



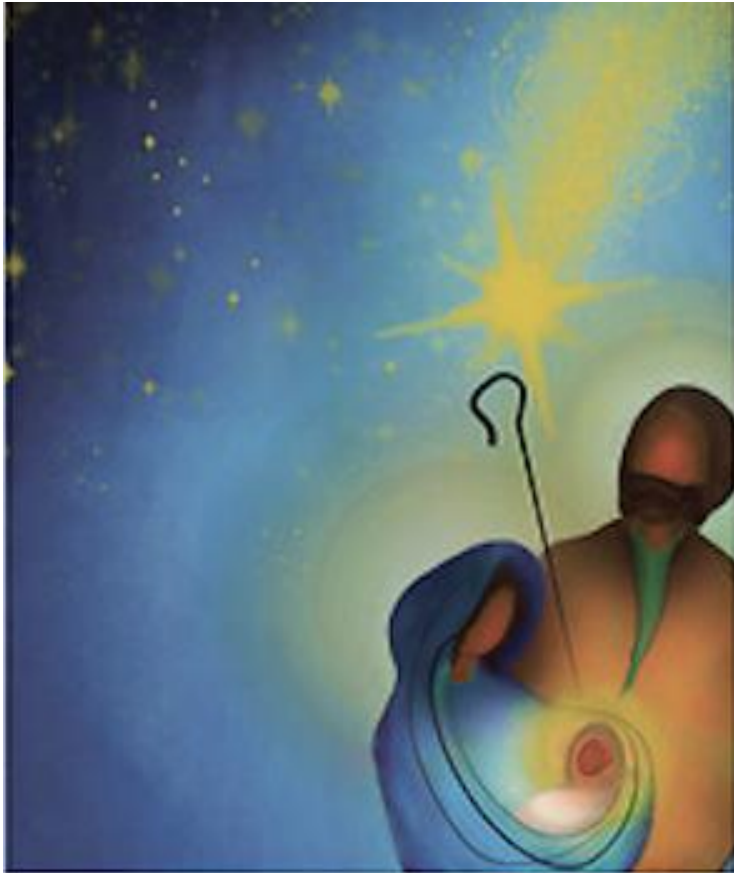
Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

207.781.3413



Serving Christ and Community since
1754 Third Parish Church;
1833 The Brick Church

The Reverend Amelia Edson



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

MEDITATION**PRELUDE**

“Pastorale from ‘Le Prologue de Jesus’

Trad./
Joseph W. Clokey

***CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE¹**

One: All this season, as night beats back the day, we lit our lights to call the Light.

All: “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”

One: We kindled Hope against apathy, Peace against war, Joy against despair, Love against estrangement.

All: We lit our lights to call the Light.

The Christ Candle is lit.

One: But now we pray for a miracle bigger than our former prayers.

All: Come now, O Holy one, and do better than we have imagined. Do not overcome, but transform.

One: Come, O shadow and light together.

**All: Come, dappled sunlight.
Come, curtain-filtered glow.**

One: Come, stars and the blackness.

Come, moon-silvered night.

**All: Come, pillar of fire and darkened sanctuary.
Come, candle glow on careworn faces**

One: Come Denier of Divisions,

Come, closer of gaps.

**All: Come, Repairer of the Breach
Come, you who unites Heaven and Earth**

One: See us here, Shining and Shadow together, and come.

***CAROL**

“Once in Royal David’s City”

No. 165

¹ Call to worship adapted from The Christmas Fund resources, written by Rev. Quinn Caldwell

THE FIRST READING		Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7
*CAROL	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	No. 155, 1, 3, 4
THE SECOND READING		Micah 5:2-5a
*CAROL	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”	
	O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting Light; The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.	
	For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth. Your voices raise to God in praise; and peace to all on earth.	
	O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our God, Emmanuel.	
THE THIRD READING		Luke 2:1-7
*CHORAL ANTHEM	“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”	Spiritual/ Mark Hill
THE FOURTH READING		Luke 2:8-16
*CAROL	“While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”	No. 154, 1, 2, 6
THE FIFTH READING		Matthew 1:18-23
*CAROL	“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing”	No. 150
THE SIXTH READING		Matthew 2:1-11
*CAROL	“We Three Kings”	No. 172, 1, 5

THE OFFERTORY

“What Strangers Are These”

Scottish folk song/
Dan Forrest

***CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY (tune: “Old 100th”)**

**God’s love has come at Christmastime.
God’s love in Jesus brightly shines.
God’s Spirit love is on the move,
Our gifts are blessed and shared in love**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HOMILY

THE SEVENTH READING

John 1:1-14

***CAROL**

“Silent Night”

No. 145

As the carol is sung the light of Christ will be passed throughout the congregation.

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

***DEPART IN JOY AND SONG “Joy to the World”**

No. 143

POSTLUDE

“Angels We Have Heard on High” arr. Anna Laura Page

Throughout the order of worship, if print is in bold, words may be spoken in unison.

(*)Please rise in body or spirit.

† NRSV Bibles are on the pulpit side and the RSV Bibles are on the lectern side of the sanctuary.

