



Falmouth Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Congregation

267 Falmouth Road

Falmouth, Maine 04105

207.781.3413

Jesus calls the church to minister to all in need. The Syrophenician woman asserts her plea for healing, refusing to be put off even by Jesus. Jesus responds to this outsider's need – would we?



*Serving Christ and Community since
1754 Third Parish Church;
1833 The Brick Church*

Reverend Michael H. Richards
Pastor and Teacher

10:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

HONORING OUR CALL TO BE PEACEMAKERS

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Many: 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 *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"* Setting by Paul Manz

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is a place of thanksgiving.

All: We rejoice that we are here.

One: This is a time to bring praise and prayer to God.

All: We rejoice in the opportunity for worship.

One: These are the friends who have become our church family.

All: We rejoice that they are persons to trust and support.

One: This is the Christ who goes ahead to challenge us.

All: We rejoice that Christ's inspiration has been there for us and always will be. Let us worship God!

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *"In Christ There Is No East or West"* No. 687, vs. 1,3,4

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER** (in unison)

No. 307

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Michael

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: Creator God, we praise You!

All: The beauty of the sunset, the colors of hill and harvest leave us breathless with praise.

One: Holy God, we adore You!

All: The wonder, mystery, and peace of Your presence leave us in awe.

One: God, Our Friend, we worship You!

All: You are known to us in times of deepest joy and in times of hard testing.

One: Just and loving God, we listen to You!

All: We will work Your purpose out when evil threatens and fear looms large.

One: God revealed in Jesus, we pledge our discipleship!

All: We will bring the peace of Christ to those who suffer and the compassion of Christ to those who need support. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, we have created community in this place.

All: Forgive us, God, when our faith community lacks vision or enthusiasm.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, we have made the cross a symbol of healing.

All: Forgive us, God, when we ignore the crying needs of those we don't know, those whose distress does not touch us.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, we have proclaimed that the truth will make us free.

All: Forgive us, God, when we close our minds to new ways of thinking, fresh sources of inspiration.

One: In the name of Jesus Christ, we believe that forgiveness may be received.

All: Forgive us, God, when we will not let our guilt go, when we claim Your love cannot reach us.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

One: Your assurance is ours, O God.

All: Nothing is beyond Your power to enlighten, to heal, and to forgive. Eternal source of hope, we rejoice that new beginnings open up for us.

One: Pardon and peace are yours to accept.

All: We will know peace, thanks be to God! Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

Old Testament Lesson Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 (NRSV p.566; RSV p. 577[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

New Testament Lesson Mark 7:24-37 (NRSV p.37; RSV p. 40[†])

One: This is the Word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God**

SERMON "Our Ministry and Jesus' Grace to Us" **Pastor Michael**

***HYMN** "Open Our Eyes, Lord" **back cover**

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER **Pastor Michael**

ORGAN PRAYER RESPONSE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

The Invitation

The Offertory "Special Music" **Pastor Michael**

*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 have gifted each one of us, living God:

All: some with spontaneous friendship, some with the ability to plan, some with an observant eye, some with a generous nature, some with warm compassion.

One: Bless our gifts of personality.

All: Bless all our gifts, so that the Way of Jesus may be advanced in this faith community and throughout the world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" **No. 5**

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Michael

***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

"Fantasy on Hyfrydol"

Rowland H. Prichard/
Mark Thallander

(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: Paul and Sarah Davis

Liturgist: Nancy Lightbody

Ushers: Judy Currier, Pam Carroll, Tyler Henderson

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

**Maureen Grubb
Robbie Coleman
George Sanborn
Bee O'Brien
Maytha Southard**



**Kerry Golding
Arthur Westcott
Joyce Harmon
Missy Gagne
Jack Horton (*who is serving in Iraq*)**

Names will be removed after 30 days if the office does not receive an update. Please let the church office know if we have missed someone, if any information changes or you will like to add someone to the prayer list. Thank you!

