



# First Congregational 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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**January 26, 2025**

**Third Sunday After Epiphany**

**Anointed**



**The First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**

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Church telephone: (203) 265-1691

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**To make a gift to First Church**

January 26, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDE      *How Fair and How Pleasant Art Thou*  
Marcel Dupre

*Offertory*      H. Leslie Adams

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC      *Adoration*      Florence B. Price

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit of God is upon us.  
**We are called to be God's people.**  
The Spirit of God is upon us.  
**We are called to be the body of Christ.**  
Come let us worship God, who binds us together  
in love and service.

+HYMN      O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing      NCH # 42

PRAYER OF CONFESSIO

Ever present One, you call us to be your presence,  
your body in this world, but too often we get caught up  
in being a hand or a foot, and lose sight of the  
overarching mission you set before us. We fracture into  
pieces. We go our separate ways, forgetting we need  
each other to be whole. You have given us your law to be  
our guide, but we turn our backs on what we see as rules  
and restrictions, fearful that we will not live up to your  
expectations. Help us see with new eyes,  
and hear with the ears of our heart, the liberating spirit  
of the law that strengthens and revives and enables us  
to be and do all you call us to be and do. O God of

liberation and justice, help us be faithful witnesses  
to your law of love and unity. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING CHRIST'S PEACE

TIME WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE      Maddie Torre

ANTHEM      *When the Morning Stars Together*  
K. Lee Scott

LESSON FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE      John 4:14-29

THE MESSAGE

HYMN      Jesus Shall Reign      NCH# 300

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      *We Are the Body of Christ*      Emily Lund

+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      How Great Thou Art      (insert)

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

RESPONSE      *Make Us One*      Carol Cymbala

POSTLUDE      *Rigaudon*      Andre Campra

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 honor of my grandson Luca's first birthday by Marilyn Colandrea.

**Serving the church today:** Matt Bushey, Jay Mather, Cheryl Naski, Deanna Holloway, Ushers. John Lenox, Liturgist. Rick Voelker, Chimes.

**Youth Mission Trip, Scranton, PA, July 20-26, 2025**  
Youth (going into ninth grade next year through age 20) interested in going on this mission trip should speak with Maddie Torre or Lorraine Westervelt. We are collecting a \$50 deposit by February 9 when we gather to make subs and salads.

**Super Grinders and Salads for SUPER BOWL SUNDAY!! Place your order for Superbowl Sunday, February 9, 2025.** Price is only \$10 for a 12" grinder sandwich or \$10 for a tossed salad . **Support our Youth Mission Trip** Place your order at Coffee Hour today!



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