

~ Psalm 23



*An Open and Affirming Congregation of
The United Church of Christ*

**Order of Worship for
JULY 18, 2021, 10:00am**

***Welcome to IN-PERSON and Online Worship at Center Church!
We are delighted that you are here today.***

Worshippers at the Meeting House:

- Are required to wear masks, even while singing
 - Must maintain social distance protocols
- Will not leave their pews during Passing the Peace of Christ
- Can wave or use another non-physical gesture to Pass the Peace

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CENTER CHURCH. Whether you are joining us in-person or virtually, we are glad you are here with us for this service of worship and the fellowship of this congregation. We hope that you will be both comforted and challenged by the Word of God for us today. If you are new to our community, we hope you will consider making this your church home. Any of our worship leaders or ushers will be able to help with your questions. If you are already a member, be sure to extend a friendly greeting to those around you, starting with someone you don't know...yet.

*Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices
before the service of Worship begins.*

CHIMES

ORGAN PRELUDE:

The Heaven's Declare the Glory of God

B. Marcello

WELCOME to Center Church!

CALL TO WORSHIP *:

One: As God is our shepherd, we need nothing else.

All: We rest in green pastures and walk by still waters, which renews and refreshes our spirits.

One: God guides us along paths of righteousness

All: And walks with us through shadowed valleys so we are not afraid.

The shepherd's staff comforts us.

All: God set the banquet table for us in the presence of our enemies.

There, we're anointed with oil and our cup overflows.

All: Goodness and mercy shall never depart from us as long as we dwell in the house of God.

INVOCATION*:

Caring and Gracious God, you are the shepherd who gathers us together today to celebrate with grateful thanksgiving the community in which we live. We are nourished by its diversity, brought about by the unique gifts each person contributes. Be with us in this time of worship and encourage us to never cease welcoming the strangers we meet and accepting the gifts they bring. Grant that they will enrich our lives and will be a reminder of the joy that comes when all will be one in you. Amen.

OPENING HYMN:

NCH 386 The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE: *If attending in person, please stay in your pews and wave*

ANTHEM:

THE SUMMER CHOIR

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE:

2 Samuel 7: 1-14a (NRSV)

NEWTESTAMENT SCRIPTURE:

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

SERMON:

A House Is Not A Home If...

The Rev. Edwin Perez, Jr.

HYMN:

Sanctuary

Randy Scruggs and John W. Thompson

Lord, pre-prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving I'll be a living
Sanctuary for ____ You.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**THE 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 also have forgiven 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.

CLOSING HYMN:

NCH 400 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

REGENT SQUARE

BENEDICTION**CHOIR POSTLUDE:**

Halle, Halle Hallelujah

Caribbean Melody

Our thanks to everyone who created today's service.

Go in peace!

IN CASE OF FIRE OR OTHER EMERGENCY

Exit swiftly by the nearest safe door - two exits are located near the pulpit, and three exits are located at the rear of the sanctuary.

Help people around you who may have children or mobility challenges.

Call 911. Don't assume someone else has already done so!


Move to the Church House (corner of Gold & Lewis), so we can be sure everyone is accounted for.

Center Church News & Announcements

Subscribe to our E-News newsletter for up-to-date news and happenings at Center Church:

<https://centerchurchhartford.org/>
<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/OzymYij/CenterChurch>

And, don't forget to follow us on FB!

 [\(860\) 249-5631](tel:(860)249-5631)

 INFO@CCHARTFORD.ORG

 [FACEBOOK](https://www.facebook.com/centerchurchhartford)

LARGE-PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ~ PLEASE REQUEST FROM AN USHER.

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING Congregation. "We include into full participation in the life of this church persons of any age, race, economic status, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and physical, emotional and mental capacity" (from the statement adopted October 23, 1994.) In recognition of the richness of backgrounds of our congregation, a **DIVERSITY OF LANGUAGES** will find expression in our worship services. Center Church offers an **OPEN COMMUNION**. Adults and children from all religious backgrounds are invited to partake. **TEXT ALERTS** To receive text alerts regarding church activities and cancellations, please text the word CENTER to (860) 300-3697. (Message and data rates may apply according to your data plan.)

FACEBOOK LIVE We livestream our worship services on Facebook each week, and your presence here constitutes your permission for your image to be shown. If you prefer not to be seen, speak with the minister or whoever is operating the phone up front to determine where a good seat might be to avoid the camera. Our viewership is growing and we are excited to welcome a congregation in cyberspace!

FREE PARKING is available during Sunday Worship Services at the Travelers Plaza Garage off Prospect Street (next to the Hartford Club.) The garage closes at 1:00pm (12:00pm during Summer services). On-street parking is also available on Gold Street and on the west side of Lewis Street, and is FREE on Sundays.

REST ROOMS are located in the basement of the Meeting House. Please use the stairs in the southeast corner of the building. For safety, please have an adult accompany your child to the restroom.

CHURCH SCHOOL is held at the Church House (60 Gold Street) for preschool to 12th Grade. Children are to remain with their families in the Meeting House during worship until they depart for Church School following the Children's Moment. Please pick your child up promptly at 12:00pm. For their safety, children will remain with their Church School instructor until an adult picks them up. Church School is not held during the Summer.

CHILDCARE and NURSERY care are provided by trained, capable, and nurturing staff and volunteers, and is available in the Meeting House basement for infants and toddlers (up to two years of age.) A nursery without staff is also located on the second floor of the Church House.

CURRENT SUNDAY ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASSES Announcements regarding Adult Education classes are announced in our publications.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS to the sanctuary is via the lift outside at the south end of the portico. If possible, please call the church office in advance for assistance in using the lift.

Please feel free to confer with a minister regarding our **INQUIRER'S CLASSES** for **POTENTIAL MEMBERS, BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS** or **COMMITMENT CEREMONIES**. The latest issue of **CENTER CHURCH E-NEWS** is available on our church website. If you would like a paper copy mailed to you, please contact Sioux Wilusz.



**WELCOME TO
CENTER CHURCH!**

Would you like to learn more?

Have our pastor contact you?

Interested in volunteering?

*Please fill out this form →
and drop it in the offering plate.*

*We look forward to speaking
with you!*

Center Church

The First Church of Christ in Hartford
Member of
The United Church of Christ

Welcome!
¡Bienvenidos!

- I am searching for a church home, and would like more information about Center Church.
- I would like to learn how I can help with the ministries of Center Church.
- I would like the minister to contact me.

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone # _____

Email Address _____

**Please fill out this card and
place it in the offering plate.**



THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN HARTFORD

A member of the United Church of Christ (UCC)

CENTER CHURCH, 60 Gold Street, Hartford, CT 06103

Office Hours: Tuesday thru Friday, 8:30am to 3:30pm

Library Hours: by appointment.

P 860.249.5631 * F 860.246.3915 * www.centerchurchhartford.org

Interim Minister: The Reverend Dr. Donique McIntosh (ext. 202)

Minister Emeritus: The Reverend J. Alan McLean

Director of Music/Organist: Robert F. Gilbert (ext. 204)

Sunday School Administrator: Ileia Belton (ext. 210)

Church Office Manager: Sioux Wilusz (ext. 209)

Bookkeeper: Brenda Russell (ext. 201)

Sextons: Thomas St. Amant and Ileia Belton

Sunday Meals Program Coordinator: Carrie Howe

Nursery Care: Tina Franklin

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