



### **Our Mission and Vision Statement:**

***We are a church where all are welcome to worship together, to share in fellowship and to grow spiritually in our journey with Christ. We value justice, diversity, and freedom of expression. We strive to serve our community and all God's creation and to spread the love of God to all people.***

**Welcome members, friends, and visitors to our service this morning!** If you are a guest with us in worship, we invite you to sign our guest register and/or fill out a visitor card. Activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary for children who are with us in worship. Sunday school is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

### **Prayer Requests**

Would you like to ask for prayers for someone? You may write your request in the red prayer book on the table located in the back of the sanctuary. A deacon will share them with the pastor. Please see a deacon with any questions.

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***First Congregational Church of West Brookfield***

***36 N. Main Street***

***PO Box 371***

***West Brookfield, MA 01585***

***508-867-7078***

***[FCCWBWorship@gmail.com](mailto:FCCWBWorship@gmail.com)***

***[Westbrookfieldcongregationalucc.org](http://Westbrookfieldcongregationalucc.org)***

***Rev. Dennis TeBeest - 201-390-5548***

***[dtebeest109@gmail.com](mailto:dtebeest109@gmail.com)***

# *The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield United Church of Christ*

*March 23, 2025*

*10 a.m.*



**The Third Sunday in Lent  
Order of Worship**

Congregational Announcements

Karen Murphy

Pastoral Greeting

Prelude and Candle Lighting

*Words in **bold** are to be spoken in unison.*

☒ *Please stand as you are able.*

Call to Worship

Karen Murphy

If you come in certainty or in confusion, in anger or in anguish,

**This time is for us.**

If you come in silent suffering or hidden sorrow, pain or promise,

**This time is for us.**

If you come for your own or another's need,  
for a private wound or the wound of the world,

**This time is for us.**

If you come, and do not know why, to be here is enough.

**This time is for us all.**

Come now, Christ of the forgiving warmth.

Come now, Christ of the yearning tears.

Come now, Christ of the transforming touch.

**This time is for You.**

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Karen Murphy

**God, we open our lives to you, and ask you to shine your holy  
light into the darkest corners of our lives:**

**-the places where we've hidden our pain so deeply that it can't  
be eased,**

**-the places in our hearts that we've hardened to the pain of  
others.**

**Forgive us for forgetting we are not alone, for thinking that  
our strength is our own, for complaining about our trials and  
forgetting our blessings, for criticizing and never saying "it is  
well and good." We pray all this in the name of our crucified  
and resurrected Savior, Jesus Christ.**

Open and Affirming Testimonial

Stephanie Beland

☒ Hymn "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant " #391

Call to Offering and Offertory Music

*(Offering plates are in the front and rear of the sanctuary for your gifts;  
you may place them in the plates during the music)*

☒ Doxology # 34 (Old 100th)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore;**

**One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

Blessing of Offering

Youth Message

Scripture Readings 1 John 4:7-21

Karen Murphy

Acts 8:26-40

Response: **Word of God, Word of Life.**

**Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

Stephen Page

Sermon "All We Need Is Love" The Rev. Dennis TeBeest

☒ Hymn "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #61

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

The 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 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" #712

Benediction

*(please be seated)*

Postlude

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Church Office Reminder:**

The deadline for the April issue of our church newsletter, *Glad Tidings* is **TODAY!**. Remember to send your information to Bonni at [fccwbworship@gmail.com](mailto:fccwbworship@gmail.com). Thanks!

### **Asparagus Festival - May 17th**

W. Brookfield's Flower, Asparagus and Heritage Festival is just around the corner! Your planning committee has planned their first meeting for Sunday, March 30th following our service. If you have thoughts about last year's chowder and or the food tent please share with a member of the committee. *And please watch the April newsletter to see how you can help your church carry out this fun and important fundraiser in May!*

Festival Committee: Linda Barron, Angela Carville, JoAnn Bakulski, Karen & Mike Murphy, Karen Andersen, Wally & Terry Hall

### **Pictures of the Church**

I am looking for pictures of the church in different seasons for the bulletins, newsletters and website. If you have any to share, please send them to [fccwbworship@gmail.com](mailto:fccwbworship@gmail.com). Thank you. Bonni.

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