



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



**Order of Worship for  
February 4, 2024, 10:30am**

**Welcome to Worship at Center Church!  
We are delighted that you are with us today.**

*\*Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

ORGAN PRELUDE: *Adagio*

G. F. Handel

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Creator God, you give us life.

**All: We turn to you, to receive the gift of life.**

Loving Christ, you give us the gift of healing.

**We kneel before you, to be made whole.**

Holy Spirit, you give us the gift of compassion.

**We open our hearts to you, to be filled with your light.**

**Come, Spirit of Life, and transform us by your grace. Alleluia!**

\*OPENING HYMN: NCH 407 *How Firm A Foundation*

tune: FOUNDATION

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

We encourage you to greet each other verbally or by a friendly wave of peace

When you were a child and you had a fever, what made you feel better?

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Congregation sings:*

***Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-ja (3X) Halleluja! Hal-le-lu-ja!***

Caribbean Melody

SCRIPTURE: *Isaiah 40:21-31 & Mark 1:29-39*

SERMON: *Heal, Work, Retreat, Repeat*

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE: *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

Stewart Battle, soloist

### THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

**It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.**

God of love, we give thanks,

for you create the world as a flowering of your goodness.

**You set free the oppressed and heal the broken.**

You walk with us in new directions, healed, made new, and full of your light.

**Your mercy flows freely, and we open ourselves to its light.**

We hunger for your grace, and feast on your generosity.

**Therefore with all Creation we sing your praise.**

### SANCTUS

¡San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zón te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zón te sa - be de - cir: san - to e - res Dios.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, God.

Blessed are all who come in your name, and blessed is Jesus, your Christ.

**He taught and healed, and made his grace available to all.**

He healed people's bodies and souls, offering wholeness.

**He healed relationships and communities.**

He healed injustice; and in retaliation the powers of evil crucified him..

**But in love you raised him from the dead, healing life itself,**

**faithful to your covenant that we may have life, and have it abundantly.**

\*THE BLESSING AND COVENANT

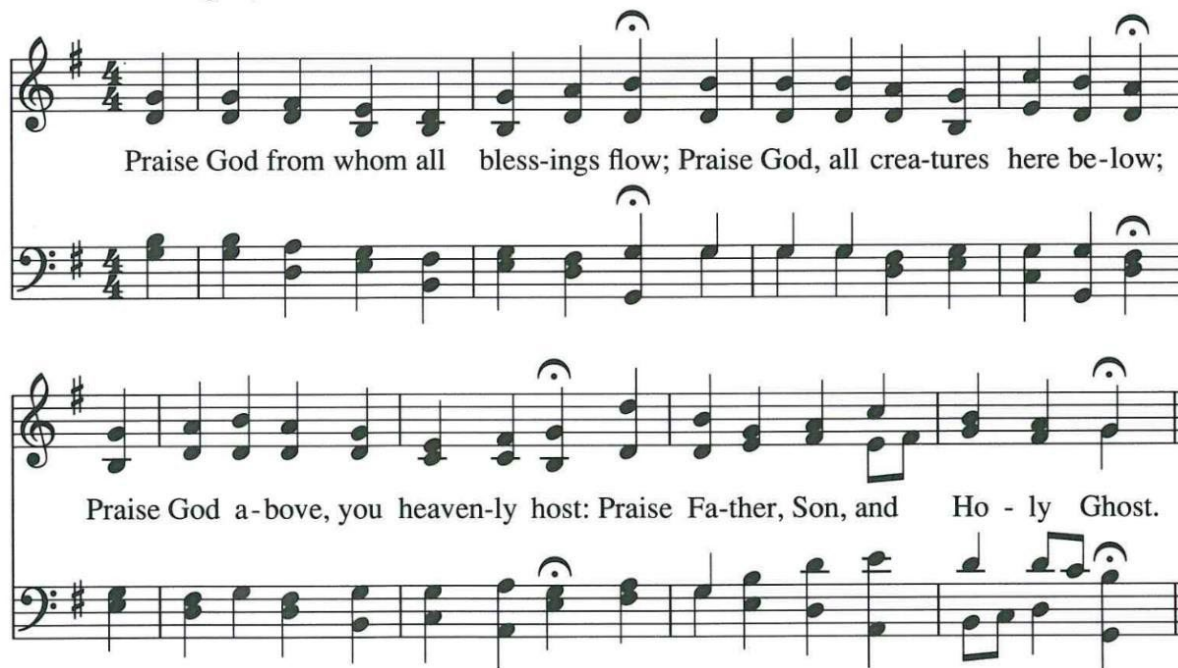
THE LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune* R. Vaughan-Williams

Center Church Choir

\*DOXOLOGY:



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

**Gracious God, we thank you for the mystery that you give yourself to us. You have healed us by your presence with us and within us. Send us in your Spirit as your healers with Jesus into the world that so needs your healing. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN: NCH 547 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* tune: AMAZING GRACE

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE: *Allegro Maestoso*

G. F. Handel

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## 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!



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### 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 Thursday, 9:30am to 2:30pm

Library Hours by Appointment

P 860.249.5631    F 860.246.3915    [www.centerchurchhartford.org](http://www.centerchurchhartford.org)

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Liza Arulampalam (ext. 202)

Coordinator for Justice & Faith Formation Ministries: Dr. Eric Hearst (ext 209)

*If you'd like to meet with Pastor Liza,  
please schedule a time by  
sending her an email at [pastor@cchartford.org](mailto:pastor@cchartford.org)*

Minister Emeritus: The Reverend J. Alan McLean

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

Church Office Manager: Emily McKenna (ext. 200)

Bookkeeper: Brenda Russell (ext. 201)

Sexton: Thomas St. Amant

Meals Program Coordinator: Carrie Howe (ext 205)

Nursery Care: Tina Franklin

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[Would you like to learn more about Center Church? Email us at info@cchartford.org](mailto:info@cchartford.org)

**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!

### Church Information

**ON STREET PARKING** is available during Sunday Worship Services on Gold Street and on the west side of Lewis Street, and is FREE on Sundays. The church is maintaining our relationship with the Traveler's Garage which is temporarily closed due to Covid-19. Stay tuned as we partner with other garages in the area.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> 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.

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 us at [info@cchartford.org](mailto:info@cchartford.org) / 860-249-5631