



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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LICK THOSE AROUND THE WORLD WHO LIVE IN AREAS OF CONFLICT AND WAR.



The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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First Congregational Church Wallingford, CT



June 15, 2025

First Sunday After Pentecost Scholarship Sunday

June 15, 2025
ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit
NCH = New Century Hymnal (Black)

PRELUDE *Toccata for the Elevation*
 Girolamo Frescobaldi

 Adagio from Sonata in F Minor, Op. 65, No. 1
 Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Voluntary*
 Francesco Geminiani/arr. George Blake

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come together in God’s presence, as the community of believers.

We come with glad and humble hearts, praising God for bringing us together.

We gather around God’s spiritual table to eat with each other. Like the disciples after the resurrection, we recognize Jesus among us in the breaking of bread.

To know the resurrected Jesus is to know life beyond death. To eat together is to be filled with abundance.

Let us praise God who is always with us, providing for our every need.

And let us set a table where all are welcome, all know dignity and belovedness, and all are fed. Glory to God in the highest! Amen.

+HYMN All People That On Earth Do Dwell
NCH #7

CALL TO REFLECTION
PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Beloved God, you have called us together to be a community of faith. As we live into a deeper sense of communion with you and with one another, let your constant loving presence among us be known. Remove the

distractions that draw our attention away from you and the bonds that tie us to guilt and shame. Open our hearts to receive your love and empower us to share that love and compassion with all we encounter. In your great love, free us to live lives of transformation for your glory and for the hope of all creation. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE
SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Yesenia Acosta, Thomas Barron, and Hayden Bau

ANTHEM *The Plans I Have for You* Allen
Pote

LESSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE Acts 2:43-47

M E S S A G E L e t ’ s E a t !

Susan Alker

HYMN I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table (insert)

PASTORAL PRAYER
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 GENEROSITY
OFFERTORY *Like As a Father*
 Luigi Cherubini/arr. Austin Lovelace

+DOXOLOGY
NCH # 779

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION
+HYMN God, We Thank You for Our People NCH
376

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION
RESPONSE *Go Now in Peace* Natalie
Sleeth

POSTLUDE *Fanfare*
 Jacques Lemmens/arr. David Paxton

Announcements

Serving the church today: Roy Cannon, Louise Zemina, Kathy Filkins, Rick Voelker, Ushers. Ken Minkema, Liturgist. Debbie Clark, Chimes.

The flowers on the altar are given by Heidi Bonassar - Happy birthday to my sweet, sassy, and smart daughter, Emma. How blessed we have been since you made your entrance to the world 28 years ago. Love, Mom and Andrew.

Today is Scholarship Sunday, when we recognize our FCC youth who have just graduated from high school. This year’s scholarship recipients are Yesenia Acosta, Thomas Barron, and Hayden Bau. They all just graduated from Lyman Hall High School this past Friday. Congratulations to the graduates! We invite everyone to join us at a coffee hour downstairs following the service for an ice cream social in their honor.

Pastor Meredith will be on vacation June 9 - June 30. In case of emergency or pastoral need, please contact the church office or the Rev. Dr. Charlene Bruce.

Today we welcome Susan Alker, a third- year student at Yale Divinity School. Learn more about Susan on the

insert in the bulletin. Our own Charlene Bruce will lead us in worship June 22 and 29.

LEAVE THIS OUT IF THE MUSIC CAUSES OVERFLOW

Rev. Dr. Meredith Jeffers, Interim Pastor

Dr. Jeanette Gross, Minister of Music.

Ms. Maureen Czentnar, Office Manager

Mr. Tony Annunziata, Sexton

Ms. Madison Torre, Coordinator of Sunday

School and Youth Ministries