

The Hot Cat Jazz Band consists of:

Ross Tucker, trumpet

Chris Coulter, tenor sax

Tom Boates, trombone

Sonny Landolfi, guitar

Dave Uhl, bass

Sal Ranniello, drums



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

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**

**First Sunday in Lent**

March 9, 2025

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)

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*Rev. Fredd Ward, Senior Pastor*

*Jim Boratko, Director of Worship Arts*

*Amanda Bethune, Director of Faith Formation*

**To Give Online:** <http://www.whfirstchurch.org/giving/give>

## PRELUDE

*Selections*

The Hot Cat Jazz Band

## WELCOME

## †CALL TO WORSHIP

GLEN MACLEOD

One: The voice of God summons us: "Whom shall I send?"

**All: We've come to answer God's call.**

One: Jesus calls us over the tumult saying: "Christian, follow me."

**All: We've come to answer Christ's call.**

One: The Holy Spirit beckons: "Who will be a light to the nations?"

**All: We are here! Send us, we pray!**

## †HYMN 701

[\*Shall We Gather at the River\*](#)

HANSON PLACE

## †OPENING PRAYER

**Holy Mystery, your wisdom is as unfathomable as the deep sea and as alluring as the night sky. When all seems lost, call us from the distraction of daily life. Grant us the will and the wherewithal to hear your call. Give us the grace to embrace your promise of salvation. Help us face our fears, that we might walk steadfastly on our journey of faith. Amen.**

## MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Amanda Bethune

## ANTHEM

*Be the Change*

Laura Farnell

The First Church Choir, Liz Oman-Wilfrid, soloist

## INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

## SCRIPTURE READING

[Luke 5:1-11](#) (NT p. 76)

## †RESPONSE (HYMN 264)

[\*Where the Spirit of the Lord Is\*](#)

ADAMS

**Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love. There is comfort in life's darkest hour, there is light and life, there is help and power in the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.**

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

## SERMON

ABC's

Rev. Fredd

## HYMN 480

[\*I Love to Tell the Story\*](#)

HANKEY

## 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

**Jesus calls us to reach out to our siblings with the good news of God's saving love. Our offerings help to transmit God's Word to the world.**

## OFFERTORY

*What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

arr. Jim Boratko

The First Church Choir, Michelle Gara, soloist

## †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.**

## †PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We have heard your voice, O God. We have been moved by your presence. Send us wherever you would have us go. Use the resources we dedicate here to empower and equip others to bear witness to your love. We recommit ourselves to work and worship in ways that express our great gratitude for life and breath in your blessed name. Amen.**

## †HYMN 673

[\*Down By the Riverside\*](#)

STUDY WAR NO MORE

## BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

*Amen*

The First Church Choir

## POSTLUDE

*When the Saints Go Marchin' In*

The Hot Cat Jazz Band

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!