



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
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10:00 AM

REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 29, 2017

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"If you young fellows were wise, the devil couldn't do anything to you, but since you aren't wise, you need us who are old."

~ Martin Luther

*Reforming the church is like remodeling your house.
It takes longer than you think, costs more than you expect,
and makes a bigger mess than you ever imagined.*

~ Anonymous

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

A TRIBUTE TO HEIDI

"Angel"

Jessica Collins and Kristen Coleman

Sarah McLachlan

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

"Built On a Rock"

arr. Gordon Young

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: From generation to generation, You are our God;

All: we praise and worship You!

One: Creator of our world, life force of every human being;

All: we praise and worship You!

One: Author of time, yet above and beyond all time;

All: we praise and worship You!

One: Steadfast in Your love, each new day;

All: we praise and worship You!

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

No. 65

***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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Nancy Lightbody

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: With our lips we praise You, O God;

All: lips that speak of Your awesome creation, and the wonder of Your love.

One: With our minds we praise You, God;

All: minds to understand the depth of Your compassion, and to work out Your way of justice and mercy.

One: With our hearts we praise You, O God;

All: hearts to feel the generosity of Your beloved one, Jesus, and to respond with faithful discipleship. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison)

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore, I will remain with you of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.

~ Martin Luther (1483-1546)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor Michael

This is the earliest form of assurance and forgiveness in the English language following the break with the Roman Catholic Church in 1552.

One: Almightie God, the father of oure Lord Jesus Christ, which desireth not the death of a synner, but rather that he maye turne from his wickedness and live: and hath geven power and commaundment to hys ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, beinge penitent, the absolution and remission of their synnes: he pardoneth and absolveth all them which truely repent, and unfeynedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore we beseche him to graunt us true repentaunce and his holy Spirite, that those thinges may please him, which we do at this present, and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure and holy: so that at the last we may come to hys eternall joye, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

(NRSV p. 179; RSV p. 189[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Lesson

Romans 3:19-28

(NRSV p. 134; RSV p. 144[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

“The Sign on the Door”

Pastor Michael

*HYMN

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

No. 67

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE

“Amen”

Danish

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation

The Offertory

“God is Our Refuge”

Allen Pote

*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: You bless us in our offering, O God; you bless the worship and work our gifts make possible.

All: You bless our understanding of the Word; you bless the fellowship we enjoy in this church; you bless our links with other faith groups; you bless the Christian witness we make day by day; you bless our stand with the powerless; you bless our work for peace in a troubled world.

One: You bless our gifts, for they have the Spirit of Jesus within them.

All: Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

No. 5

*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

“A Mighty Fortress”

Martin Luther

(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: Mary Hart

Liturgist: Marilee Pillsbury

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



The flowers this morning are given

In loving memory of our mothers

Eva Dexter and Deborah Eddy.

From Arthur and Florence Wescott;

and Phoebe and David Horne.

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 go directly to Beinema Hall for Kids' Church today. **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.

Pastor Michael has started his regular **Bible Study** the **first and third Sundays** of the month following worship in the Parlor. He will continue exploring the book of Acts. Visitors, members, and friends are welcome and encouraged to attend.

The next coffee house event will be on **Friday, November 10 from 6:30 to 9:00 PM**. The featured musicians are singer/songwriter/rhythm guitarist Ronda Dale and singer/songwriter/multi-instrumentalist Rob Babson who will perform original songs and eclectic covers with blues, country, R&B and jazz influences. You won't want to miss these two perform. Come enjoy a beverage and listen to great music. Invite your friends and neighbors to this family-friendly event!

We have a **unique volunteer opportunity** for you! If you enjoy the coffee drinks that Matthew or Pastor Michael create on the coffee machine in Fellowship Hall, would you like to learn how? Want to know an espresso from a latte? Free training! Talk with Pastor Michael or Matthew Strobel if interested.

It's fall clean up time! Please bring your garden gloves, rakes and other yard tools on **Saturday, November 11 from 9 AM to noon**. We'll get the grounds ready for their winter coat of snow.

The **Falmouth Food Pantry will be open on the following day in October:** Tuesday, October 31 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM. Your garden produce is always welcome and appreciated by the food pantry clients.

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**Robbie Coleman
The Gage Family
Charlie Grubb
Maureen Grubb
Joyce Harmon**



**Bee O'Brien
Bob Taylor
Phoebe Horne
Maytha Southard**

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

Joshua 3:7-17; Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37; 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13; **Matthew 23:1-12**



Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Closed on Fridays
Church Phone: 207.781.3413

Visit our Web site: www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org
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This Week's Schedule

- Sunday October 29 ~ Reformation Sunday**
- 10:00 AM Worship**
 - 10:10 AM Kids' Church**
 - 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship**
 - 11:30 AM Soup Can Brigade**
 - 5:00 PM Reformation 500 Jubilee (St. Mary's Episcopal Church)**
- Tuesday October 31**
- 10:00 AM Bible Study - OceanView**
- Wednesday November 1**
- 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal**
- Thursday November 2**
- 6:30 PM Ministry of Missions (Grant Room)**
 - 7:00 PM Ministry of Facilities Stewardship**
- Saturday November 4**
- Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Sunday November 5 ~ Remembrance Sunday**
- 9:00 AM Choir Practice**
 - 10:00 AM Worship**
 - 10:10 AM Kids' Church**
 - 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship**
 - 11:30 AM Bible Study (Parlor)**

