



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.

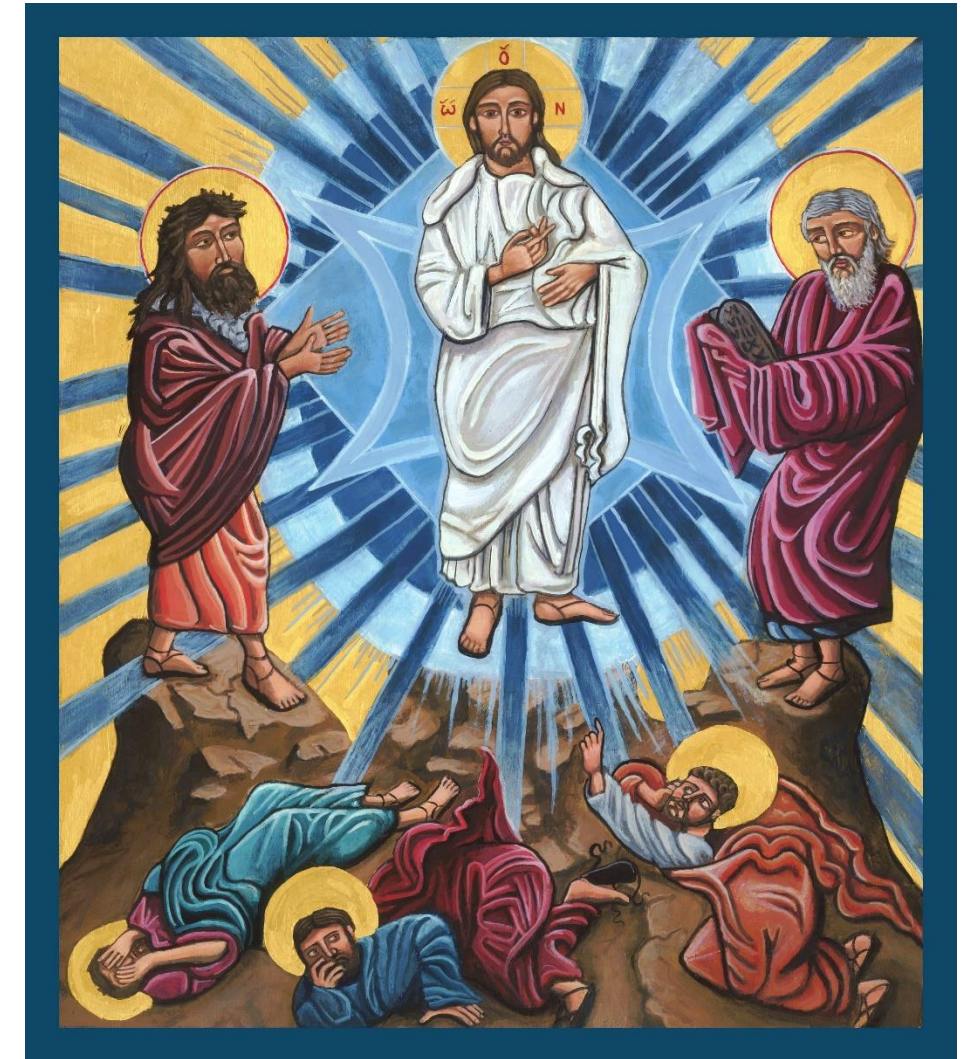
Mission

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 2, 2025
Transfiguration Sunday

March 2, 2025
ORDER OF WORSHIP
+ Please rise in body or in spirit
NCH - New Century Hymnal (Black)
PGM – Pilgrim Hymnal – (Red)

PRELUDE *Cantique de Jean Racine*
Gabriel Faure/arr. Martin Setchell

Organ Variations on “Foundation”
Gilbert Martin

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC *Our Lord Ascended Up to Heaven*
Finnish Melody/setting, Emma Lou Diemer

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: It is easy to stand here in the valley of our comfort.
P: We know what to expect and what is expected of us.
L: But Christ calls us to the mountain top to receive a new vision.
P: We are not sure we are ready for that.
L: Place your hope and trust in Christ, for He is your guide.
P: Let us open our hearts to Christ, ready for the vision he places before us. AMEN.

+HYMN We Have Come at Christ’s Own Bidding NCH #182

PRAYER OF REFLECTION

We want to celebrate. We don’t want to listen. We want to stay on the mountaintop with Jesus and set up a festival where everyone can come and play and have a good time. We want our faith to be one of entertainment. But you have called us to “Listen to Him!” You have asked us to be ready for the journey. We cannot stay where we are, comfortable and snuggled down in the familiar. There is much to be done. Forgive us, Lord, when we are stubborn and willful. Remind us that you are with us, wherever we are. You call us from the mountaintop to go to the valley where this is

struggle and strife; where healing is needed. Prepare us, Lord, for the journey. Help us to listen to you. Heal us, Lord. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.

SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF GRACE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM *Living Water, Guiding Spirit*
Joseph M. Martin

A READING Luke 9:28-36

MESSAGE Glory!

CALL TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY *At the Table of the Lord* Jay Althouse

+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 Jesus the Joy of Loving Hearts NCH #329

COMMUNION

This is the Table of the Lord and all who wish to receive here are welcome. You will receive first the bread and then the juice. You are invited to hold each until all are served so we might partake together.
Water and rice cakes are available for those who prefer.

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**

+HYMN Shine, Jesus, Shine (insert) GTG #192

+COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

+CHORAL RESPONSE *Sent Out in Jesus’s Name*
Trad. Cuban/arr. Carmen Pena

POSTLUDE *Shine, Jesus, Shine*
David Blackwell

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 Joan Smith by Delbert Smith and family.

Serving the church today: Lois Doherty, Steve and Cathy Knight, Bruce and Katherine Ollodart, Ushers. Dawn Charron, Liturgist. Lori Folk-Barron, Sarah Mather, Debby Voelker, and Louise Zemina, Sacramental Ministers. Rick Voelker, Chimes.

Join us this 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.

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