

†HYMN 679 [God the Omnipotent!](#) Russian hymn

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Amen* Richard Smallwood  
The First Church Choir

POSTLUDE *Fugue in D Minor, BWV 539* J. S. Bach

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First Church of Christ Congregational  
12 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT 06107  
(860) 233-9605  
[www.whfirstchurch.org](http://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**  
**Transfiguration Sunday**

February 15, 2026  
10 o'clock

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

PRELUDES *Prelude in D Minor, BWV 539* J. S. Bach

*Jubilance* Kevin McChesney  
The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director

## WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP Nina Lawrence

One: Mighty God, we have heard your summons to ascend into your presence.

**Many: We hold onto hope as we wait for answers and assurances from you.**

One: Speak to our hearts and minds, O God,

**Many: that we might face our fears about the fate of humankind.**

One: Speak to our hearts and minds, O God,

**Many: that our anxieties about the state of the world might be transfigured.**

†HYMN 709 [\*Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken\*](#) AUSTRIAN HYMN

## †OPENING PRAYER

**Reveal to us your glory, O God. As you spoke to your servant Moses on Mount Sinai, speak to us now during this hour of worship. As you affirmed Christ's identity to his disciples on the mountain top, remind us who we are and whose we are. Transform us with your glory, that our souls might shine your light into a world shrouded in darkness. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

ANTHEM *With Praises Ring* Barbara B Kinyon  
The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director

## INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READINGS [Exodus 24:12-18 \(OT p.87-88\)](#)  
[Matthew 17:1-7 \(NT p.22-23\)](#)

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

†RESPONSE ([HYMN 264](#)) *Where the Spirit of the Lord Is* ADAMS

**Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace.**

**Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.**

**There is comfort in life's darkest hour, there is light and life, there is help and power in the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.**

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SERMON *Can You Hear God Clearly in Cloudy Conditions?* Rev. Fredd Ward

HYMN 575 [Come and Find the Quiet Center](#) BEECH SPRING

## 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

Our giving is a symbol of our willingness to invest our energy and our best efforts to bring God's inclusive vision for humanity to life. Let us give with glad hearts.

OFFERTORY *Total Praise* Richard Smallwood  
The First Church Choir

## †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, even when the darkness seems to win the day, you bless us with your love – it never ends. Take the gifts we bring before you and transform them, so that others may perceive your power working in and through these troubling times and cloudy conditions. Illuminate our very lives, that our souls may reflect the glory of Jesus and bring his hope wherever we go. Amen.**

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!