



Welcome

January 18, 2026

We are gathered this morning to worship God by fixing our gaze on Jesus Christ. The aim is that all our scripture reading, singing, sharing, praying, & preaching will put Christ on display. As we behold his glory, we are being **transformed** into the same image from one degree of glory to another.

Order of Worship | 10:00 AM

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP · Psalm 78:52-54

WORSHIP THROUGH SINGING · Brett Westervelt

#487 "Lift High the Name of Jesus"

#181 "In Christ Alone"

#595 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

WORSHIP THROUGH SHARING & PRAYING · Nick Bass

(Children grade 1-6 are dismissed to CTC Kids classes)

WORSHIP THROUGH PREACHING

Sermon · Eric Abbey

"You Have an Able Shepherd" · Mark 7:24-8:21

WORSHIP BY RESPONDING

Communion · #315 "Behold the Lamb"

Communion bread is gluten-free

Closing hymn · #157 "By Faith"

BENEDICTION · Revelation 7:16-17

Giving

You can give tithes and offerings in the box on the back table or by visiting our giving page at www.ChristTransformation.org/give

Call to Worship

"Then he led out his people like sheep and guided them in the wilderness like a flock. He led them in safety, so that they were not afraid, but the sea overwhelmed their enemies. And he brought them to his holy land, to the mountain which his right hand had won."

Psalm 78:52-54

Youth & Kids

Childcare is available for infants – Kindergarten

CTC Kids classes are offered for children in 1st through 6th grade during the sermon.

Prayer & Praise

Praise God for a successful NETS Preview Weekend. Pray for the Frys and the Fulmers as they consider their future call to ministry.

Pray that the closing on our new property goes smoothly this Friday.

Pray for NETS resident Nick Westerberg as he preaches at First Congregational Church, Woodstock, VT. Pray for Ben Wistrom as he preaches at Newport Community Church, Newport, RI.

Fellowship

Please stay after the service and enjoy a time of fellowship. We invite you to connect with us by filling out the **Connect Card**.



EVENTS

This week: January 18-24, 2026

- Sun.** **Men's Basketball** 2 pm at the NETS Center Gym
 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group 6 pm at CMC
- Tues.** **Men's Prayer** 6:30 am at the NETS Center: Kingsbury
 in the conference room.
 Connect Groups 7pm
- Wed.** **Jr. and Sr. High Bible Study** 7:30 pm at the Bent's
- Thurs.** **Connect Groups** 7 pm
- Fri.-Sat.** **CMC Men's Retreat** 5pm at Christ Memorial Church
- Next Sunday** We will continue our series in Mark with
Mark 8:22-9:1.

FUTURE EVENTS

- Jan. 25** New Building Luncheon & Prayer 12-2 pm at
73 Thompson St. (lunch provided)
- Jan. 31** New Building Workday, 9 am-4 pm at 73 Thompson
St. (lunch provided)
- Feb. 7** Congregational Dinner & Meeting 5-8 pm at 73
Thompson St. (Dinner entrée provided, please bring a
salad or dessert).



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You Have an Able Shepherd

Mark 7:24 - 8:21

January 18, 2026 – Eric Abbey

Theme: When life is hard and you're struggling to see Jesus clearly, remember that he hasn't changed; he remains able to shepherd you well, because he is the Son of Man who leads you with all authority.

- I. Jesus can shepherd all kinds of people (Mark 6:31-8:21)
 - A. Jesus powerfully cares for the Jewish 5,000 (6:31-7:13)
 1. Jesus is the True Shepherd (6:31-44)
 2. The disciples are blind sheep (6:45-56)
 3. The Pharisees are false shepherds (7:1-13)
 - B. Man's heart is evil and unbelieving (7:14-23)
 - C. Jesus powerfully cares for the Gentile 4,000 (7:24-8:21)
 1. Jesus is the True Shepherd (7:24-8:9)
 - a. Jesus shows authority to Gentiles (7:24-37)
 - i. Demons bound for a Gentile (7:24-30)
 - ii. Ears opened for a Gentile (7:31-37)
 - b. Jesus feeds Gentile sheep (8:1-9)
 2. The Pharisees are false shepherds (8:10-12)
 3. The disciples are blind sheep (8:13-21)
- II. Jesus can shepherd you – remember who he is & what he can do

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Dominion Through Distress

(Mark Overview; 1/4/26; Abbey)

- I. The Gospel Introduced: The Dominion of the Suffering Servant (1:1-15)
- II. The Gospel Exhibited: Jesus' Dominion as the Suffering Servant (1:16-16:8)
 - A. **The authority of the Suffering Servant (1:16-8:21)**
 1. His authority demonstrated immediately (1:16-45)
 2. His authority established amid opposition by Israel (2:1-3:35)
 - ❖ **Son of Man** authority established (2:10, 28)
 3. His authority veiled in weakness and suffering (4:1-6:30)
 4. His authority despite unbelief (6:31-8:21)
 - B. **The way of the Suffering Servant (8:22-10:52)**
 1. A real-life parable of blindness: The man at Bethsaida (8:22-26)
 2. Seeing the way of suffering (8:27-10:45)
 - a. The trailhead of the way of suffering (8:27-9:29)
 - A glorious signpost: Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (8:27-9:13)
 - The glorious confession of man: **You are the Christ!** (8:27-30)
 - ❖ Jesus introduces **Son of Man** suffering (8:31-38)
 - The glorious confession of God: **This is my beloved son!** (9:1-8)
 - ❖ Jesus introduces **Son of Man** suffering (9:9-13)
 - ii. Unbelieving blindness introduced (9:14-29)
 - b. Advancing along the way of suffering (9:30-10:31)
 - i. Jesus continues teaching **Son of Man** suffering (9:30-50)
 - ii. Unbelieving blindness continues (10:1-31)
 - c. Submitting the way of suffering (10:32-41)
 - i. Jesus confirms **Son of Man** suffering (10:32-34)
 - ii. Unbelieving blindness highlighted (10:35-41)
 - d. The pinnacle of the way of suffering (10:42-45)
 - ❖ Jesus highlights **Son of Man** suffering (10:45)
 3. A real-life parable of blindness: Bartimaeus (10:46-52)
- C. **The coronation of the Suffering Servant (11:1-16:8)**
 1. The king comes to his temple (11:1-13:37)
 2. The king submits to the cross (14:1-15:47)
 - ❖ The **Son of Man** betrayed (14:21, 41)
 - ❖ The future glory of the **Son of Man** (14:62)
 - The glorious confession of the Roman:
Truly this man was the Son of God! (15:39)
 3. The king rises in triumph (16:1-8)

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