



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

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

860.423.9008 + [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)

All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS+ NEW YEAR'S DAY + JANUARY 1, 2023**

**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!*

**Chimes and Prelude**

**Welcome and Greeting**

**Hymn**

*This is the Day of New Beginnings*

CH518

**Reflecting on the Year that is Past**

Hear these words from the book of Ecclesiastes: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

When in this past year have we laughed and when have we mourned?

What has been born within us and what has died?

What have we built up and what has been torn down?

*Silence*

**God of new beginnings, you wipe away our tears and call us to care for one another.  
Give us the ability to know your gifts, hearts to embrace all creation, and hands to  
serve you every day of our lives. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

**Hymn**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
Verses 1 and 3

CH155

**Christian Scripture**

Revelation 21:1-6a

**Psalter**

Psalm 8: Many and Great O God are Your Works

CH58

### Prayers of the People for the Coming Year 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/trespasses,  
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.**

### Offering Hymn

*O God Beyond All Praising*

Michael Perry/Gustav Holst

*Offerings may be placed in the collection boxes at the entrances to our worship space,  
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 blessings flow; Praise God all creatures 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

**With these gifts of time and treasure, we bring ourselves, O God, in response to the  
greatest gift of all— the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

### The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Open up your hearts.

**We open them up to God and one another.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Musical Response

## Santo Santo Santo

Traditional Argentine

San - to, san - to, san - to. Mi co - ra - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

5  
co - ra - zon te sa - be de - cir: San - to eres, Se - nor!  
heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

## Sharing the Bread and Cup

*All are welcome at Christ's table; we offer non-alcoholic juice and gluten-free bread.*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Hymn

*In the Midst of New Dimensions (Ours the Journey)*

CH458

## Benediction

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Thank you to Jimmy Buccini for leading us in musical praise today while Erik is away!

## The Week Ahead...

Sunday, January 1	10:15am Worship
Monday January 2	10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center
Tuesday, January 3	10:30am First Church leads Worship at MCNR
Wednesday, January 4	1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, January 5	12:15 Contemplative Communion
Sunday, January 8	10:15am Worship and Worship Circle