



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



10:00 AM

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Aug 27, 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

Joe Blinick

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.**

PRELUDE

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

Eric Nelson

Barbara Graustein, cello; Ann Sanborn, saxophone

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: Gracious God, we gather today to celebrate and cultivate mercy, grace,
and forgiveness

All: **Not because those things come easily to us**

One: because we are in desperate need of them

All: **We come to meet each other**

One: Not because we have things in common

All: **because other people challenge our assumptions, increase our
compassion, and help us see the complexity of God**

One: We come to worship God

All: **Not because we are all good,**

One: because we seek to worship something greater than our own selves,
and to acknowledge our own dependence, interdependence, and need

All: **We gather to worship**

One: Let us begin.

¹ Call to worship inspired by Nadia Boltz Weber's introduction to *The Corners*
<https://thecorners.substack.com>

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: With the apostle Paul we proclaim

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. (Rom. 8)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Kids' Church runs from September through June.

Children are welcome to stay and participate in worship. Busy bags are available.

***HYMN** "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" No. 90

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22: 34-46 Ann Sanborn

SERMON Lydia Hoffman

***HYMN** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" No. 344

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY *You may also donate online or on Venmo @FalmouthUCC*

"I Want to Be Like Jesus" arr. Tom Fettke
Barbara Dow & Jan Stover, vocal duet

***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 “Let Us Altogether Praise 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:	Lydia Hoffman
Minister of Music:	Jan Stover
Usher:	Jim Scherer
Online Worship:	Virginia Eddy, Tom Stegemann, Jack Gervais



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Exodus 3:1-15 and Psalm 105:1-6,23-26,45b;
Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28