

The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield


United Church of Christ



May 25, 2025
10 a.m.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER
ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

 *Please stand as you are able.*

Congregational Announcements

Terry Hall

Pastoral Greeting

Prelude and Candle Lighting

Call to Worship

Mary Deotte

We gather to worship together,

Different people, different lives, different histories,

Yet all children of the same Parent,

Created lovingly by the Source of all life!

We gather to reconnect with one another,

Different people, different lives, different histories,

Yet all disciples of one Teacher.

Jesus, the Word made flesh, dwelling among us.

We gather with different joys and sorrows, hopes and fears,

Different people, different lives, different histories,

Yet one people with one God, one faith, one baptism.

Let us open ourselves to the presence of God at work

in us, among us, and through us.

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Mary Deotte

Living God, long ago faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever.

You sent Paul forth to preach the gospel and called women to the place of prayer on the Sabbath. Grant that we may also be found responsive to your word and open to go where you lead us. Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be bold, our love deep, and our faith true. Amen.

 Hymn “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

#48

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

Acts 16:9-15

Mary Deotte

John 14:23-29

Response: **Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

Stephen Page

Sermon

"Is the Cross Still There?"

Rev. Dennis TeBeest

 Hymn "Come Down, O Love Divine"

#330

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 "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

#728

(please remain standing for the benediction)

 Benediction

(please be seated)

Postlude



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, 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.

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.

Glad Tidings Deadline is tomorrow Monday, May 26th.

Cover image: Lydia of Thyatira, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56895> [retrieved May 19, 2025].
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