

Welcome to this service of worship as we celebrate Black History Month. *As Jesus Christ welcomes each one of us, we hope you sense the friendly welcome of this congregation of God's people. We light the Peace Candle to stand as a beacon of hope, calling us and all the world from darkness to light, from violence to peace.*

[*]If you are comfortable doing so, it is appropriate to stand.
Bold type signifies congregational response.

WE GATHER IN JESUS' NAME

PRELUDE *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* arr. Utterback

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth!
**Worship the Lord with gladness;
Come into God's presence with singing!**
For the Lord is good!
God's steadfast love endures forever!
Let us gather and worship God!

* HYMN #451 *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

Radiant Lord, you shine with power and truth. Your mercy reflects your compassion and love. Transform us into your image as we seek to follow you. Use us to make your presence known, so all the world may know of your majesty. Amen.

*RESPONSE *Glory Be to the Father*
(Hymn #577)

Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM *Over My Head* African American Spiritual

*Refrain: Over my head, I hear music in the air;
over my head, I hear music in the air;
over my head, I hear music in the air;
there must be a God somewhere.*

1. *Oh, when the world is silent...*
2. *And when I'm feeling lonely...*
3. *Now when I think on Jesus...*

SCRIPTURE Matthew 1: 1-17 Pew Bible NT p. 1

MESSAGE Jesus and Black Genealogy Elder Lois Maxwell

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* HYMN # 440 *In Christ There Is No East or West*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer is found on the top of page 16 of the Hymnal, traditional version using "debts" and "debtors"

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Smith
Tonya Spears, piano

*RESPONSE #593
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Generous God, it is through your mercy that we have this ministry of our talents and treasures, of our passion and purpose. Strengthen our hearts for your service, and accept the grateful offerings we lay before you today. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*HYMN # 332 *Live Into Hope*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace,
That we may abound in hope by the power of God's holy spirit! Amen!

*RESPONSE #432 *Song of Hope*

May the God of hope go with us every day, filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, bringing light and hope to every land and race. Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all, working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

POSTLUDE *Somebody's Knocking At My Door* arr. Utterback

SERVICE

- Flowers:** The flowers are given today to the glory of God and in celebration of Black History Month to honor those of African descent.
- Greeter:** Yonette Cort-Park
- Liturgist:** Bill Cooke
- Ushers:** Michael Asare, Ernest & Grace Brodeur, Felecia Fleeting.



Members, friends, and visitors are invited to join us as our guests for refreshments and fellowship in Hodge Hall immediately following worship. Our hosts today are **Jane Murray and Lois Maxwell.**

This is a welcoming Church, embracing sisters and brothers without regard to age, race, ethnic background, sexual orientation, family status, economic situation or theological viewpoint. We want our visitors to feel a part of the family. "Following the risen Christ, and seeking to make the Church a true community of hospitality, the mission of More Light Presbyterians is to work for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people of faith in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA)."

There is a variety of materials near the entrance to acquaint you with the Church. We encourage you to sign the guest book in the entry and to use the yellow card in the pews to register your attendance and enable us to add you to our newsletter mailing list. Please place yellow cards in the offering plates.

All of our services and activities are open to non-members.

Membership and Baptism— First Presbyterian Church, Hartford invites you to commit to membership as witness to your faith in Christ, and the mission of Christ as lived out in the life of this congregation. We receive members by affirmation of faith, or by reaffirmation or transfer of

membership. Also, if you have an interest in baptism please see or e-mail Pastor Feroe at rferoe@sbcglobal.net or speak with one of the session members or other elder.

Offering Envelopes are available in the pews for the convenience of those who may have forgotten their assigned envelope or for those who wish to use an envelope for a cash gift. If you wish your contribution to be used for a specific cause, please indicate that on the envelope.

ASSISTED LISTENING SYSTEM AVAILABLE

Anyone who has difficulty in hearing and understanding the service is encouraged to use the assisted listening system. This is a wireless system so users can sit anywhere in the sanctuary. Receivers are available near the entrance to the sanctuary. Many of you have used a similar system at the Bushnell or Hartford Stage.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Russell Feroe, Interim Pastor.
Office Hours 8:30 am – 12:00 noon Tue., Wed., Thu. E-mail: rferoe@sbcglobal.net or call: 860-904-6467 anytime.

