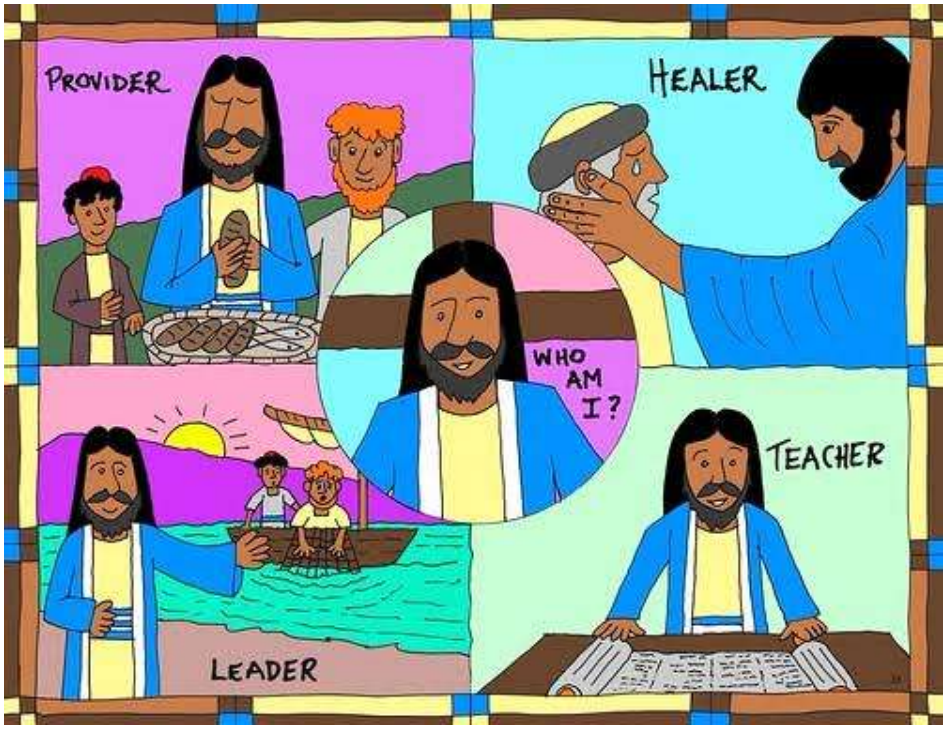
The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield

United Church of Christ



October 25, 2026; 10 a.m.

REFLECT

Give thanks to God!
Celebrate God's steadfast love and faithfulness.
Sing of the ways of God, for God is magnificent!

--An invitation to worship based upon Psalm 138*;* by Ana Gobledale of the UK—

TWENTYSECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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**

Gathering for Worship (adapted from Psalm 138) **Angela Carville**

Leader: We gather to praise God.
All: We praise God with all our being.
Leader: When we call for help, God answers.
All: We rejoice that God grants us strength and courage.

Leader: When we are surrounded by trouble and confusion,
All: We trust God to shelter us from harm.
Leader: God's love will never fail.
All: God's love lasts forever.
Leader: Let us worship God together.

An Opening Hymn **"**Gather Us In" **#649**

A Stewardship Moment **Karen Murphy**

A Reading from the Psalms **Psalm 138**

A Responsive Prayer

Leader: Creator God, Maker of heaven and earth, we gather together in Your name.
All: We come as living sacrifices, to offer You our worship and thanksgiving, our praise and our prayers.
Leader: Come among us, Living God,
All: Through the power of Your Holy Spirit, transform our hearts and minds so that we may recognize Your presence, hear Your voice, know Your will, and walk in Your way. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Teacher, Brother, Friend, and Savior. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospel **Matthew 16:13-20**

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

Affirming Our Faith Together

Pastor: Let us affirm our faith in one voice:

All: Jesus Christ, brother of Light, we believe.
We believe that in the beginning was the Promise, and the Promise was with God and the Promise was God. We believe in the infinite, nurturing creativity of God, in the incarnate, crucified humility of God, in the intimate, inspiring benevolence of God.
Jesus Christ, brother of Light, we believe.

Prayer Hymn "He Came Singing Love" **#454**

(please feel free to remain seated)

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

Music for Reflection and Inspiration **Stephen Page**

Sermon "Peter's Confession—and Ours" **Rev. Doug Williamson**

A Closing Hymn "Pass It On" **#557**

Benediction (after which, please be seated for the postlude)

Postlude

Our *Covenant of Welcome*

We, the members of the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, are a people of faith, following Jesus and sharing God's abundant love, believing each of us is created in God's image. We seek to demonstrate God's love through respect and care for one another. We celebrate and learn from differences in race, culture, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, economic and political background, and physical and cognitive challenges. We welcome those who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, or are seekers in their spiritual lives. All are invited to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry and mission of this church as we strive to grow in a safe and nurturing community of faith. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

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.

First Congregational Church of West Brookfield
36 N. Main Street
PO Box 371
West Brookfield, MA 01585

508-867-7078 ***FCCWBWorship@gmail.com***

Westbrookfieldcongregationalucc.org

https://www.youtube.com/@FirstCongregationalChurchofW.B

Rev. Dr. Doug Williamson – 913-387-9947
djwnscaa@gmail.com
P.O. Box 74, Barre, MA 01005