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Living in Spirit • Committed to Service • Open to All

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
World Communion Sunday

October 5, 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

Communion

Theodore Dubois

Chorale Prelude on ST. PETER

Paul Bouman

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Kelly Munro

One: The Holy Spirit constantly kindles God’s purpose for our lives.

Many: Grace was given to us in Jesus, our Savior and Shepherd.

One: Jesus triumphed over death.

Many: Jesus also established a new covenant.

One: This is good news, not just for us, but for the world.

Many: Let us worship in thanksgiving and praise.

†HYMN 408

[Come, Share the Lord](#)

DIVERNON

†OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, your table transcends time and space. As your disciples on World Communion Sunday, we join our voices to the praise and prayers being offered from every corner of the globe. Increase our faith and give us grace to love and forgive one another. Help us remember all those who have been injured and whose hearts are broken this day. Help us bear witness to the sorrows and struggles of our siblings around the world. Give us the courage to create connections, in your name and for the sake of all humanity. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Amanda Bethune

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READINGS

[Luke 22:14-20\(NT p.105\)](#)

†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.

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 687

[In Christ There Is No East or West](#)

ST. PETER

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

CALL TO OFFERING

The most extravagant gifts we can bring are never enough to thank God for all that we have received. Yet the smallest offerings we present do not escape God’s notice when we do so with gratitude. Let us give as we are able.

OFFERTORY

Come to the Feast

Hyun Kook

The First Church Choir, Shannon Connolly and Michael Loveland, soloists

†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, purify the intentions of our hearts, as we offer you the works of our hands. May we work tirelessly, until we can confidently say, “We have done only what was ours to do.” May these gifts inspire us to be as generous in our giving and with our forgiveness, as you have been with us. Amen.

†HYMN 393

[One Bread, One Body](#)

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Shalom Chaverim

SHALOM

The First Church Choir

POSTLUDE

Arabesque

Claude Debussy

Michael Loveland, oboe

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!