



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



February 23, 2025
Seventh Sunday After Epiphany
Scout Sunday

February 23, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

NCH - New Century Hymnal (Black)

PGM – Pilgrim Hymnal – (Red)

PRELUDE *Cantilena* Florence B. Price

Tempo Moderato Florence B. Price

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Hour of Peace* Florence B. Price

CALL TO WORSHIP – PSALM 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

+HYMN Enter, Rejoice, and Come In NCH # 73

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SILENT REFLECTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

THE BOY SCOUT PROMISE

TIME WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE Sam Haddad

VESPERS SONG

Softly falls the light of day
As our campfire fades away
Silently each Scout should ask,
Have I done my daily task?
Have I kept my honor bright?
Can I guiltless sleep tonight?
Have I done and have I dared
Everything to be prepared?

A READING My Heart Soars by Chief Dan George, OC

ANTHEM *How Great Thou Art*
Stuart Hine/arr. Cynthia Dobrinski/Handbell Choir

A READING Lord Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace

A HISTORY OF SCOUTING Bob Beaumont

PRESENTATION OF THE CHARTER Erica Haddad

BLESSING OF THE SCOUTS

Congregational Response: **God bless our Scouts!**

Scout Response : **Give us clean hands, clean clean words, and clean thoughts, O God. Teach us to work hard and to play fairly. Forgive us when we are unkind and help us to help others. Send us strength to do a good turn each day and so to live after your will.**

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 *Deep Water* Pepper Choplin

+DOXOLOGY (melody: In the Bleak Midwinter)

**Praise the one creator, praise the living Christ.
Praise the Holy Spirit, praise both day and night.
Praise when you are weary, praise in times of joy.
Praise my soul, with all your strength and your heart
and voice.**

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN O Beautiful for Spacious Skies PGM # 440

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

+CHORAL RESPONSE Blessed Be the Tie That Binds v.1
NCH# 393

POSTLUDE *Improvisation on We Shall Overcome*
Arr. Carl Haywood

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!

A special welcome to our Scouts today as we celebrate **Scout Sunday!**

The flowers on the altar are given in memory of James Folk, Sr., by Lori, Mike, Jillian, and Thomas Barron.

Serving the church today: Bob Blakeslee, John Lenox, Bob Westervelt, Bill Zemina, and Members of Scout Troop 5, Ushers. Mark Britton, Erica Haddad, and Meredith Jeffers, Liturgists. Russ Hinkley, Chimes.

It is now recognized that the United Church of Christ is made of five streams, not four. **Come and hear the Rev. Edwin Perez, Jr.** talk about the fifth stream, one that emerges and embraces the diversity of our shared history. Today, in the Guild Room at 11:40. A light lunch will be served.

Join us Tuesday, March 4 at 6 pm for our **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.** Great food, fellowship and Pancake Games.

The Season of Lent begins with our Ash Wednesday Service, Wednesday, March 5 at 7 pm. This meditative service will include, Music, Scripture, Communion, Anointing, and Prayer.