



Falmouth Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Serving Christ and Community since 1754
An Open and Affirming Congregation
The Reverend Amelia Edson
Settled Pastor & Teacher



Lenten Sermon Series



seeking:
honest questions
for deeper faith

Graphic Design by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

10:00 AM

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
How do you begin again?

March 5, 2023



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

*Welcome! If you would like more information about our community, please fill out a blue visitor card.
Throughout the order of worship, if the print is in bold, words may be spoken in unison.*

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE *(Please remain in your seat while passing the peace of Christ.)*

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

SEEKING GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE

“Blessed Jesus, We Are Here”

J.S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: What is it like to begin again?

All: It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground.

Voice One: It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time.

One: It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance.

Voice Two: It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.

One: May we find God in our seeking.

All: May we learn as we go.

One: May we be brave enough to begin again.

All: Let us worship the God of new beginnings.

CALL TO CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God of new life, you call us into unknown places,

All: and we often bury our heads in the sand.

¹ Adapted from *Sanctified Arts, Seeking*.

One: You promise all the stars in the sky,

All: and we doubt it can be true.

One: You speak of new life in the Spirit,

All: and we tell ourselves we've missed our chance.

One: Over and over and over again, you invite us closer to you.

All: Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes.

One: Give us the courage to begin again with you. **Amen.**

~

One: The compassion of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

All: God's mercy is new every morning, great is God's faithfulness.

One: Let us believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

***HYMN** "If You Will Trust in God to Guide You" No. 565

TIME WITH SCRIPTURE John 3:1-17 Eva Howison

INTERGENERATIONAL MESSAGE Rev. Amelia Edson

***HYMN** "Seek Ye First" No. 354

THE FEAST OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to offer thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

RETELLING THE STORY

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

THE SUNG LORD'S PRAYER No. 307

OFFERTORY

“Winter’s Come and Gone”
Kids’ Church

Gillian Welch

***DOXOLOGY**

No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** “The Blessing Song”

Dennis Jernigan

First time to be sung by choir...

**May the Lord answer you in the day of your trouble
May the name of the Lord be your strong, mighty tower
May He grant you your heart’s deepest dreams and desires
God will hear you each time you call
God will hear you each time you call.**

PIANO POSTLUDE “When the Saints Go Marching In”
Mickey Johnson, piano

† Musical material is presented under CCLI License #11176026

* *Please stand in body or spirit*



Next Sunday’s Lectionary

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Thank you to our worship participants:

Presiding:	Rev. Amelia Edson
Minister of Music:	Jan Stover
Ushers:	Tom Crosby, Judy Crosby
Liturgist:	Eva Howison
Online Worship:	Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais

Please join us for refreshments following the service.