



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



**Order of Worship for
May 5, 2024, 10:30am**

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

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

PIANO PRELUDE: *My Funny Valentine*

C. Baker
David Reynolds

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: If you come into this place
with the hope of growing deeper,
with the hope of connecting,
with the hope of glimpsing God,
and if all of those things take place,
and your spirit is moved,
and you swear God is near,
and you feel more than lucky for the gift of faith,

**All: and then the service comes to an end,
and it's time for you to leave,
and you ask yourself,
"Where do we go from here?"**

One: Then I would say to you,
"Go out into the world
to love and to share and to learn,
but come back soon,
because this is the beginning.
This is only the beginning."
So come on in.

All: Fill your cup here.

One: Be present here.

All: God is here.

One: Let us worship Holy God.

*OPENING HYMN: NCH 11 *Bring Many Names*

tune: WESTCHASE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

We encourage you to greet each other verbally or by a friendly wave of peace
What is your favorite type of church music?

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Congregation sings:

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

Caribbean Melody

SCRIPTURE: *Acts 10*

SERMON: *Monuments and Movements*

Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE: *Your Love Is Deep*

J. Smith
Arunan Arulampalam

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

COMMUNION PRAYER (*responsive*)

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 thank you,
for you have embodied your love
and your delight in us.

Your Creation is a gift of love.

In Christ you have laid down your life for us.

Your grace is a gift of love.

In love you set us free from all that oppresses, and choose us to join you in working for justice, that all your Beloved may know fullness of life.

Your love has conquered the world.

You call us to this meal, to feast on your love and to share in your joy. Therefore with all Creation we praise you.

SANCTUS

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in 6/8 time. The first system consists of five measures with chords C, G7, C, F, and C. The lyrics are: ¡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. The second system consists of six measures with chords F, C, Am, F, G7, and C. The lyrics are: 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.

COMMUNION MUSIC: *Amazing Grace*

Piano Solo

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY: *No Outsiders*

Rend Collective
Logan Singerman

VERSE 1 : You're our refuge, You have no borders
When I was a stranger, knocking at Your door You took me in,
With no questions, and no conditions
When I was a sinner, running from Your grace
You called me friend, You called me friend

CHORUS: There are no outsiders, to Your love
We are all welcome, there's grace enough
When I have wondered, Lord,
Your cross is the open door
There are no outsiders, I'm not an outsider
To Your love

VERSE 2: You're the harbor In every tempest
When my soul was shipwrecked, Tossed upon the waves
You calm the storm, You are the Father
There are no orphans, Every tribe and nation
Gathered in Your arms, Sings with one voice,
Sing with one voice To CHORUS

VERSE 3: I was tired, I was poor,
I was thrown upon Your shores
I was homeless and afraid 'Til I heard You call my name
And now I'm ransomed, I'm restored,
Resurrected, I am Yours I am loved, yes I belong,
Oh, my soul has found its home To CHORUS

*DOXOLOGY: Give Thanks D. Moen

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son
And now let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give Thanks

OFFERTORY PRAYER AND AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

**We believe that God is a conversationalist, drawing close to us and asking,
“What do you need? Where does it hurt? Who do you long to be?”**

**We see this conversational God in Jesus Christ, God’s own flesh, who walked the earth
speaking with the poor, the hungry, the lonely, and the outcast.**

**Therefore, we believe that our call as people of faith
is to continue this holy conversation
with those who look and think like us,
as well as with those who share little in common with us.**

**We believe that through these conversations,
we are able to catch a glimpse of the Kin-dom of God,
so we continue the conversation in hope. Amen.**

*CLOSING SONG: *10,000 Reasons*

M. Redman
Dan Theriault

CHORUS: Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name

VERSE. 1: The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes (To CHORUS)

VERSE. 2: You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (To CHORUS)

VERSE. 3: And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore (To CHORUS)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

VIDEO POSTLUDE

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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!



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

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*

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

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 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.

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 / 860-249-5631