

## In Our Prayer

\*Dawn Cherron and family mourning the death of Fred Merrow\*\* Ellen Jacke\*\* Gail Berlepsch (recovering from surgery)\*\*Jeff Clay (progressive throat cancer, Tina Caldwell's brother in law)\*\*Gladys Wells\*\* Doug Jameson (friend of Bob Blakeslee)\*\*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\*\* Healing for Justin Weekes, son of Sandy Weekes\*\*Those impacted by nature's fury\*\* Tina Caldwell\*\* Kim Baldwin (Lori Folk-Barron's friend)\*\*Diane Geiss\*\*Sally Coleman\*\* 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\*\*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



**May 26, 2024**

**Let There Be Peace on Earth**

**And Let It Begin With Me**

May 26, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

+ Please rise in body or in spirit

PRELUDE *Hymn to the Fallen* John Williams  
Ryan Phillips, snare drum

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*  
Brenda Portman/ TUNE; MELTA by John B. Dykes

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Though many places in the world are bound in war.

**P: The peace of God is poured out for all people.**

L: Though discord and struggle have become factors in the lives of the people.

**P: The love of God is lavished on all people.**

L: Let us praise the God of love and peace.

**P: Let us listen for God's words of peace and justice for all people. AMEN.**

+HYMN Holy, Holy, Holy NCH #277

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

**We are so like Nicodemus, Lord. We come to you, hiding in the shadows of our own fears and terrors. We want you to give us peace and hope in our hearts. We want to know that everything will be all right; that the world will cease to be a place of terror and war. We want to be born again in a spirit of hope. But when we come it is for our own sake, and not to learn what you would have us be and do in this world. Forgive our selfishness, Lord. Calm our fears and heal our spirits. Let us truly listen to you so that we may be witnesses to your peace and justice which you seek for the world. Saturate us with your light and wisdom. Empower us to be those who bring peace, which is not only an absence of war, but peace which promotes an attitude of love. Clear away the clutter in our lives and place us on paths of service to you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.**

MOMENT OF QUIET PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE BAPTISM OF NORA MICHELE MAKEPEACE

HYMN Child of Blessing, Child of Promise NCH #325

LESSON FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Psalm 29

ANTHEM *Creation Will Be at Peace* Anna Laura Page

LESSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE John 14:25-27

MESSAGE

CALL TO PRAYER I've Got Peace Like a River NCH# 478

PRAYER 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 *I Dream a World* Andre J. Thomas

+DOXOLOGY NCH # 779

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter;  
One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen**

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+HYMN Lead Us From Death to Life NCH #581

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE *Let There Be Peace on Earth*  
Sy Miller & Jill Jackson/ Chalice Hymnal # 677

POSTLUDE *Variations on Melita* Michael Joseph

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 thanksgiving for friends and family by Ann Gygax.

**Serving the church today:** Steve and Cathy Knight, Bruce and Katherine Ollodart, Ushers. Russ Hinckley, Chimes. Kathy Filkins and Holly Francke, Sacramental Ministers. Bernie Annunziata, Liturgist.

We hold in prayer those who remember and grieve this **Memorial Day** and we pray for those whose lives were lost in service to our country. May they rest in honor and peace.

Next Sunday we will be celebrating **Pride Sunday**. Come and think about how far we have come and how far we need to go. Celebrate God's love for ALL people.

The **Annual Meeting** will be held **June 9** following worship. A light lunch will be served. We will receive Annual Reports, vote on a Budget, consider a motion to become an ONA Church, and elect Coordinators and Officers. Your voice counts.

We are off to a good start with our **Pledges**. So far **\$134, 686** has been received from 52 Pledging Units. Please be generous in your giving. Together, we are changing lives!

Today we celebrate the **Baptism of Nora Michele Makepeace** Nora was born September 20,2023. She is the daughter of Conor and Alison Makepeace and the sister of Grant Makepeace.

**Matthew Tolokan was baptized** yesterday, May 25, 2024. Matthew was born August 28, 2023. He is the son of Jill and Michael Tolokan and the brother of Caden Tolokan.

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