



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



*Guernica, 1937, by Pablo Picasso
Museo Reina Sofia, Madrid, Spain*

**Order of Worship for
November 16, 2025 10:30 am**

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP – NOVEMBER 16, 2025
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Please rise in body or spirit.*

CHIMES

ORGAN PRELUDE Praise to the Lord

arr. D. Bish

WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT^{*†}

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Inspired by Isaiah 65: 17-25

Leader: Celebrate and rejoice all you people of Christ,

Left: for the Lord our God is doing a new thing!

Right: The old order is gone,

All: everything is new!

Leader: Illness, disease and crying and mourning,

Left: shall be as a distant memory!

Right: Hatred and war shall cease from the earth,

All: for Christ has risen! Death is defeated!

Hallelujah! Jesus lives!

Hallelujah! Amen.

*OPENING HYMN NCH 22 Sing Praise to God

LOBE DEN HERREN

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism today is John Daniel Pray.

*Congregational Assent

Pastor: Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament,
 Promise your love, support and care
 to the one about to be baptized
 as they grow in Christ?

People: We promise our love, support and care.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Joining Center Church today are Lynn Weisel, John Daniel Pray, Allie Kaylor & Carrie Howe

Invitation

Questions

Welcome & Reception

Pastor: Let us, the members of Center Church of Hartford express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

People: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Moderator: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Center Church of Hartford, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church. Go in the peace of Christ.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Andrea Phillips

Children are dismissed to classrooms as the congregation sings...

***Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah,
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah,
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah!***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 65:17-25
 Luke 21:5-19

SERMON “The End of Times and What Comes Next”

The Rev. Liza Arulampalam

MUSICAL RESPONSE Simple Gifts

Trad. Shaker Melody, Attrib. J. Brackett

Stewart Battle, Soloist

PRAVERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY Thanksgiving Joy

J. M. Martin

Center Church Choir

***DOXOLOGY NCH 780**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)**

**Gather the gifts of our hands and hearts, living Spirit.
Use these gifts to build not monuments to your distant glory,
but testaments to your intimate love. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN NCH 382 Come, We Who Love in God's Name MARCHING TO ZION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Now Thank We All Our God

J. S. Bach, arr. V. Fox

Thank you to everyone who participated in worship. Go in Peace!