



**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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 19, 2023

Who sinned?



## 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

### PRELUDE

“If With All Your Hearts Ye Truly Seek Me”

John Wilcox, tenor

Felix

Mendelssohn

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

One: Gracious God, we gather today to celebrate and cultivate mercy, grace,  
and forgiveness

**All: Not because those things come easily to us**

One: because we are in desperate need of them

**All: We come to meet each other**

One: Not because we have things in common

**All: because other people challenge our assumptions, increase our  
compassion, and help us see the complexity of God**

One: We come to worship God

**All: Not because we are all good,**

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<sup>1</sup> Call to worship inspired by Nadia Boltz Weber's introduction to *The Corners*  
<https://thecorners.substack.com>

One: because we seek to worship something greater than our own selves,  
and to acknowledge our own dependence, interdependence, and need

**All: We gather to worship**

One: Let us begin.

## **CALL TO CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON<sup>2</sup>**

One: Who here has sinned?

**All: We have sinned. We put our heads in the sand. We ignored people in need. We make false assumptions and fail to be kind. We are in need of forgiveness.**

One: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.

**All: Thanks be to God**

One: for a love like that!

**All: Have you sinned?**

One: I have sinned. I put my head in the sand. I ignore people in need. I make false assumptions and fail to be kind. I, too, am in need of forgiveness.

**All: Good news! Our God is a merciful God. God does not punish, hold grudges, or keep score. When you suffer, God weeps. When you sin, God forgives. When you lose your way, God comes running.**

One: Thanks be to God

**All: for a love like that! Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

*Children are invited to join our Director of Youth and Family Programs, Hannah Daly, for Kids' Church downstairs. Kids' Church meets until 12, with an optional early pick-up at 11.*

**\*HYMN** "More About Jesus Would I Know" No. 348, vs 1, 2 & 4

**SCRIPTURE** John 9:1-41 Nancy Lightbody

**SERMON** "Who Sinned?" Rev. Amelia Edson

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<sup>2</sup> From A Sanctified Arts Lenten series *Seeking*

**\*HYMN**

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

No. 586

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

“I Will Wait for You”  
Choir

Kauflin, Kristyn  
& Keith Getty arr. Angerman

**\*DOXOLOGY**

No. 46

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

**\*BENEDICTION**

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

See Screen  
Dennis Jernigan

**POSTLUDE**

“Fairest Lord Jesus”  
Jennie Stephens and Jan Stover, piano duet

arr. Mark Hayes

† Musical material is presented under CCLI License #11176026

\* *Please stand in body or spirit*



**Next Sunday’s Lectionary**

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

Thank you to our worship participants:

Presiding:	Rev. Amelia Edson
Minister of Music:	Jan Stover
Ushers:	Lauren Jordy, Karin Kurry
Liturgist:	Nancy Lightbody
Online Worship:	Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais

*Please join us for refreshments following the service.*