

*The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield*

*United Church of Christ*



**January 25 2026; 10 a.m.**

**REFLECT**

The longer I live, the more deeply I learn that love – whether we call it friendship or family or romance – is the work of mirroring and magnifying each other’s light.

**- James Baldwin**

**THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
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

 **A Call to Worship**

Wyatt St. Germain & Karen Murphy

Leader: Children of God, when fears press in on every side, we can proclaim with confidence:

**All: God is our light and salvation! Whom shall we fear?**

Leader: When our problems overwhelm us and we feel pressed in on every side, we can declare with confidence:

**All: God is the stronghold of our lives! Of whom shall we be afraid?**

Leader: No matter the troubles we face, we seek after God and to live in the house of God forever.

**All: God shelters and protects us in the day of trouble.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God with joy, for God is our light and salvation!

**All: We come to worship as bearers of the Light. Thanks be to God!**

 **Hymn**

“Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult”

#345

**A Prayer for Illumination**

Leader: Let us unite our voices in prayer:

**All: God of epiphanies, you reveal yourself to us in diverse and numerous ways. Free us from the distractions that turn our focus away from you and your Word. Open us to the truth you reveal to us today. Amen**

**A Reading from the Prophets**

Isaiah 9:1-4

**A Reading from the Gospel**

Matthew 4:12-23

Reader: May God bless our hearing and understanding of this

reading from our sacred texts.

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

**Prayer Hymn** (please remain seated)

“Spirit Song”

**#352**

**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.***

**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**

**Tune: #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.**

**Youth Message**

**Special Music**

Stephen Page

**Sermon**

“To Serve the Present Age”

Rev. Doug Williamson

✠ **Hymn**

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”

**#575**

✠ **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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