We **WELCOME** you to worship and invite you to join us after the service in Fellowship Hall for refreshments and friendly fellowship. Are you visiting us today? Please be sure to pick up a “**Welcome Bag**” in Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex and sign our guest book.

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**CHOIR Rehearsal & Potluck Dinner:** Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM, Beinema Hall. Please contact Doris at: [dnkrueger@gmail.com](mailto:dnkrueger@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you.

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The **Ministry of Community Life** will meet on Tuesday, September 11th at 2 p.m. in the Grant Room. This meeting will focus on planning for the new church year and evaluating our current policies and procedures. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

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**COFFEE HOUSE, featuring “Rob Emple” September 14, 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM.**  
Rob plays a variety of cover songs - classic rock, old and new country, contemporary pop, and even a few oldies (relatively speaking). Join us and enjoy a cup of hot coffee, hot tea or hot chocolate. This is a family friendly event, all are welcome. Free will donations accepted. FMI call 781-3413 or visit [falmouthcongregationalchurch.org](http://falmouthcongregationalchurch.org).

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Mark your calendars! The series on Hospice, *what it is and what it is not*, begins on Tuesday, September 25 at 3 p.m. in Beinema Hall. Details about the series are in the September Congregator. Let Carol Kauffman know if you wish to attend. She can be reached at bearlover12@maine.rr.com.

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**Falmouth Food Pantry September hours of operation:** Mondays, September 17 from 9 AM until 11 AM; Tuesdays, September 11, 18 and 25 from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM; and Thursdays, September 13, 20 and 27 from 4:30 PM until 6:30 PM



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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 Minister pastormichaelfcc@maine.rr.com	Doris Krueger Minister of Music dnkrueger@gmail.com	Mark Horton Moderator horton04105@yahoo.com
Kristen Coleman Christian Education Administrator fccchristianeducation@maine.rr.com	Matthew Strobel Sexton mstrobel66@yahoo.com	Kim Hendry Vice Moderator Shendry001@maine.rr.com
Jess Dickson Office Manager fccofficemanager@falmouthcongregationalchurch.org		

This Week's Schedule

Sunday September 9 Kids' Kick Off Sunday!

- 10:00 AM Worship Service
- 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship ~ *featuring "Coffee by Design" coffee*
- 11:30 AM Council of Ministries Meeting

Monday September 10

- 6:00 PM Fiddle-icious (Beinema Hall)
- 7:00 PM Ministry of Worship & Covenant (Grant Room)

Tuesday, September 11

- 10:00 AM Bible Study at Ocean View
- 2:00 PM Ministry of Community Life (Grant Room)
- 6:00 PM Steering Committee (Grant Room)
- 7:00 PM Fiddle-icious (Beinema Hall)

Wednesday September 12

- 5:30 PM Pastoral Search Committee (Grant Room)
- 6:30 PM Choir Rehearsal & Pot Luck (Beinema Hall)

Thursday, September 13

- 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl Committee (Grant Room)
- 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 93 (Beinema Hall)

Sunday September 16 CONGREGATOR DEADLINE!

- 9:00 AM Choir Practice
- 10:00 AM Worship Service
- 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship ~ *featuring "Coffee by Design" coffee*

Are you having trouble seeing the small print in the bulletin?
Please ask an usher for a **LARGE print bulletin and hymn.**



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Proverbs 1:20-33; Isaiah 50:4-91a; James 3:1-12; **Mark 8:27-38**

Open Our Eyes



O - pen our eyes, Lord, _____ we want to see Je -



sus, _____ to reach out and touch him, _____ and



say that we love him. _____ O - pen our ears, Lord, _



_____ and help us to lis - ten. _____ O - pen our



eyes, Lord, _____ we want to see Je - sus. _____

WORDS: Bob Cull (John 12:21; Eph. 1:17-18)

MUSIC: Bob Cull

OPEN OUR EYES

Irregular

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