

PRELUDE *Chorale Prelude on "Humility"* Malcolm Archer  
*Thine Is the Glory* arr. Bill Ingram  
 The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director

WELCOME

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION Amanda Bethune

†CALL TO WORSHIP Jimmy Quinn

One: We call on God, who is as near as our next breath.

**All: We gather to meet God, who has promised to bless us.**

One: Remember God's steadfast love and faithfulness.

**All: God always hears our cries and fulfills our deepest desires.**

One: Make a joyful noise and break forth in song!

**All: Our mouths will speak the praise of God!**†HYMN 606 [God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending](#) NETTLETON

†OPENING PRAYER

**Gracious God, your voice brought everything into being. You are still speaking and making all things new. Shake the heavens and earth once more, that we may see your power and hold fast to the source of our hope. You are greater than our fears and mightier than our failings. Call us from death to life, for you are God of the living, not of the dead. Amen.**

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Amanda Bethune

ANTHEM *With Praises Ring* Barbara B. Kinyon  
 The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING [Luke 20:27-38](#) (NT p. 103)

†RESPONSE AFTER SCRIPTURE (HYMN 526) O WALY WALY

**Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.****Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.**SERMON *Precious Gifts* Rev. Terry Schmitt

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 OFFERING

**Loving God, the pledge cards that we have sent in recent days and those we will send in the coming days symbolize our faith, hope, and love. We make these promises in response to all that we have been inspired to be and become. With thanksgiving for God's love and generosity, let us return precious gifts to God.**

OFFERTORY *Give Me Jesus* Ruth Elaine Schram  
 The First Church Choir

†DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

†LITANY OF DEDICATION

One: Gracious God, we pray for the wisdom to make stewardship a way of life in every season.

**All: We acknowledge you, O God, as the source of all that we have and all that we are.**

One: Help us to find the true source of happiness and fulfillment that we seek and that you alone can provide.

**All: Help us to hear your call to be thoughtful stewards of all your gifts by caring for them and sharing them.**

One: Help us challenge each other, as followers of Jesus, to put our faith into action.

**All: As we plan the things in our lives that are most important to us, let us not forget our church, our community, and our world.**

One: Let us pray that we will share in proportion to what has been given us as an expression of our gratitude for the many blessings we have received.

**All: Help us to put our trust and faith in you. As wise stewards, we pray that we are always ready to lead with love in your name. Amen.**

†HYMN 275

[Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation](#)

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

*Amen*

Peter Lutkin

The First Church Choir

POSTLUDE

*Herr Gott, nun schleuß den Himmel auf*  
*("Lord, Open Wide the Heavens")*

J. S. Bach



*Living in Spirit • Committed to Service • Open to All*

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**  
**Stewardship Sunday**

November 17, 2024  
10 o'clock

First Church of Christ Congregational  
12 South Main Street  
West Hartford, CT 06107  
(860) 233-9605  
[www.whfirstchurch.org](http://www.whfirstchurch.org)

**To Give Online:** <http://www.whfirstchurch.org/giving/give>  
**Or Give by Text:** Text GIVE to (860) 222-7870.

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*Rev. Fredd Ward, Senior Pastor*  
*Jim Boratko, Director of Worship Arts*  
*Amanda Bethune, Director of Faith Formation*

† Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

*Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!*