



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 Michael H. Richards
Pastor and Teacher

FALMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation

10:00 AM

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 19, 2017

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*God's desire for the church is to be united on the foundation of Jesus Christ.
Unity in the church is a given, a gift from God.
Trust the gift, and allow Christ to hold us together.*

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

HONORING OUR CALL TO BE PEACEMAKERS

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(As a sign of our reconciliation with God and one another, we invite you to turn and greet those around you sharing the peace of Christ saying: "The Peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you.")

PRELUDE

"We Gather Together/Count Your Blessings"

arr. Brant Adams

Ann Sanborn, Alto Saxophone

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The diffuse light of the sunrise, a sign;

All: Christ's hopeful light, ending the darkness.

One: The light beam from a lighthouse, a sign;

All: Christ's light of security in a fast changing world.

One: The clear beam from a flashlight, a sign;

All: Christ's revealing light, exposing the ways of selfishness and greed.

One: The gentle light of a candle, a sign;

All: Christ, the Light of the World for his time, for our time, and all time beyond.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Firm a Foundation"

No. 618, vs. 1,3,5

*OUR LORD'S PRAYER (sung in unison)

No. 307

A TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: What a generous nature You have, O God!

All: You have given us gifts in creation without number, You have covered us with Your starry sky.

One: What a generous nature You have, O God!

All: You have set us in families, and given us the joy of parents, grandparents, and children.

One: What a generous nature You have, O God!

All: You have shown us the power of forgiveness, the sense of not repaying wrong with wrong.

One: What a generous nature You have, O God!

All: You have graced us, Your Church, with opportunities for working together.

One: What a generous nature You have, O God!

All: You have given us Jesus your Anointed One, whose life values, and death on the cross, resound with Your generosity. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: It seems impossible to love our enemies, O God; they have hurt and humiliated us.

All: You show us that revenge does not work out.

One: It seems impossible to love our enemies, O God; they have taken advantage and laugh at us.

All: You show us that we have to see their point of view.

One: It seems impossible to love our enemies, O God; they undermine our self-confidence.

All: You show us that peace can be shared between us.

One: It seems impossible to love our enemies, O God; they expose our failings and shortcomings.

All: In Jesus, You have shown us that with love nothing is impossible.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Michael

One: Jesus says, "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

All: We will take these words to heart, and remember when anger and thoughts of revenge rule.

One: Jesus says, "turn the other cheek."

All: It is so hard to do this, O God, but we believe it will work.

One: Pardon and peace are yours.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

(NRSV p. 98; RSV p. 103[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 5:38-48

(NRSV p. 4; RSV p. 5[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

"Turn the Other Cheek – Really?"

Pastor Michael

*HYMN

"The Gift of Love"

No. 526

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Amen"

McNeil Robinson II

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation

The Offertory

"How I Love My Savior"

Ladies of the Choir

arr. Wayne Hooper

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

One: Our gifts are blessed through Your Spirit, O God.

All: They find sadness and bring comfort; they find despair and bring hope; they find persons in a rut and bring freedom; they find talent and expose it for all to see; they find narrow-mindedness and bring fresh insights, the same way Jesus did! Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

No. 275

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always. Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new Life! Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Voluntary in D Major”

Henry Purcell

(During the postlude, you may be seated to listen, or you may leave.)

(* Please rise in body or spirit.

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

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

Please silence or turn off your cell phone before you enter the sanctuary. Thank you!

Worship Participants

Greeter: Nancy Lightbody

Liturgist: Nancy Lightbody

Ushers: Sue Perry, Larry Perry, Tyler Henderson, Barbara Fleming



The flowers this morning are given

in honor of Kirsten Mazur

as she celebrates her 21st birthday today.

With love from Mom, Dad and Courtney.

We **welcome** you to worship and invite you to join us after the service in Fellowship Hall for refreshments. If you are visiting us today, please pick up a **Welcome Bag** in Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex. We encourage you to sign the guest book.

Children will be dismissed for Kids' Church following "A Time for the Children." **Visiting children are always welcome!** Kids' Church takes place in the downstairs classrooms, and runs until 11:15 AM. Children in preschool through grade 2 will not be dismissed after class until picked up by a parent.

The **Ministry of Community Life** will gather on **Wednesday, March 1 at 1:00 PM** in the Grant Room. Newcomers are always welcomed and celebrated! Refreshments will be served. For more information, please contact Carol Kauffman at 781-4140.

On **Wednesday, March 1**, we will be offering an **Ash Wednesday** service at 7:00 PM.

The next **Women's Spiritual Book Group** gathering will be on **Wednesday, March 8** at 1 PM at Eunice Wilcox's home. The current selection is, "*The Faith Club: A Muslim, Christian and Jew – Three Women Search for Understanding*" by Ranya Idliby, Suzanne Oliver and Priscilla Warner. Join us! Please contact Molly Mason or Cathy Bowden for more information.

We have several openings for chancel flowers. Sign up today to hold a special date and celebrate the Glory of God and remember or honor a loved one. You can provide the **Chancel Flowers** by selecting a Sunday in 2017 and signing up on the flower sheet in Fellowship Hall. Fill out a chancel flower form and place it in the offering plate or turn it into the office.

Are you able to provide help during the worship service? We are looking for people to volunteer for the following positions:

Ushering: (contact Larry Perry or Jim Parr at jparr2@maine.rr.com) Both regular and substitute ushers are needed. Ushers hand out bulletins and collect the offering.

Greeters: (contact Carol Kauffman at bearlover12@earthlink.net) Either singularly or as a pair, the greeter(s) welcome parishioners upon their arrival to church and occasionally deliver altar flowers to our homebound friends.

Liturgists: (contact Larry Perry or Jim Parr at jparr2@maine.rr.com) Liturgists are responsible for leading the congregation in the Prayer of Invocation and Prayer of Confession. They also read the first scripture.

Thank you for your service to the church.

The **Falmouth Food Pantry will be open on the following days in February:** Monday, February 20 from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM; Tuesdays, February 21 and 28 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and on Thursday, February 23 from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM.



PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**Robbie Coleman
Charlie Grubb
Maureen Grubb**



**Katrina Harriman Conde
Mimi Mahirwe
Carol Kauffman**

Please let the church office know if we have missed someone. We will keep people on the prayer list for one month. If you would like them to continue on the prayer list, please update us so that we may better pray for them. Thank you.



Next Sunday's Lectionary
Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; **Matthew 17:1-9**

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed on Friday
Church Phone: 207.781.3413
Visit our Web site: www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org
Church Office e-mail: fccdesk@maine.rr.com

Pastor Michael Richards
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Matthew Strobel
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Laurie Logan
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This Week's Schedule

- Sunday February 19**
- 10:00 AM Worship**
 - 10:10 AM Kids' Church**
 - 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship**
 - 11:30 AM Bible Study (Parlor)**
 - 11:30 AM Council of Ministries (Grant Room)**
 - 11:30 AM Ministry of Education (CE Office)**
- Tuesday February 21**
- 10:00 AM Bible Study (OceanView)**
- Wednesday February 22**
- 6:00 PM Kids Movie Night**
 - 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal**
- Thursday February 23**
- 10:00 AM Collators (Grant Room)**
- Sunday February 26**
- 9:00 AM Choir Practice**
 - 10:00 AM Worship**
 - 10:10 AM Kids' Church**
 - 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship**



Falmouth Congregational Church is a fragrance-free environment. Please help us to accommodate our members and visitors who are chemically sensitive to fragrances and other scented products. Thank you for not wearing perfume, aftershave, scented hand lotion, fragranced hair products and/or similar products.