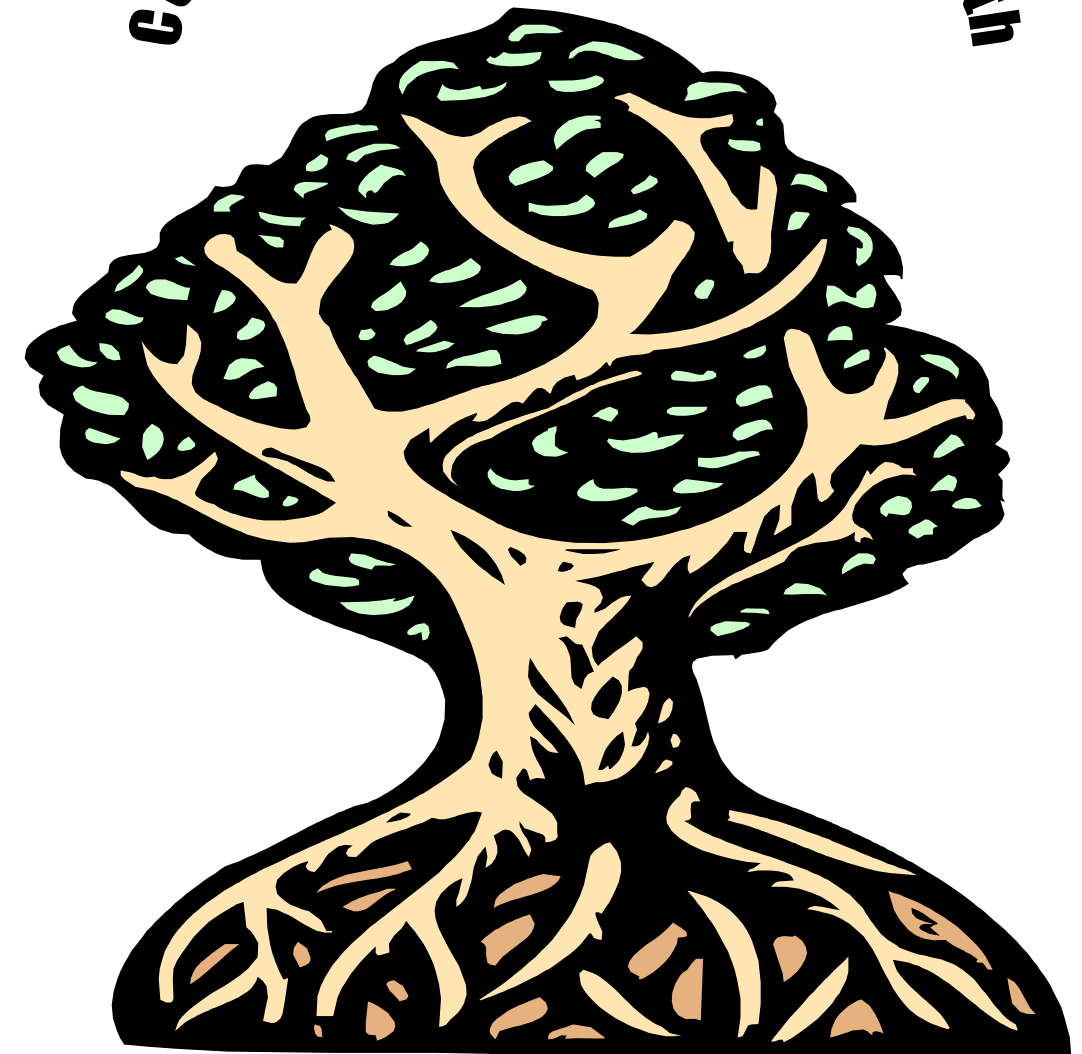
Dianne Ney, Music Director; Ruth Van Anden, Office Mgr.;
John Du Pont, Sexton.

Office Hours: M – F 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00 – 1:00 PM).

We are a member church of the Presbyterian Church (USA),
Synod of the Northeast, Presbytery of Southern New England.



Celebrating Black History Month



First Presbyterian Church

136 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT
Rev. Russell Feroe, Interim Pastor

Worship 10:30 AM
Sunday, February 14, 2010