



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

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Ministers: All the Members of the Church
Rev. Don Erickson, Pastor
Erik Haeger, Organist
Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator
Mandy Boukus, Office Assistant

January 25, 2026

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Erik Haeger

Silent Prayer for Transformation (a moment to pause, reflect, and renew)

Words of Grace

Your grace means we're free to start again, O God. May this very moment, pervaded by your presence, be a moment of renewal. You are here, now with us, and all is well. Amen.

Centering in the Spirit from Oliver Wendell Holmes

Alex Hewes

Lord of all being, [light] afar,
your glory flames from sun and star;
center and soul of every sphere,
yet to each loving heart how near!
Sun of our life, your quickening ray
sheds on our path the glow of day;
Star of our hope, your softened light
cheers the long watches of the night...

Lord of all life, below, above,
whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,
before your ever-blazing throne
we ask no luster of ours [alone].

Grant us your truth to make us free,
and kindling hearts that [divinely see],
till all your living altars claim
one holy light, one heavenly flame.

*Opening Hymn

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

CH 251

Psalm

Psalm 46

*Song of Praise

Glory to God

Paul Vasile

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has
 World without end, world without end, A-men. World without end, world without
 par - doned me, and to the Spir - it whose love has set me free! As it
 end, A - men. World without end, world without end, A - men.
 was in the be-ginning, is now and ev-er shall be, A - men.

Gospel

Luke 6:12-16 / Matthew 14:12-14

Meditation

The Marks of Our Thriving Church: Contemplation

Rev. Don Erickson

Meditative Reflection

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price

A musical score for a hymn. The top line shows a treble clef, a '4' in a circle (common time), and a melody consisting of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are: 'Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou-bles, and our cares.' The number '9' is written to the left of the first note. The bottom line shows a continuation of the melody with a treble clef, a '4' in a circle, and the lyrics: 'Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.'

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

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 *help us yield not to*/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

Offertory

Erik Haeger

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be low; Praise
 5 God for all that love has done: Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen!

***Prayer of Dedication (in unison)**

Steadfast Light of our salvation, in a world that trembles with uncertainty and teaches us to fear, you shine with unwavering hope. You call us to seek your face and trust in your presence more than in our own strength. Receive these gifts, given not out of fear but in joyful confidence that your love casts out fear and your grace makes us bold. Use our offerings to build a world where your light leads, your justice reigns, and your people—unafraid—become living testimonies of your goodness.

***Closing Hymn**

Be Thou My Vision

CH 595

***Closing Words**

***Passing the Peace**

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.

Postlude

Our greeter this morning is Sharon Foster-Chalecki

Our cantor is Laurel Thurman

Coffee Hour is hosted by Deb Richards

THE WEEK AHEAD...

TODAY

11:15 a.m. Congregational Meeting

3:00 p.m. Take Note potluck and rehearsal

Wednesday, January 28

1:00 p.m. Book Group

5:00 p.m. Meditation Group

Thursday, January 29

10:00 a.m. Coffee with Rev Don (Price Chopper food court)