Visiting Falmouth Congregational this morning? Please fill out a blue visitor card and put it in the offering plate so that we can send you a (personal, non-spam) welcome email!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Greeter: Paul Davis
Liturgists: Virginia Eddy, Marilee Beinema,
Ann Sanborn, Eric Sonnichsen,
Jim Parr & Barbara Fleming
Ushers: Larry & Sue Perry
Joe & Jo Blinick
Advent Lighters: Rev. Amelia

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE
IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

Leon Kauffman
Jo Blinick
Maureen Grubb
Ginny Hamilton
James Klenk
Rev. Beinema



Don Worthen
Joan Bamel
Bee O'Brien
Myron Krueger
Maytha Southard

Please let the church office know if we have missed someone and please update us so that we may better pray for them. Thank you.

*Special Thank You to our substitute Musician,
Brian Wilson
For filling in for Doris Krueger
For our Christmas Eve 8 Pm service.*

*Christmas Poinsettias
In Memory and Honor of Our
Loved Ones*



*Poinsettia:
The Flower of Christmas*

December 2019

*Falmouth Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Falmouth, Maine*

In Memory of Loved Ones

*Cliff and Gerry Ashley
From daughter, Joan*

*Evelyn Randall
Ralph Randall
Jennifer Bissell and Virginia Eddy*

*Kenneth W and Harriet A. Bowden
Cathy and Ken Bowden*

*Our Parents
Joe and Jo Blinick*

*Robbie Coleman
His Family*

*Florence and Harvey McCann
Their Family*

*Gladys and Everett Coleman
Harvey and Dorothea McCann
Myrtle and Edward Winslow
Jeaneen Coleman*

*Florence McCann and Robbie Coleman
Edison and Sarah Love
Anne and Rodney Coleman*

*Ronald Myers
Charles Cousins
Paul and Melissa Cousins*



*Jack and Ginny Davis
Ted and Drummie Frost
Jack and Laurie Davis*

*Jack and Anita Davidson
Captain Michael C. Davidson
Sam Davidson*

*Judy Currier
Alan Doughty*

*David Stouder
Richard and Stella Nugent
Warren and Constance Dufty
Julie Prybylo
Rev. Amelia and Jake Edson*

*Robert, Albina and Richard Farry
Rita Farry*

*Charles L. Grubb, Jr.
Heather May Grubb, granddaughter
Charles and Emma Grubb, Sr.
Maureen Grubb and Family*

*Barry W. Hamilton
His children, Jamie and Marta*

*Barry W. Hamilton
His granddaughters, Kayla and Alexa*

*James E. Donegan, our father and grandfather
Bill, Kathleen and James Henderson*



*Winnie Drown
Phoebe Horne*

*Jay Holt
Arthur Cole
Elizabeth Cole
Aileen Brannock
Jesse Holt
John and Barb Holt*

*Carolyn Wiles
Ruth Norton
Rudolph Komenda
James A. Wescott
David and Phoebe Horne*

*Friends and loved ones who passed in 2019
My husband and my parents
Carol Kauffman*

*Carl R. Nilsen
Love, daughter, Heidi Nilsen*

*Liz Olen Cook
Her Family*

*Aunt Jennie
The Olen family*

*Donna W. Johnson
George E. Sanborn
Paul S. & Iola V. Woodworth
Ann W. Sanborn*



*Edward Shively
Betty Shively*

*Ralph and Nancy Harper
Clifford and Charlotte Sinnett
The Sinnett Family*

*Harold and Thelma Sonnichesen
Howard and Mildred Fleming
Eric Sonnichsen and Barbara Flaming*

*Fritz and Betty Hessemer
Bob and Barbara Stegemann
Tom and Jane Stegemann*

*Stella Nugent and Marian Stouder
Beth Stouder and Bill Nugent*

*Our Parents:
Jack and Hallie Vail
Jack and Doris Tarbell
Ted and Dolores Vail*

*Stewart and Erma Varney
Eldwin and Hope Wixson
Erlon and Faith Varney*

*Carie Eck
Our loving Grandparents and Great Grandparents
Scott, Kris, Kailyn and Brendon Walker*



In Honor of Loved Ones

*In appreciation of the FCC Staff
Jess Dickson*

*Harriet Lawson Wright, our mother & grandmother
Bill, Kathleen and James Henderson*

*Diana, Laura and Stacey
David and Phoebe Horne*

*The members of the Ministry of Community Life
My children and grandchildren
Carol Kauffman*

*The Packard and Mathieu Family
Diane Mathieu*

*Myron Hagar
Ted and Dolores Vail*

*Chancel Choir
Chancel Bell Choir
Doris Krueger*





The Legend of the Poinsettia

There is an old Mexican legend about how Poinsettias and Christmas come together, it goes like this:

There was once a poor Mexican girl called Pepita who had no present to give the baby Jesus at the Christmas Eve Services. As Pepita walked to the chapel, sadly, her cousin Pedro tried to cheer her up.

'Pepita', he said "I'm sure that even the smallest gift, given by someone who loves him will make Jesus Happy."

Pepita didn't know what she could give, so she picked a small handful of weeds from the roadside and made them into a small bouquet. She felt embarrassed because she could only give this small present to Jesus. As she walked through the chapel to the altar, she remembered what Pedro had said. She began to feel better, knelt down and put the bouquet at the bottom of the nativity scene. Suddenly, the bouquet of weeds burst into bright red flowers, and everyone who saw them were sure they had seen a miracle. From that day on, the bright red flowers were known as the 'Flores de Noche Buena', or 'Flowers of the Holy Night'.

The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought as a symbol of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to Jesus. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent his purity.

**May Peace be your gift
at Christmas and your
blessing all year
through!**