



# 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





## 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

Joe Blinick

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

### \*CAROL

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

No. 149, v. 1,2,4

### CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup> *(inspired by Psalm 92, Psalm 95, and Psalm 19:14)*

One: Holy, Creating, Creative God,

**All: We sing from the depths of our sorrow.**

One: We sing from the abundance of our joy.

**All: We sing in voices separate and unique.**

One: We sing with one voice as Your body.

**All: May the words of our mouths, whether in speech or song,**

One: and the meditations of our hearts, whether in prose or poetry,

**All: be pleasing in Your sight. Amen.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Merciful God, we have fallen short, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/05/call-to-worship-prayer-psalm-92.html>

**Forgive, renew, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and follow in Your ways, to the glory of Your name. Amen.**

### **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!

**All: Hallelujah!**

### **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

*Children are invited to return to their seats to worship with their family.  
There is no Kids' Church this week and will resume next Sunday.*

### **SCRIPTURE**

Luke 2:15-20

Laurie Davis

### **REFLECTION**

#### **\*CAROL**

"The First Noel"

No. 151

### **REFLECTION**

#### **\*CAROL**

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

No. 153, v. 1,3,4

### **REFLECTION**

#### **\*CAROL**

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

No. 164

### **REFLECTION**

#### **\*CAROL**

"How Great Our Joy!"

No. 170, v. 1,3,4

*Ushers will collect prayer cards during this hymn.*

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### OFFERTORY

"What Child Is This?" arr. Smith & Hustad  
Jan Stover, organ; John Wilcox, piano  
*You may also donate online or on Venmo @FalmouthUCC*

### \*DOXOLOGY

No. 46

### \*BENEDICTION

\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Go, Tell It On the Mountain" No. 167 (refrain only)

### ORGAN POSTLUDE

"Echo Noel"

D'Aquin

† 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

Minister of Music: Jan Stover

Minister of Children & Families: Lydia Hoffman

Ushers: Alyce Graves, Jennifer Major

Online Worship: Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais

Special thanks to our Reflection readers.

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### Lectionary

We are reading through the Bible in 2024.  
Next week's reading is the book of Genesis.

*Happy New Year!*