





### **Wallingford Workcamp Team**

Bringing A Community Together **2026** 

June 28 – July 4, 2026



### 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



October 12, 2025

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Celebrate our Mission Wallingford Workcamp 2026

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

PRELUDES Here I Am, Lord Dan Schutte/arr. Marianne Kim Bless the Lord Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman/arr. Marianne Kim

WELCOME Rev. Charlene Bruce

**CENTERING MUSIC** Meditation Marianne Kim

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 66 Lorraine Westervelt

Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies cringe before you all the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of vour name."

Come and see what God has done, his awesome deeds for mankind!

He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the waters on foot—come, let us rejoice in him.

He rules forever by his power, his eyes watch the nations—let not the rebellious rise up against him.

Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

For you, God, tested us; you refined us like silver.

You brought us into prison and laid burdens on our backs.

You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us to a place of abundance.

+HYMN Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart NCH #290

PRAYER OF REFLECTION Lorraine Westervelt

Dear God, we are sorry if we have been unkind to anyone. We are sorry we have not always done what you wanted us to do. We have not loved you with our whole heart, and we have not cared enough for other people. Forgive us and help us to forgive each other. We ask this in the hope of your grace.

SILENT REFLECTION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

**ANTHEM** My Lighthouse **REND Collective** Kyla Nesto, Ryan Phillips and congregation on chorus

My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse Shining in the darkness, I will follow You My Lighthouse, my Lighthouse (oh oh) I will trust the promise, You will carry me safe to shore (Oh-oh-oh-oh) 3x

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE Sam Haddad READING FROM SCRIPTURE Luke 19:11-19 Erica Haddad

THE MESSAGE Share God's Love Through Action

**Lorraine Westervelt** 

HYMN Here I am Lord (insert)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. C. Bruce

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+DOXOLOGY

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** Rev. Charlene Bruce

OFFERTORY Sweet, Sweet Spirit Doris Akers/arr. Joel Raney 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 Rev. Charlene Bruce +HYMN They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love (insert)

**COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION Lorraine Westervelt** 

RESPONSE There's a Spirit in the Air

Words by Brian Wren Tune: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

POSTLUDE Every Time I Feel the Spirit Marianne Kim

#### **Announcements**

Welcome to the First Congregational Church of Wallingford, an Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ! No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Please join us for refreshments and conversation downstairs in Congregational Hall immediately following the service.

**Serving the church today are** ushers: Tony & Bernice Annunziata, Ann Gygax & Russ Hinkley; chimes: Rick Voelker.

The flowers on the altar are given in honor of our daughter, Shannon Leigh McKenna. Happy 21st Birthday with love from the McKenna Family.

Magical Melodies – A 350 Year Celebration October 17 at 7pm is NOT your average church concert includes the Chancel Choir, instrumentalists, Handbell Ensemble, Praise Band, songs from Broadway musicals, remarkable guests- Silk 'n Sound and Flute Loops & some familiar solo voices you haven't heard in a while. A delicious reception will follow.

18th First Church Golf Tournament to benefit Breast Cancer **Research** is October 18 at Miner Hills in Middletown. The 9 Hole Scramble format is fun for all ages and abilities, \$30/25 and includes lunch. Holes can be sponsored in memory of or honor of a loved one for \$30.

Toiletries Drive for Veterans – October 18, 9-11 AM. To benefit Veterans, Inc. Shelter in New Britain. We are gratefully accepting donations such as soap, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sanitary products, razors, deodorant, and hairbrushes.

If you would like to become a member or associate member of First Church, New Members will be received November 9. Please speak to Pastor Meredith for more information. (914)255-1690 or pastormeredith@firstchurchwlfd.org

Rev. Dr. Meredith Jeffers, Interim Pastor Dr. Jeanette Gross, Minister of Music. Search in Process, Office Manager Mr. Tony Annunziata, Sexton Searching for Director of Sunday School & Youth Ministries