



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield  
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

549 Storrs Rd. P.O. Box 36 Mansfield Center, CT 06250

860.423.9008 + [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)

Ministers: All the Members of the Church

Organist: Erik Haeger

Worship Circle Coordinator: Olivia Russell

**Today's Worship Leader: James Mercurio**

**August 18, 2024 ~ The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B**

**Welcome to Our Guests!**

*We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...  
if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!*

**Playing the Chimes and Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

(Source: UCC.org)

Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in the congregation.

**God's works delight us, inspire us, challenge us, and uphold us.**

Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in the congregation.

**Righteousness endures forever. The covenant is everlasting.**

Praise the Holy One! Give thanks to God in the congregation.

**Honoring God leads to wisdom. Let us praise the Holy One forever!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

*Gather Us In*

CH284

**Pastoral Invocation and Introduction for passing the peace**

Holy God, we come together in your presence to offer our worship, thanksgiving, and praise. We are reminded of your covenant and look for the reminders of your abiding/steadfast presence. In this time together and in our daily lives, envelop us in your glory, strengthen us to confront the weariness of the world, challenge us to spread the good news in our dealings, and empower us to be the church you have created us to be.

**Amen.**

**\*Passing the Peace**

Let us welcome our church family and our neighbors

The peace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, is with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us share with one another a sign of that peace.

**Psalter**

Psalm 34:9-14 (NRSV)

*Seeking God*

O fear the LORD, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want. The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing. Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you



## Call to Prayer

*Hear Us O Lord*

Don Besig and Nancy Price

9 Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou- bles, and our cares.  
Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

## Pastoral Prayer, Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

Holy God, we seek to find wisdom from your word, your presence, and in your way. Help us to follow the path of love, community, and sharing. Open our awareness to the unmet needs in our community and the ways we may meet them. Open our compassion to notice those who too often go without being acknowledged. Open our schedules to be present to your Spirit, our neighbors, and ourselves. Fill us with wisdom, peace, and hope to move boldly toward new life and the fullness of joy.

We are mindful of those not with us, but remain in our hearts, for those that are oppressed, distressed and wrestling with illness.

*During the Prayers of the People, you are invited to come forward to light a candle as a sign of your own prayers. You may say your prayers aloud at the microphone, or remain silent, allowing the candle to speak for you.*

Today we pray for those mentioned and for those we did not but remain in our hearts. We hold them in our hearts in prayer seeking your interventions and your wisdom.

We pray this in the words we have been taught.

*Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is comfortable for you.*

*The following are offered as examples...*

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,  
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/sins/trespasses,  
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Generosity

Financial offerings may be placed in the collection plates as they come around,  
or mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. PO Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250,  
or given online at [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)

## Musical Offering

*Love, Serve, and Remember*  
Offered by Cheryl Chase and Laurel Thurman

John Astin

**\*Doxology**

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be low; Praise  
5  
God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Generous and Wise God, you give freely and we receive freely. Sow in us discernment, understanding, and wisdom to be good stewards of the bounty we receive and the resources we have earned. Let us treat them all as gifts to be shared so that none will be in want or need to live full and abundant lives.**

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Ours the Journey*

CH458

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude**

**\*please stand in body or in spirit, as you are able**