

The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield

United Church of Christ



November 23 2025

10 a.m.

REFLECT

"All people wondered to see the water turned into wine. Every day, the earth's moisture being drawn into the root of a vine, is turned by the grape into wine, and no one wonders. Full of wonder then are all the things which we never think to wonder at."

-- Pope Saint Gregory the Great--

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY
ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

 *Please stand as you are able.*

Congregational Announcements

Pastoral Greeting

Prelude and Candle Lighting

Stephen Page

Opening Our Worship with Hope and Thanksgiving

Wyatt St. Germain

Leader: The world blares out: bigger, stronger, greater.

All: And we wonder why we feel smaller, weaker, less.

Leader: We look around at others and see newer, smarter, more together.

All: We look inside ourselves and fear we are not enough.

Leader: We come today to seek Your presence;

All: To be reminded that throughout every struggle, You are with us.

Leader: You see us, God, in all our frailty. You know us, God, in all our failings.

All: And yet you love us, God. And with care and compassion, you hold us close. In that love we rejoice and give thanks.

 **Hymn**

"Come, Ye Thankful People Come"

#721

The Psalter (from *Psalms for Praying*, by Nan C. Merrill)

Psalm 100

Thanksgiving Day: A Modern Psalm

Leader: How easy to praise You, Beloved One, for abundance,
for cups brim filled;

All: How can we not delight in Your majesty, Your endless blessings to us.

Leader: How simple our thanks, Beloved One, for laden tables,
for gathered families,

All: Shoulders touching in the intimacy of the meal You have spread before us.

Leader: Teach us to thank and bless Your name,

All: When cups are empty and thirst is great; Put our hands together to replenish, finding blessing in tiny sips.

Leader: Beloved One, to thank and bless You,

All: We find hope in uncertainty and triumph in shaky steps. We recreate abundance for Your sake. Amen.

Prayer Hymn

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

#477

Prayers of the People Sharing Concerns, Joys ~ Pastoral Prayer

~ 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.

A Reading from the Prophets

Jeremiah 23:1-6

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

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)

 **A Doxology for Thanksgiving**

Tune: # 34 (Old 100th)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ and Spirit one. Amen.**

Youth Message

Special Music

Stephen Page

Sermon

“The Habit of Hope”

Rev. Doug Williamson

 **Hymn**

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

#722

 **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.

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