

POSTLUDE

Kommst du nun, Jesu, vom Himmel herunter BWV 650
("Jesus, are you coming from heaven to earth now?")

J. S. Bach

To attach your hearing aids to our assisted listening system,
download the Sennheiser Mobileconnect App and scan this code:



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.



Living in Spirit • Committed to Service • Open to All

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 12, 2025
10 o'clock

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

FIRST CHURCH WEST HARTFORD

OCTOBER 12, 2025

PRELUDE

Nocturne in E *♭* Major, Op. 9, No. 2
Sonata No. 14, first movement
("Moonlight")

Frederic Chopin
Ludwig von Beethoven

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Elizabeth Oman-Wilfred

One: For the earth, forever turning
Many: **For the skies, for every sea**
One: To our Lord we sing, returning home
Many: **To our blue, green hills of Earth**
One: For the mountains, hills and pastures
Many: **In their silent majesty**
One: For all life, for all of nature
Many: **Sing we our joyful praise to God!**

†HYMN 688

[When in Awe of God's Creation](#)

HYFRYDOL

†OPENING PRAYER

Holy One, we gather to sing your praises! We are grateful for the many ways you make your presence known, especially the sunshine. We give thanks for the gift of this day and for your abiding, all-encompassing Spirit. In this time of worship, deepen our faith. Restore our souls and heal us. After we have spent time with you, send us forth to extend forgiveness everywhere and with everyone we encounter. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM

Canticle to Brother Sun
(From Missa Gaia)
The First Church Choir

Jim Scott & Paul Winter

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING

[Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7, 10-14](#) (OT p.894-895)

† 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

Let the Sunshine

Rev. Fredd Ward

HYMN 566

[Be Still My Soul](#)

FINLANDIA

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 has done amazing things in our lives! Now is the time to offer our gratitude for the blessings we have received. With thanks and praise, let us offer our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY

The Blue Green Hills of Earth
The First Church Choir, Nicole Dickinson, soloist

Kim Oler

†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

Gracious God, we give thanks for the blessings we have received and for the plans you have for our future wellbeing. Bless these gifts, that they may bring to fruition the divine designs you have in mind for our neighbors in need. Amen.

†HYMN 561

[It Is Well with My Soul](#)

VILLE DU HAVRE

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Shalom Chaverim
The First Church Choir

SHALOM

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!