the valley of our comfort.

P: We know what to expect and what is expected of us.

L: But Christ calls us to the mountain top to receive a new vision.

P: We are not sure we are ready for that.

L: Place your hope and trust in Christ, for He is your guide.

P: Let us open our hearts to Christ, ready for the vision he places before us. AMEN.

+HYMN *Jesus Take Us to the Mountain* Words NCH #183
(verses 1,2,3,5) Melody: Unser Herrscher

CALL TO REFLECTION

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

We want to celebrate. We don't want to listen. We want to stay on the mountaintop with Jesus and set up a festival where everyone can come and play and have a good time. We want our faith to be one of entertainment. But you have called us to "Listen to Him!" You have asked us to be ready for the journey. We cannot stay where we are, comfortable and snuggled down in the familiar. There is much to be done. Forgive us, Lord, when we are stubborn and willful. Remind us that you are with us, wherever we are. You call us from the mountaintop to go to the valley where this is struggle and strife; where healing is needed. Prepare us, Lord, for the journey. Help us to listen to you. Heal us, Lord. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

MOMENT OF QUIET PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP AND SHARED MINISTRY
Boy Scout Troop 5

LESSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Mark 9:2-9

ANTHEM *We See the Mountains Lifted High Before Us*
Psalm 121, LONDONDERRY AIR/arr. Hal Hopson

THE MESSAGE

HYMN *Shine, Jesus Shine!* (insert) GTG #192

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.**

INVITATION TO GIVE

OFFERTORY *Love Has Broken Down the Wall* Mark A. Miller

+DOXOLOGY *Refrain from Angels We Have Heard on High*

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN *O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word* NCH #168

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE *Shine, Jesus, Shine* Graham Kendrick

POSTLUDE *Shine, Jesus, Shine* David Blackwell

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 loving memory of Connie and Hank Peters and Olive Whitehouse by Sharon and Greg Whitehouse.

Serving the church today: Roy Canon, Louise Zemina, Kathy Filkins, Rick Voelker, Ushers; Russ Hinckley, Chimes. It is a joy to welcome **Scouts and Leaders from Boy Scout Troop 5** to our service as we celebrate our relationship with Boy Scout Troop 5. Members of Troop 5 will serve as Liturgists, Presenters, and Ushers. We welcome Leaders Mark Britton (Scoutmaster), Roy Cannon, Erica Haddad, and Allan Thibodeau and Scouts Max Barrett, Corey Besaw, Max Britton, Luca Gargiulo, Carter Goad, Samuel Haddad, and William Seibt.

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, speak to Pastor Meredith. We will need candy makers, wrappers, sales, publicity, supply procurement, and planners....

Did you know Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day this year? We have the opportunity to combine the two observances as we share a **Love Feast, Worship and receive the traditional Anointing with Oil**. The Feast will begin at 6:30 and will include a light supper as we celebrate the Agape Meal. Reservations are requested. If you would be a part of the team to help set-up, cook, or serve this simple Agape meal, please speak to Pastor Meredith for more information.

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

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