



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



March 30, 2025
Fourth Sunday in Lent
Lost and Found

March 30, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

NCH - New Century Hymnal (Black)

PGM – Pilgrim Hymnal – (Red)

PRELUDE *Canon in D* Johann Pachelbel

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Reflection* Jason W. Krug
Handbells

CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God is a shepherding God.

Our God knows us by name.

Our God will never stop searching for us.

So if you feel lost, then know that God is seeking you.

If you feel found, then know that God will never leave.

This is the promise of scripture.

This is the promise of God's love.

Let us worship our with-us God

+HYMN Once a Sheep Was in a Pasture (insert)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

If God is a painter,

let us be the brush.

If God is a musician,

let us be the song.

If God is an architect,

let us be the tools.

Let us be the hands.

Let us be the builders.

But if God is a shepherd,

who never stops seeking,

let us be willing to be found,

no matter how lost we feel.

Our God is never far away.

Forgive us for forgetting this good news. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF GRACE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

TIME WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

ANTHEM *God So Loved the World*
John Stainer/arr. Douglas E. Wagner/Handbells

A READING Luke 15:1-7

MESSAGE Lost and Found

+HYMN Our Father, We Have Wandered (insert)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 *Shepherd Me, O God*
Marty Haugen/arr. Mark Hayes

+DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise Christ, all creatures here below!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore,

One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us NCH #252

+COMMISSION AND BLESSING

+CHORAL RESPONSE *Refrain: Shepherd Me, O God*
Marty Haugen

POSTLUDE *Toccata in E Minor* Johann Pachelbel

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 by the members of the Whitehouse Family in memory of Olive Whitehouse.

Serving the church today: Michael May, Heidi Bonassar, Greg Whitehouse, Ushers. John Lenox, Liturgist. Russ Hinckley, Chimes.

Tea Time! Today at 11:30 in Congregational Hall. Join us for this special celebration.

Easter Eggs will be available for pickup Friday April 11th 5pm to 7pm; Saturday April 12th 9 to 12 pm; and Sunday April 13th 11 AM to 12:30 PM.

New Church Directories will be available on Easter Sunday! If you have not yet updated your information or sent in a picture, please speak to Pastor Meredith today! Pictures can be sent to FCCWDirectory@gmail.com by April 2.

New members will be received into the church April 27. If you would like more information about joining the church as a member or associate member, speak to Pastor Meredith. (914) 255-1690

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