

# 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





## Stewardship 2024 *Release*

267 Falmouth Rd., Falmouth, ME, 04105 | 207-781-3413 | www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org



## 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

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

ORGAN PRELUDE

"Lord, Here I Am"

John Ness Beck arr. Anna Laura Page

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

One: Through Moses, God said,

All: "Let my people go." (Ex.9:1)

One: In scripture, the law declares:

All: "In the seventh year, you must cancel all debts." (Deut.15:1)

One: With grace, Jesus said:

All: "Give one coat away." (Luke 3:11)

One: With honesty, Jesus taught:

All: "Sell what you have, give that money to the poor." (Matt. 19:21)

- One: Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free, dropping our nets, giving to others, and following.
- All: So in this set apart time, may we release that which binds us. May we worship with open, untamed, and porous hearts, so that we can walk freely with God.

One: Let it be so.

All: Amen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on a liturgy by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

## CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Holy God, we admit to remembering the wrong things.

All: We remember worldly lessons like, "Everyone for themselves," "An eye for an eye," and "All is fair in love and war."

One: And yet, we forget

- All: To forgive 70 times seven,To love our neighbors as ourselves,And to live like the body of Christ.Why is it so hard to remember the right things?
- One: Release us from our muscle memory and re-center us in a new place, a fresh place, a space grounded in Your love.
- All: Help us to receive Your word anew, and to consider stewardship not with the world's rules, but with Your rules.
- One: Help us remember.
- All: With hope we pray. Amen.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON Romans 8:38-39

One: With Paul the Apostle we are convinced

All: that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Sarah Davis & Kids' Church Volunteers Children are invited to join our Kids' Church volunteers, Sarah Davis, Laura Genese, and Jane Stegemann for Kids' Church, which meets until 12, with an optional early pick-up at 11. As always, all Kids' Church volunteers are background checked.

*HYMN	"We've Come This Far by Faith"	No. 533
SCRIPTURE	Matthew 19:16-22	Mark Horton
SERMON	"Our Money Story" Ste	Falmouth UCC ewardship Committee

\*HYMN

"You Are Called to Tell the Story" Ushers will collect prayer cards during this hymn.

Screen Tune #149

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## OFFERTORY

"Here I Am Lord" Daniel L. Schutte Chancel Choir arr. Lloyd Larson You may also donate online or on Venmo @FalmouthUCC

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 46

\*BLESSING

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE	"Give Thanks"	No. 528
ORGAN POSTLUDE	"Oh, How Joyful"	Sicilian Mariners arr. Carolyn Hamlin

<sup>†</sup> Musical material is presented under CCLI License #11176026

\* Please stand in body or spirit

We strive to use a diversity of language to describe God, in line with the diversity of images and metaphors in our Scripture. Many hymns and prayers default to male language. Please use the language that allows you to worship best, knowing that all human speech about God is metaphoric and ultimately incomplete.

Thank you to our worship participants:

Worship Leader: Laurie Davis Lay Preachers: Larry Perry, Ann Sanborn, Paul Davis Minister of Music: Jan Stover Ushers: Peggy Horton, Mark Horton Online Worship: Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais

#### Next Sunday's Lectionary Judges 4:1-7, Psalm 123 (or Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18, Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12); 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30