



# Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

207.781.3413



1833 FALMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 2007

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 15, 2018

**THE COMMUNITY GATHERS**

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

*Making peace is an important form of celebrating the resurrection of Christ. Christ greeted us with the word peace and promised us the reality of peace.*

**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**

**"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"**

**William Bradbury/  
Wilbur Held**

**BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God's Word calls us to thanksgiving.

**All: "Give thanks to God; God is good, God's love is eternal."**

One: God's Word calls us to praise.

**All: "Praise God! All who serve God, all who worship in the Lord's house."**

One: God's Word calls us to community in faith.

**All: "How wonderful it is, how pleasant for God's people to live together in harmony."**

One: God's Word calls us to freedom and justice.

**All: "God hears the groans of the prisoners and sets free those who were doomed to die."**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

**"God of Grace and God of Glory"**

**No. 464, vs. 1,4,5**

**\*OUR LORD'S PRAYER (Debts)**

**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: Surprise us, O most glorious God!

**All: Surprise us with Your message of hope, when the world seems a hostile place.**

One: Surprise us, O most caring God!

**All: Surprise us with Your sustaining presence, when we do not know where to turn.**

One: Surprise us, O most challenging God!

**All: Surprise us with Your way of justice and truth, when the easy way beckons.**

One: Surprise us, O most revealing God!

**All: Surprise us with the face of Jesus Christ, in the most unexpected of persons. Amen.**

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Join us on our Easter journey, Risen and Blessed One.

**All: Refresh our memory and remind us of our shortcomings as Your followers.**

One: Join us in the upper room, Risen and Blessed One.

**All: Enable us to put our fears and doubts in the past, and to greet You with joy.**

One: Join us as we (come to the table) work together, Risen and Blessed One.

**All: Remove the limits from our vision and open us up to new opportunities, new horizons.**

One: Join us in a renewed community, Risen and Blessed One.

**All: Give us enthusiasm as we serve faithfully, and courage to proclaim the Good News.**

### ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

One: You are with us, O God, as we reflect on our lives in the light of Jesus:

**All: His strength while being rejected, His need for good and understanding friends, His willingness to confront the power structures, His insistence on following the truth rather than the easy way, His close, prayerful bond with you.**

One: God is with you as you resolve to think, speak, and act in a faithful way. God wants you to have a fresh start.

**All: Pardon and peace will be ours! Thanks be to You, forgiving God! Amen.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

### THE WORD OF GOD

**New Testament Lesson**

**Acts 3:12-19**

**(NRSV p. 105; RSV p. 114<sup>†</sup>)**

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Lesson**

**Luke 24:36b-48**

**(NRSV p. 78; RSV p. 86<sup>†</sup>)**

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON**

**"Wanting Assurance in Troubled Times"**

**Pastor Michael**

**\*HYMN**

***"Now the Green Blade Rises"***

**No. 230, vs. 1,3,4**

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

### SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

***"Amen"***

**Dresden**

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

**The Invitation**

**The Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

***"Great Is the Lord"***

**Michael & Deborah Smith**

*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 our gifts, O God, and You bless us as we encounter Your Word.

**All: You bless us with enlightenment; You bless us with a will to make a difference; You bless us with a generous spirit.**

One: As we are blessed, so we become a blessing to others within this community of faith.

**All: As we are blessed, so we are freed to give support to those far beyond this community, in mission and in service. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

**No. 233**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE Carrying the Light of Christ into the World**

**\*HYMN**

**“Go in Peace”**

**No. 445**

*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**

**“O Love, How Deep”**

**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

**Worship Participants**

**Greeters:** Jo Blinick, Joe Blinick

**Liturgist:** Marilee Pillsbury

**Ushers:** Anne Coleman, Rodney Coleman, Jack Davis

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.

There will be a meeting to discuss the logistics of **purchasing a mini-bus** for a church-transportation program on **Sunday, April 22**. We will meet in the sanctuary immediately following the service. Questions and input from the congregation are welcome. Please plan on attending.

If there are any **graduates** this spring who would like to be recognized by the church for their hard work, please contact the church office at 781-3413 or [fccdesk@maine.rr.com](mailto:fccdesk@maine.rr.com). Let us know the graduate's future plans, whether it is to attend college (and where), go on to a technical school, or pursue a job opportunity. This information is needed by **May 14** to be published in the June *Congregator*.

The **Falmouth Food Pantry will be open on the following days in April:** Monday, April 16 from 9 AM until 11 AM; Tuesdays, April 17 and 24 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and Thursdays, April 19 and 26 from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM.



## Next Sunday's Lectionary

Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18



## PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

**Robbie Coleman**  
**Charlie Grubb**  
**Maureen Grubb**  
**Bee O'Brien**

**Maytha Southard**  
**Laurie & Roger Marin**  
**Kerry Golding**  
**George Sanborn**

**Hazel McLeod (Scott and Barbara McLeod's baby granddaughter)**

*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.*



## 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](http://www.falmouthcongregationalchurch.org)**

**Church Office e-mail: [fccdesk@maine.rr.com](mailto:fccdesk@maine.rr.com)**

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## **This Week's Schedule**

**Sunday**            **April 15**

**10:00 AM**    **Worship**

**10:10 AM**    **Kids' Church**

**11:15 AM**    Coffee Fellowship

**11:30 AM**    Ministry of Facilities (Grant Room)

**Deadline for May *Congregator* submissions**

**Tuesday**        **April 17**

**10:00 AM**    Bible Study (OceanView)

**Wednesday**    **April 18**

**7:30 PM**     Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**Sunday**         **April 22**

**9:00 AM**     Choir Practice

**10:00 AM**    **Worship**

**10:10 AM**    **Kids' Church**

**11:15 AM**    Coffee Fellowship

**11:30 AM**    Ministry of Education (CE Office)