



Living in Spirit • Committed to Service • Open to All

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 27, 2025
10 o'clock

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

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

Nearer My God, to Thee

BETHANY

Jessica Berube-Sengupta, soloist

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Dawne Quinn

One: God is waiting to call us and claim us as God’s own.

Many: We have come to experience God’s love and mercy.

One: Listen, for God will speak to those who want to hear.

All: We are willing to open ourselves to the source of peace.

One: Turn your hearts and minds toward eternal truth.

Many: We come asking and searching, with both awe and wonder.

†HYMN 684

[We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky](#)

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

†OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, we come as your beloved people to be blessed that we might bless others. We seek the inner strength that comes to us through worship. Take away the noisy clamor and turn us toward the source of our salvation. Grant us a measure of your steadfast love and mercy. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Amanda Bethune

ANTHEM

How Great Thou Art

O STORE GUD

Maria Soaft and Miles Lawrence

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING

[Genesis 18:22b-33\(OT p. 17-18\)](#)

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

HYMN 59

[This Is My Father’s World](#)

TERRA BEATA

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

God’s faithfulness compels us to respond. God’s good gifts call for an expression of thanks. May our offerings symbolize our abounding gratitude.

OFFERTORY

People Get Ready/Waiting on the World to Change

C. Mayfield/J. Mayer

Maria Soaft and Miles Lawrence

†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

Creator God, with these offerings we praise your name and your nature. They represent our investment of time and energy, our commitment to your church. May they spare many from unjust struggle and undue suffering. May they provide bread for body and spirit. Bless and multiply our best efforts, we pray. Amen.

†HYMN 688

[When, in Awe of God’s Creation](#)

HYFRYDOL

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Cuckoo

Louis Claude Daquin

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!