



Living in Spirit • Committed to Service • Open to All

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 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

Suite in G Minor, op. 71:
III. Lento assai

Moritz Moszkowski

River Lee, violin, and Michael Loveland, oboe

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP

One: May our voices rise like trumpets to greet our God.
Many: **May our ears be attuned to hear God’s word.**
One: May our eyes be firmly focused on God.
Many: **May our minds be receptive to God’s wisdom.**
One: God has made us to be salt and light in the world.
Many: **God will surely speak to our hearts during this time of worship.**

Kelly Munro

†HYMN 53

[Morning Has Broken](#)

BUNESSAN

†OPENING PRAYER

God our Guide, aid us in our quest. We long to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We yearn to live with such passion and purpose that our lives may be like a city on a hill, a brilliant beacon for all the world to see. Shine through us this day. Bless our earnest efforts to reflect your glory in all that we say and in all that we do. Amen.

ANTHEM

Abide with Me

EVENTIDE

Jessica Berube-Sengupta and Chuck Berube, soloists

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING

[Matthew 5:13-16 \(NT p.5\)](#)

†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 469

[I Am the Light of the World!](#)

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

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

Blessed are we when we heed God’s instructions and live according to God’s ways. Let us shine for all the world to see, for truly we are the light of the world when our giving reflects the glory of God.

OFFERTORY

The Lamb, from Ten Blake Songs

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Liz Oman-Wilfrid, soprano, and Michael Loveland, oboe

†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

Source of every good gift, we thank you for the light you shine in our lives and for the joy you bring to our hearts. Receive the gifts we bring before you this day, that they may feed those who hunger and free those who are oppressed. Bless this offering and the ministries it supports, that your light may chase away the shadows of despair. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

†HYMN 432

[O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life](#)

ST. PETER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata in A Minor

Jan Peter Sweelinck

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!