

OCTOBER 12, 2025

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WELCOME, ALL WORSHIPERS

WHOEVER YOU ARE,  
AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE’S JOURNEY,  
*YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.*

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“JESUS SAID, “LISTEN TO ANOTHER PARABLE. THERE WAS A LANDOWNER WHO PLANTED A
VINEYARD, PUT A FENCE AROUND IT, DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A WATCHTOWER.
THEN HE LEASED IT TO TENANTS AND WENT TO ANOTHER COUNTRY.” MATTHEW 21:33
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(\*) INDICATES WHEN THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.

PRELUDE:

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK AS IT IS PASSED DURING ANNOUNCEMENTS; THEN PASS  
IT TOWARD THE CENTER AISLE.)

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

A TIME OF REFLECTION

\*OPENING HYMN: #290 SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART (ALL VERSES)  
GEORGE CROLY, 1854; ALT.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE) LAY READER, LORI MAYER

LEADER: DO NOT FEAR, O PEOPLE OF GOD.

ALL: FIRES OF INJUSTICE AND RISING WATERS OF SORROW THREATEN THIS WORLD.

LEADER: YET YOU ARE PRECIOUS IN GOD’S SIGHT, A REDEEMED PEOPLE.

ALL: GOD GATHERS US FROM THE NORTH AND SOUTH, THE EAST AND WEST; LET US WORSHIP.

\*OPENING PRAYER (UNISON)

ALL: LOVING GOD, ASSURANCES OF YOUR STEADFASTNESS HAVE COME THROUGH THE WORDS  
OF THE PROPHETS. GRATITUDE AND JOY ARISE WITHIN US AND SPILL FORTH IN PRAISE. EVERY  
CLAIM MADE OF YOUR CONSTANCY IS GOOD NEWS TO OUR EARS. EVERY SUCH CLAIM  
DEMONSTRATES YOUR LOVE. AMEN.

\*THE GLORIA PATRI (SUNG)

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER, AND TO THE SON, AND TO THE HOLY GHOST; AS IT WAS IN THE  
BEGINNING, IS NOW, AND EVER SHALL BE, WORLD WITHOUT END. AMEN.

WORDS: ANONYMOUS, 4TH CENTURY. MUSIC: HENRY GRETOREX. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE LESSON: MATTHEW 21:33-46

SERMON: “LOVE SO AMAZING”

REV. DICK HOTCHKIN

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

\*HYMN: #52 THERE IS A NAME I LOVE TO HEAR (ALL VERSES)  
FREDERICK WHITFIELD, 1855; ALT.

SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

LEADER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.  
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.  
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.  
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.  
WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR  
JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD’S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.

\*CLOSING HYMN: #506 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS (ALL VERSES)  
JOSEPH SCRIVEN, 1855; ALT.

\*BENEDICTION

\*UNISON RESPONSE:  
AND GOD WILL RAISE YOU UP ON EAGLE’S WINGS, BEAR YOU ON THE BREATH OF DAWN, MAKE  
YOU TO SHINE LIKE THE SUN, AND HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF GOD’S HAND. AMEN.

POSTLUDE

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS  
WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING’S WORSHIP MINISTRY

USHERS: PENNY ANDERSON & GARY JARMUZEWSKI  
GREETER: ANN DIAMOND  
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: BILL & DOTTIE HAASE

ALTAR GUILD: DEB DESIMONE  
LAY READER: LORI MAYER  
COUNTER: ASHLEY WEDGE

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

|          |            |          |                        |
|----------|------------|----------|------------------------|
| SUNDAY   | OCTOBER 12 | 10:00 AM | WORSHIP SERVICE        |
| MONDAY   | OCTOBER 13 | 5:30 PM  | BOARD MEETING          |
| THURSDAY | OCTOBER 16 | 5:30 PM  | CHOIR REHEARSAL        |
| FRIDAY   | OCTOBER 17 | 10:30 AM | CLASS: WISDOM OF FAITH |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN BY THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE WITH LOVE AND THANKSGIVING FOR GOD’S BLESSINGS.
- ❖ THE LAST WISDOM OF FAITH CLASS WILL BE HELD THIS WEEK ON FRIDAY AT 10:30 A.M. IN THE UPSTAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.
- ❖ PLAN NOW FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE GREAT WORLD RELIGIONS CLASS FACILITATED BY REV. GENE BACON WILL RESUME ON OCTOBER 24TH AND RUN FOR SEVENTEEN WEEKS. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.
- ❖ FELLOWSHIP HOSTS ARE NEEDED FOR DECEMBER. PLEASE SIGN-UP ON THE SCHEDULE IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY IF YOU CAN HELP.
- ❖ UPCOMING DATES TO NOTE: CIDER FEST (OCTOBER 19), THANKSGIVING POTLUCK (NOVEMBER 9TH) AND HOLIDAY LUNCHEON (DECEMBER 7TH).
- ❖ THE AREA FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF: TUNA, HAMBURGER & CHICKEN HELPERS; BOXED POTATOES (AU GRATIN, SCALLOPED, CHEESEY); RAVIOLI, SPAGHETTIOS & BEEFARONI; CANS OF CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP. PLEASE USE THE BAGS ON THE TABLE IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY FOR YOUR SHOPPING NEEDS.
- ❖ PLEASE CHECK FOR CARDS AND CARE LETTERS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED, SHOWN ON THE INTERNET, AS THEY ARE HAPPENING AND RECORDED FOR VIEWING ONLINE LATER. PEOPLE IN THE SANCTUARY ATTENDING THE SUNDAY SERVICE MAY BE SEEN AS PART OF THE LIVE-STREAM AND RECORDING.

A UNISEX HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM IS LOCATED THROUGH THE DOORS TO YOUR LEFT AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY. A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE LADIES RESTROOM IS NEAR THE LOCKWOOD STREET ENTRANCE. A MEN’S ROOM IS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 12, 2025

As an Open and Affirming congregation,  
we welcome people as they are,  
share Jesus as He is, and serve  
our community and the world in love.



The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Hotchkin, Transition Minister  
The Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus  
Organist & Choir Director: Kat Tomaszewski  
Office Administrator: Leslie Reynolds  
Treasurer: Denise Fusina  
Custodian: Mike LaMarre

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