



Est. 1639

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



*Holy Trinity, The Hospitality of Abraham, Mary Jane Miller*

**June 14, 2026**  
**Third Sunday After Pentecost**  
**10:15 a.m.**

**Welcome to our guests!** Thank you for being here. It is such a joy to worship with you. Please speak to any member of the Pastoral Team if you would like to explore how our church may become your spiritual home. As an **Open and Affirming** congregation we seek to extend the extravagant welcome of God to all people, all the time. Regardless of your race, class, ancestry, gender identity, marital status, ability, age, immigration status, or sexual orientation, you are always welcome at First Church. We affirm your inherent dignity as a child of God. God created you just as you are and loves you just as you are. We do, too!

**Children's Ministries:** Babies are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. We also have a nursery (accessible through the "baby breezeway" in the back of the Sanctuary). First Church offers child care (for ages 3 months to 3 years) with professional nursery staff on Sundays @ 9:45am-11:45am. Our Sunday School and children's choir are currently on summer break. Reach out to our Minister of Children and Families Kim Feeney (kfeeney@firstchurchfairfield.org) for more information about our children's ministries & faith formation programs which extend from age four and up.

We have a **hearing assist system** for those with Bluetooth enabled hearing aids available and also have receivers with earpieces available. Please speak to an usher for assistance.

### **Leading Us in Worship**

The Rev. Jake Joseph, Preacher in Residence  
The Rev. Vanessa Rose, Senior Pastor  
The Rev. Kathy Williamson, Liturgist  
Alexis Zingale, Pianist  
Jermaine Charles, Audio & Video  
Deacons: Celeste McGeehan & Tom Croarkin  
Usher: Amy-Alison Ward

Worship leaders speak the text in regular type.  
**All the People of God speak the text in boldface.**

*Italic Text provides explanation or instruction.*

\* Please stand if you are able.

## WE GATHER TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

One: As the seasons change and summer begins, God calls us out into nature.

**All: We come with gratitude for this sacred place and excitement for what lies ahead.**

One: Whether beneath a roof or beneath an open sky, God is present.

**All: Whether gathered in pews or beside the water, Christ meets us there.**

One: Through every season of life, God gives us perseverance, character, and hope.

**All: We come to worship the One whose love never fails.**

One: Let us worship God!

**All: With joyful hearts, we bring our praise! Amen.**

\*Hymn

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*42 New Century Hymnal*

### \*Prayer of Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who 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**

### \*Passing the Peace

One: May the peace of God be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

*We greet one another with a sign of peace.*

## The Sacrament of Baptism

Peyton Madison Petro

Daughter of John Earl Petro III & Melanie Lynn Stansfield

Godparents: Meghan Sullivan & Wade Petro

### Baptism Prayer

We give you thanks, O Holy One, for the grace acknowledged here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us all as sons and daughters in the one household of your love. Grant us the grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this new member of the body of Christ. Give Peyton strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

### Hymn

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

324 *New Century Hymnal*

### Candle of Witness

Genesis Polanco, Director of Project Rescue at the Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants (CIRI)

### GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED

#### \*Hymn of Praise

*Halle, Halle, Halle*

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
le - lu - jah! Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

### Scripture Reading

Romans 5: 1-8

Sermon

*Perseverance: Like a Seagull with a Bag of Chips!*

The Rev. Jake Joseph

\*Hymn

*I Love to Tell the Story*

522 *New Century Hymnal*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S HOLY WORD**

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God, for all that love has done  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn

*God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

531 *New Century Hymnal*

\*Benediction and Response

*God Be With You*



Postlude

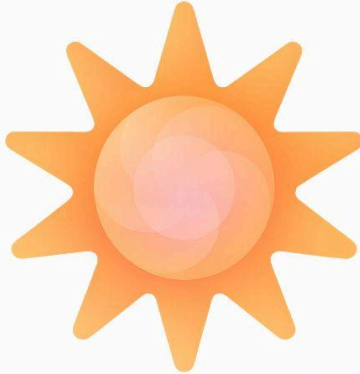
### PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS

**Congregants:** LaNeil Brown, Sr.; Pertrinea Cash; Cheryl Camarota; Dan Christianson; Betsy Dalling; Fernando Destrugé; Gloria Evans; Charlotte Jefremow; Christy Jefremow; Nancy Jones and family; Cathy Kane, her brother Scott and great niece Amelia; Adelaide Kitchen; Jerry Krenke; Elizabeth Saint; Penny Stevens; Andrea Wakeman; Elinor Wilber. and all those living with memory loss and Alzheimer's disease and we pray for their caregivers.

