



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

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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

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*Honoring the Sabbath is not about rules, but about transformation.
"It is never too late to be who you might have been."*

– George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans)

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

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Setting by Paul Manz

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Glory of God is around us;

All: God is with us in the most testing times.

One: The Glorious God reveals truth to us;

All: in Jesus, we have the words that count, and the example to follow.

One: The Glorious God is to be praised;

All: we will joyfully bring our prayers, our hymns, and our thanksgivings to God. Let us worship God!

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"Holy Ground"
(Sing twice)

No. 112

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

A TIME FOR THE CHILDREN

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: It is a mystery, O God, Your creation of this wonderful world.

All: We come before You, thankful for the gift of life.

One: It is a mystery, O God, Your presence known by the people of ancient days.

All: We come before You as a chosen people.

One: It is a mystery, O God, Your gradually revealed love for all humankind.

All: We come before You, rejoicing that Your love endures.

One: It is a mystery, O God, Your supreme gift to the world in Jesus Christ.

All: We come before You as those whose saving acts will reflect the Saviour. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: This is an awesome place; we stand on Holy Ground.

All: Forgive us, O God, when we take our worship and service for granted.

One: This is an awesome place; we are inspired by a Holy Book.

All: Forgive us, O God, when we ignore Your word for us and our faith community.

One: This is an awesome place, and we are called to sacred tasks.

All: Forgive us, O God, when our response is casual and partial.

One: This is an awesome place, and we follow an awesome Christ.

All: Forgive us, O God, when we resist Christ's call to compassion, to acceptance, and to justice.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Michael

One: Let us receive the inspiration of God.

**All: In Your Spirit, O God, the ordinary is transformed into the Holy;
in Your Spirit, O God, all that is unworthy is left in the past;
in Your Spirit, O God, the future will be faced without fear.**

One: In God's Spirit, peace and a new way will be yours.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 24:12-18

(NRSV p. 65; RSV p. 68[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

New Testament Lesson

Matthew 17:1-9

(NRSV p. 16; RSV p. 17[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

"Journey to the Mountaintop and Back Again"

Pastor Michael

*HYMN

"He Is Exalted / All Hail King Jesus / He Is Exalted"

Insert

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation
The Offertory

“Hallelujah”
Soloist Bradley Krueger

Ferdinand Hummel

***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: Beyond our understanding or imagining, You are for us and with us, O God.

All: These gifts are a pledge of our loyalty to You.

One: Grant us wisdom and common sense as we use all You have entrusted to us;

All: that Your name may be glorified, and the Way of Jesus carefully followed. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

No. 592

***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

“God of Grace”

Setting by Paul Manz

(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: Virginia Eddy

Liturgist: Mark Horton

Ushers: Judy Currier, Pam Carroll, Judy Nilsen, Lorraine Bergen



Special thanks to Bradley Krueger this morning for sharing his musical gifts with us today.

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.

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

Lenten Bible Study will be held following worship starting next Sunday, **March 5 and every Sunday thereafter through April 2**.

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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry will be gathering **Thursday, March 9 at 1:30 PM** in the Grant Room. The more the merrier so please plan on joining us, all are welcome! Please contact Judy Nilsen at 781-3664 for more information.

The next **Coffee House** event will be on **Friday, March 10 from 6:30 to 9:00 PM**. Enjoy a beverage and listen to music from local artists. This month we welcome back our very own *Mark Horton*. Invite your friends and neighbors to this family-friendly event!

Please join us for an **Italian Dinner on Saturday, March 18, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

There will be salads, lasagna, Italian dishes, and desserts, as well as live violin music! A portion of the proceeds will go to supporting the Church's Mission efforts including helping the Italian earthquake victims. If you would like to volunteer that evening, please sign up on the lists in Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there. Ciao!

The **Falmouth Food Pantry** will be open on the following days in **March**: Mondays, March 6 and 20 from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM; Tuesdays, March 14, 21 and 28 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and on Thursdays, March 9, 16 and 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
David Harmon
Chrisanne Salazar



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

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; **Matthew 4:1-11**

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

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Laurie Logan
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This Week's Schedule

Sunday February 26

10:00 AM Worship

10:10 AM Kids' Church

11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

Tuesday February 28

10:00 AM Bible Study (OceanView)

Wednesday March 1 ~ Ash Wednesday

1:00 PM Ministry of Community Life (Grant Room)

7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service

8:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday March 2

6:30 PM Ministry of Missions (Grant Room)

7:00 PM Ministry of Facility Stewardship

Sunday March 5 ~ Communion ~ First Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM Choir Practice

10:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Kids' Church

11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:30 AM Lenten Bible Study (Parlor)