†OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, may the gifts we bring this day be nourishment for a hungry world, shelter for those in peril, and restoration for those who have been injured. Bless these offerings, that they may meet the needs that are within our reach and the needs that are beyond our sight. With gratitude, we pray. Amen.

†HYMN 715	*Now Thank We All Our God*	NUN DANKET
BENEDICTION		
BENEDICTION RESPONSE	*Thank You, Lord* The First Church Choir	SPIRITUAL
POSTLUDE	*Sinfonina from Cantata No. 79*	J. S. BACH

We welcome the following players this morning in our Trombone Choir:
Jeffrey Grubin, Daniel Schwartz, Jason Berry, Claudia Diaz, Keith J Griswold, Chris Schrock, Jeff Erdmann, Gabriel Leardi, Michael Bryenton, Bob Ball. Andrew Janes, and Mitchum Mangan

First Church of Christ Congregational
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WEST HARTFORD

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SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

November 22, 2026
10 o'clock

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

FIRST CHURCH WEST HARTFORD **NOVEMBER 22, 2026**

PRELUDES *The Hymn Of Acxiom* VIENNA TANG
Praise and Thanksgiving SIGFRIED KARG-ELERT
The First Church Trombone Choir

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP RACHAEL PROTOS

Leader: Shout for joy to God, all the earth. Serve God with gladness; come before God with joyful songs!

People: We come to this space to celebrate, to sing, and to rejoice in God's presence, especially in adverse conditions.

Leader: Acknowledge that God is our Maker and Shepherd.

People: We rest as the sheep of God's pasture, protected by God's care.

Leader: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.

People: God is good all the time! God's love is everlasting, and God's faithfulness spans all generations. Let us worship God together!

†HYMN 276 *We Gather Together* KREMSER

†OPENING PRAYER

Gracious God, this Thanksgiving Sunday we come to make a joyful noise -- congregation and trombone choir together. We come before you with gladness and enter your gates with gratitude. Thank you for your constant care and your provision, especially in the face of adversity and difficulty. Your steadfast love endures forever, and your faithfulness has endured through every age and stage of life. Touch our hearts and tune our voices to your glory as we worship. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AMANDA BETHUNE

ANTHEM *Chorale* RODNEY MILLER
The First Church Trombone Choir

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

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 100

†RESPONSE 33 *How Great Thou Art* O STORE GUD

Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
How great thou art, how great thou art!

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SERMON *Thanks for Nothing?* rev.fredd

HYMN 714 *For the Fruit of All Creation* AR HYD Y NOS

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

As the sheep of God's fold, we have received goodness and grace from God's hand. Let us show our gratitude as we make our morning offering – an offering that empowers Christ's ministry of mercy and compassion.

OFFERTORY *All Blessings Flow* ARR. ANDREW MILLS
The First Church Choir

†DOXOLOGY 46 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments following the service!