



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



Advent II: Make Room

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.

MAKE ROOM (Video)

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" No. 140, vs. 1,2,4

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES "*Light of Hope*" Joel Raney
(words adapted)

CHORAL INTRODUCTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: On this Advent journey we yearn for the peace of Christ

All: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding

One: We survey our lives and strive to make room for Christ's coming

All: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding

One: We confront the division, doubt, and distraction that separates us

All: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding

One: This Advent season we choose peace, and prepare the way for the Lord

All: We long for the peace that surpasses all understanding

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

CONGREGATIONAL SUNG RESPONSE

See screen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: When Mary was with child the world viewed her with suspicion.

All: We admit that we, too, struggle to believe other's truths, and even silence the knowledge of our own hearts.

One: As Joseph and Mary searched for a place to shelter the world closed its doors.

All: We confess that we, too, close ourselves off from the suffering of this world, choosing apathy over empathy and ignorance over engagement.

One: When Jesus was born the powerful attacked his family, trying to stamp out the hope he promised.

All: We realize that we, too, participate in systems that oppress the vulnerable. We, too, are afraid to fully embrace the hope that God offers us.

One: Emmanuel, God with us, forgive us our trespasses and open our hearts.

All: So that on Christmas Day we will be ready to receive You in our midst, and our lives may be testaments of the Christmas Story.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Let us remember: Christ came to earth so that we might remember our true selves and God's love.

All: There is nothing we can do, think, or say that can separate us from God in Christ Jesus.

One: Hallelujah!

KIDS CHORUS

"Hear the Bells!"

Nick & Becky Drake

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Lydia Hoffman

Children are invited to join our Minister of Children and Families, Lydia Hoffman, for Kids' Church. Kids' Church meets until 12, with an optional early pick-up at 11.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

Nancy Lightbody

SERMON

Rev. Rebecca Walker

*HYMN

"People, Look East"

No. 142, vs. 1 & 4

BAPTISM

Forrest Stephens

See Insert

***HYMN**

“Away in a Manger”

No. 147, vs. 1 & 3

Ushers will collect prayer cards during this hymn.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

“Behold That Star”

Talley

Chancel Choir; Marilee Beinema, solo

arr. Cunkle

You may also donate online or on Venmo @FalmouthUCC

***DOXOLOGY**

No. 46

***BENEDICTION**

ORGAN RECESSIONAL “The Snow Lay on the Ground”

David Paxton

Please remain seated during the Recessional.

† 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:

Presiding: Rev. Amelia Edson

Preaching: Rev. Rebecca Walker

Minister of Music: Jan Stover

Minister of Children & Families: Lydia Hoffman

Ushers: Karin Kurry, Alyce Graves, Jim Parr

Advent Candle Lighters: The Howison Family

Online Worship: Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais