



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

549 Storrs Rd. P.O. Box 36 Mansfield Center, CT 06250

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2022 + THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**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 and Prelude**

**Greeting and Welcome**

**Opening Hymn**

*Morning Has Broken*

CH53

**Confessing our Brokenness and Opening Prayer**

Hear these words from the Prophet Amos: Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

When in this past week have we not cared for those experiencing poverty?

When have we not advocated for those in need?

When have we not acted with fairness?

*silence*

**O God, you call us to embrace both you and the people of this world with unconditional love. Give us grace to discern what your love demands of us, that, being faithful in things both great and small, we may serve you with an undivided heart. Amen.**

**Song of Praise**

Glory Glory! Hallelujah!

African American Spiritual

9  
Glo-ry, glo-ry! Ha-le - lu - jah! Sincel laid my bur-dens down.  
Glo-ry, glo-ry! Ha-le - lu - jah! Sincel laid my bur-dens down!

Christian Scripture

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Psalter

Psalms 113

BEACH SPRING



Bless the Lord, O saints and ser - vants, Praise the might of God's great  
 Who is heav'n can be God's e - qual? Who on earth with God com -  
 name; age - less, match - less, filled with won - der, yes - ter - day, to - day the  
 pare? Who can raise the poor from a - shese, lift the need - y from des -  
 same. Whenthe dawn re - ceivesthe sun - rise till the night re - turns its rays, shall the  
 pair? God a - lone in - vites the help - less with the strong to share re - ward; fieldsonce  
 glo - ry of God's good - ness be the theme of all our praise.  
 ba - ren yield a har - vest, tonguesonce si - lent praise thier Lord.

Gospel

Luke 16:1-13

Reflection

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price



Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou-bles, and our cares.  
 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

*Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.*

*The following are offered as examples...*

**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/trespases,  
 as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass against us. And  
 lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil. For  
 thine is the kingdom,  
 and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Musical Offering

Offerings may be placed in passed plates, mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. Box 36.  
Mansfield Center, CT 06250, or given online at [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be low; Praise  
5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

## Prayer of Dedication

**Faithful One, you have called us to be stewards of all that you have created; may we demonstrate our commitment to your work in this world by offering these gifts for ministry in this place and beyond. Amen**

## Hymn

*God Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

CH606

## Benediction

### The Week Ahead...

Sunday, September 18	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle
Monday, September 19	10am, First Church Leads Worship at St. Joseph Living Center 7pm, Take Note! In Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, September 20	6pm, Special Olympics in Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, September 21	1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, September 22	12:15pm Contemplative Communion
Saturday, September 24	2-6pm Celebrate Mansfield Festival: First Church Pinwheels for Peace
Sunday, September 25	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle 2pm Celebration of Life for Roberta K. Smith

**Contemplative Communion is Back.** We gather each Thursday at 12:15 for a brief contemplative communion service. We will engage in the ancient practice of Lectio Divina (a method of reading, studying, and praying Scripture), share prayers, and be fed at Jesus' Welcome Table... all in about 30 minutes. Take a break midweek, come, and be.