



# 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



Perhaps the butterfly is proof that you can go through a great deal of darkness yet become something beautiful.

-Beau Taplin



On the sea within me  
there is one who cries out  
and one who responds.

Within me, one who commands  
and one who asks to be commanded.

One who panics in the chaos  
and, yes, within me, one who is steady.

One who is terrified at the waves  
and one who finds footing there.

One clings to the known  
and one strides in mystery.

They reach out to each other  
on the beautiful stormy sea within me.

As long as they hold onto each other  
I do not sink.

-Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Unfolding Light

[www.unfoldinglight.net](http://www.unfoldinglight.net)

10:00 AM

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST August 13, 2023



## 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**

John Wilcox, piano

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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.**

**ORGAN PRELUDE** “If You Will Only Let God Guide You” arr. Anna Laura Page

**CALL TO WORSHIP** From The United Church of Christ Statement of Faith

One: We come to encounter God, the Eternal Spirit, who had been made known to us in Jesus our brother.

**All: We come to testify to God’s deeds.**

One: God called the worlds into being, created us in the Divine image, and set before us the ways of life and death.

**All: We come to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, and become servants in the service of others.**

One: We seek strength to proclaim the Gospel and resist the powers of evil.

**All: We come to share in Christ's baptism and his passion and victory over sin and death.**

One: We yearn for the forgiveness of our shortcomings, and the grace of new beginnings.

**All: We come for courage in the struggle for justice and peace, remembering God’s presence in our lives, and anticipating that eternal life in the realm which has no end.**

One: Let us worship our God, who transforms our lives and our world!

## 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. 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 (From Romans 8:38-39)

One: With Paul the Apostle,

**All:** we are convinced 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 in Christ Jesus our lord. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*Kids' church runs September through June, during the summer kids are welcome to participate in worship and may grab a busy bag.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

"His Mercy Is More"

Boswell & Papa

Eva, Grace & Mark Howison; Grace, Mickey & Alicia Johnson, vocals

Virginia Eddy, bass guitar; Ted Hagarty, guitar

**Congregation Sing on Chorus:**

**Praise the Lord, His mercy is more**

**Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn**

**Our sins, they are many; His mercy is more.**

## SCRIPTURE

Psalm 85:8-13

Virginia Eddy

## SERMON

Jane Stegemann

## \*HYMN

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

No. 86

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**OFFERTORY**    *You may also donate online or on Venmo @FalmouthUCC*  
"Let the Peace of God Reign"                      Darlene Zschech  
Alicia & Grace Johnson, vocals; Mickey Johnson, piano; Ted Hagarty, guitar

**\*DOXOLOGY** No. 46  
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**  
**Praise God all creatures here below;**  
**Praise God above, ye heavenly host;**  
**Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**                      "Day by Day" No. 599  
**Day by day, day by day,**  
**O, dear Lord, three things I pray:**  
**To see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,**  
**follow thee more nearly, day by day,**  
**by day, by day, by day.**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**                      "Now Thank We All Our God" J. S. Bach

† Musical material is presented under CCLI License #11176026

\* *Please stand in body or spirit*

Thank you to our worship participants:

Presiding:                      Laurie Davis, Jane Stegemann  
Minister of Music:              Jan Stover  
Ushers:                      Jim Parr  
Online Worship:              Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais

*The flowers on the chancel are given in honor of Jo Blinick's special birthday on August 14<sup>th</sup>, from her loving husband, Joe.*



**Next Sunday's Lectionary**

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28