

# Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ An Open and Affirming Congregation



10:00 AM



# **GATHERING MUSIC**

# WELCOME & LIFE OF THE CHURCH

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.

PRELUDE "" Ray Cornils

# CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE<sup>1</sup>

The Matthieu Family

One: God of love, fill us with your spirit, when we are tempted by hatred let us

sow love

All: When we encounter hate in others let us sow love.

One: When we witness or receive the gift of love, let us recognize Your

presence.

All: And leap for joy, and sow love all the more

The fourth candle is lit, symbolizing Love.

One: May we be people of love, in our homes, our community, our world.

All: Come, Jesus, Come.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Call to Worship inspired by our 2021 Advent devotional, *Advent in Full Color*, which is available in Fellowship Hall

# 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 be redeemed.

All: There is nothing we can do, think, or say, that can separate us from our God who loves us.

One: Hallelujah!

All: Hallelujah!

HYMN "People, Look East" Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE TBD Virginia Eddy

THE SERMON Rev. Edson

### **BAPTISM**

**ANTHEM** "Thou Shalt K

"Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes"

Chancel Choir

Hal Hopson

# PASTORAL PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

# OFFERTORY

**HYMN** "My Soul Gives Glory to My God" Chancel Choir

BENEDICTION

**BENEDICTION RESPONSE** "Go in Peace"

POSTLUDE "" Ray Cornils

Thank you to our worship participants:

Presiding: The Rev. Amelia Edson, Settled Pastor

Music: Ray Cornils

Ushers: Sue & Larry Perry

Kids' Church: Kristen Tripp
Liturgist: Virginia Eddy

Online Worship: Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais

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**Next Sunday's Lectionary** 

1 Sam 2:18-20; Col 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-52

<sup>\*</sup> Musical material is presented under CCLI License #1117602
If you are new to worship, welcome and please fill out a blue visitor card. Throughout the order of worship, if print is in bold, words may be spoken in unison.