**Family and Friends:** Ed Allen (friend of Patty Bilotto); Alison Babycos (friend of Kim Henry); Hal Burdick (Friend of David McKinnis); Bob Buyiteck (friend of Bill Sargent); Tracy Bloom (sister of Michael Traum); Art Christiani (friend of Bill Sargeant); Diane Studwell Crawley; Donna, her husband and daughter (friends of David McKinnis), Brandon Deedon (Pertrinea Cash's son); Lynelle Dupuis (sister of Bethany); Mary Lou Earnshaw, (sister of Nancy Weber); Janet Faller (sister-in-law to Michael Traum); Carter Faustini; Kimberly Fetteri (friend of the Gindek family); Jeff Fischer (friend of Charlotte Dyslin); Marianne and Larry Gaddy (Connie Sargent's cousins); The Grover Family; Greenawalt and Darnall Families (Gindek family); Bill Fry (Penny Stevens' brother-in-law); Nancy Hamlin (sister of Charlotte Dyslin); Lori Gandini: Walter Haenn (brother of Madeline Lee); Jimi Han (friend of the choir); Yochai Harel; Melanie Rainbow-Harel and family (friends of Michelle Walker); Henry (friend of Laura Gnidek); Christina Holms (Connie and Bill Sargent's niece); K.B. (friend of Robin Griskus); William Kennedy (friend of David McKinnis); Michael Kelly; Scott Kimmel; John Mastropietro; Lila (friend of Beth McKinnis); Diane Marble (sister-in-law of Charlotte Dyslin); Debra McLeod; Dorothy Michalowski (friend of Connie and Bill Sargent); Mike Palmer; Rosie Perera (friend of David McKinnis); Barbara Peterson (friend of Ted and Judy Andre); Jean Rita Powers, Artie Quinn; Helen Ranholm (cousin of Connie Sargent); Dick Reese (father in law of Melissa Stanhewicz); Nasir Reid (friend of Rita Skog); Patty Roberts (cousin of Connie and Bill Sargent); Rosalie Rutkauskas (Jessie's Grandmother); Darlene Scaia (Pat Bilotto's cousin); David Skog (son of Rita Skog); Sandy Suarez, Cleo Vernon (the Rev. Kathy Williamson's mother); Dr. Abraham Yale; and Marshall (friend of Jon Skog.)

### Permissions

*Halle, Halle, Halle* Arr. by John L. Bell; © 1990, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Livestreamed/reprinted with permission, OneLicense.net #A-731937



# Summer Beach Services

8:15 a.m., Sasco Beach, Southport

Beginning June 21

Bring a lawn chair or blanket and join us for worship with our sister congregation, Southport Congregational Church. No beach sticker required! The summer worship schedule follows:

- June 21 - First Church
- June 28 - First Church
- July 5 - Southport
- July 12 - First Church
- July 19 - Southport
- July 26 - First Church
- August 2 - Southport
- August 9 - First Church
- August 16 - Southport
- August 23 - First Church
- August 30 - Southport
- September 6 - First Church

**Friday, June 19**

**4–8 pm**

**FAIRFIELD HONORS**

**JUNE**

**TEENTH**

**Town Hall Green**

Corner of Beach Road and  
Old Post Road  
Rain location: First Church

**Food Trucks • Ice Cream • Children's Crafts and Entertainment**

**Live music by The Bernadettes**

**Ceremony at 5 pm featuring Senator and Pastor Herron Gaston**