

In Our Prayers

Carolyn Keehan (in Hospice)**Bob Kaden (having neck surgery)**Lucille Blakeslee (recovering from a stroke)Those mourning the death of Fran Rice** Pastor Rich (cancer)**Andrew (brain cancer)** Friends of Cynthia Bruestche** Keith Charron (kidney failure)**Micheline Zumbo, (friend of the Berlepschs)**Fred Merrow (Dawn Charron's brother-in-law)**Michael May, recovering from a hit and run**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**Sally Coleman** Amanda Otfinoski, victim of a hit and run** Megan Perkowski **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 Manuel 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

23 South Main Street, Wallingford, CT 06492

Church telephone: (203) 265-1691

Church Office Hours: Tues. - Fri. - 9:00am - 2:00pm

Email: officemanager@firstchurchwlfld.org (office)

pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org (pastor)

gross7jeanette1@gmail.com (Minister of Music)

Website: 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.

Portions of the service have been reprinted by permission of

The Pilgrim Press from the Pilgrim Hymnal © 1958 and

The New Century Hymnal ©1995.

All rights reserved. Printed under One License.net A-718386.

CCLI License No.3108192

First Congregational Church Wallingford, CT



April 14, 2024

Second Sunday After Easter

April 14, 2024
ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *Cantilena* Josef
Rheinberger

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Jesus, Name Above All Names*
NAIDA HEARN / arr. John F. Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come, let us celebrate the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

P: For once we were lost and felt so far away; now we have been found and welcomed home.

L: Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

P: We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!

L: Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.

P: AMEN!

+HYMN Praise to the Living God

NCH # 8

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Gracious God, you have created a world of abundance – an abundance of love and of grace. And yet, like Jonah, we run away. Rather than answering your call, we are preoccupied with ourselves. Instead of extravagantly sharing your abundance, we have lived life as if your treasures are scarce. Help us to answer your call to practice generosity, and to take the abundance of treasures you have given to us into our communities to transform lives. Take away our blinders and open

our eyes so that, relying on your grace, we might see those places and people where we might plant seeds that will make a difference. Amen.

M

70MENT OF QUIET PRAYER

0

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

TIME WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

ANTHEM *On Emmaus' Journey*
HOLY MANNA /arr. John Ferguson

BAPTISM OF MARY-ELIZABETH GAYLE HOGAN

HYMN - Child of Blessing, Child of Promise NCH

#325

STORY FROM SCRIPTURE Jonah

MESSAGE Jonah Revisited

+HYMN Take My Life, God, Let It Be NCH

#448

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 GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY *Grace Alone*
Scott Wesley Brown / Jeff Nelson

+DOXOLOGY
melody NCH #780

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending NCH

565

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE *Be Still and Know That I Am God*
John Bell

POSTLUDE *Psalms XIX*
Benedetto Marcello

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 Olive Whitehouse and Hank and Constance Peters by Sharon and Greg Whitehouse.

Serving the church today: Tony Annunziata, Bruce and Katherine Ollohart, and Bill Zemina, Ushers. Debbie Clark, Chimes.

This morning we celebrate the Baptism of Mary-Elizabeth Gayle Hogan, born February 27, 2023. Her parents are Tim and Katie Hogan. Welcome to Christ's family Mary-Elizabeth!

We look forward to **Welcoming New Members** into the life of the church on April 28. If you would like to learn more to prepare for membership, speak to or email Pastor Meredith at pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfld.org

Give yourself the gift of a fantastic **Renewal Weekend** with Footsteps in the Sand. Info: footsteps-sand.org or

Bob and Lorraine Westervelt. Women's Weekend May 31-
June 2, 2024. Men's Weekend June 7-9, 2024.

Join us as we celebrate God's Creation, next Sunday
April 21, 2024!

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