

REFLECTION

Eleanor Wight

†HYMN 683

[*O for a World*](#)

AZMON

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata and Variation on "Hyfrdol"

Gordon Young



Living in Spirit • Committed to Service • Open to All

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

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Pride Sunday

June 22, 2025

10 o'clock

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

First Church's worship services are live streamed every Sunday downstairs in our church library, the John P. Webster Library. Watch church while your toddler plays in our children's area or if you need a separate place to worship for any other reason.

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

PRELUDE

Prelude in C Minor
I Love You, Lord
(Dedicated to Joan E. Goldstein, 1938-2025)
John Carlo Manigaulte, piano

Frederic Chopin/Manigaulte
Laurie Klein/Hayes and Manigualte

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Elizabeth Oman-Wilfrid

One: O God, you have searched us and known us.
Many: You discern our thoughts from far away.
One: O God, we will listen for your timeless truths.
Many: We will work with one another and walk in your ways.
One: Wonderful are your works, O God.
Many: We are your children. We are wonderfully made.

†HYMN 658

[Restless Weaver](#)

BEACH SPRING

†OPENING PRAYER

Like a skilled crafter, O God, you have shaped each one of us into masterpieces and beautiful works of art. You know us better than we know ourselves. You value us more highly than we can imagine. You weep when we are injured and broken because of our own mistakes or the misdeeds of others. We meet this morning to celebrate and stand in solidarity with our LGBTQ+ siblings. Hear us, we pray. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Amanda Bethune

ANTHEM

By My Side, from Godspell
Nicole Dickinson, Ashley Turner, soloists

Stephen Swartz

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING PART 1: [Psalm 139:1-16 \(OT p.710\)](#)

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

†RESPONSE (HYMN 263)

[Surely the Presence of the Lord](#)

WOLFE

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place; I can feel his mighty power and his grace. I can hear the brush of angels’ wings, I see glory on each face; surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.
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SERMON

Stand!: Short Stories Suitable for Pride Sunday

Rev. Fredd Ward

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.

HYMN 688

[When, in Awe of God’s Creation](#)

HYFRYDOL

CALL TO OFFERING

What we give today symbolizes our gratitude for all that we have and all that we are. May our offerings and our lives be used toward the fulfillment of God’s divine design for humankind.

OFFERTORY

Be a Light
Nicole Dickinson, Ashley Turner, and Maria Soaft

†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.

†OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, you don’t ask us to repay all that we have received from your hands. Yet we want to give our best effort to the work you call us to carry out. With renewed clarity and commitment, we enter the costly venture of sharing love and standing against hatred. Amen.

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!