



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



THE COMMUNITY GATHERS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

*“Devils and angels: temptation in the wilderness.
Where do we experience our wilderness and what are our temptations?”*

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 *“Rose Window from Gothic Triptych”* Gordon Young

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lead us, O God, as we enter the Lenten season.

All: Give us the courage of Jesus, who did not hang back from confronting evil.

One: Lead us, O God, as we enter the Lenten season.

All: Give us the dedication of Jesus, who was not diverted from preaching the Gospel.

One: Lead us, O God, as we enter the Lenten season.

All: Give us the compassion of Jesus, who saw the suffering ones and was moved to help them.

One: Lead us, O God, as we enter the Lenten season.

All: Give us the faithfulness of Jesus, who saw the cross but did not turn back.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

No. 180 vs. 1,3,4

“Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days”

***OUR LORD’S PRAYER (In unison)**

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.

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Pastor Michael

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

One: In moments of reflection,

All: May we know the peace of Your presence, O God.

One: In the offering of prayer,

All: May we hear Your still small voice, O God.

One: In the quiet places of our life,

All: May we be aware of Your gentle leading ,O God.

One: In the sacred church moments,

All: May we sense Your Holy Spirit, O God, bringing us together for service in the Way of Jesus. Amen.

CALLED TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: “Lead us not into temptation.”

All: We are tempted to take the easy but flawed path.

One: “Deliver us from evil.”

All: Evil flourishes when apathy and selfishness take root in us.

One: “Lead us not into temptation.”

All: We are tempted to avoid the needs of family members and those around us.

One: “Deliver us from evil.”

All: Deliver us from the evil that is an intimate part of us, and from the darkness we choose to ignore in our neighborhood, our society, and our church.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The God who knows us through and through, the God who realizes our potential for good, calls on us to change our flawed ways and meet the needs of others.

All: We are intent on change; we will no longer tolerate the suffering of others.

One: God promises you pardon and peace!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE WORD OF GOD

New Testament Lesson Luke 4:1-13 (NRSV p.53; RSV p.58 †)

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

Old Testament Lesson Deuteronomy 26:1-11 (NRSV p.168; RSV p.178 †)

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

SERMON "Our Lenten Offerings" **Pastor Michael**

***HYMN** "We Walk By Faith" **Insert vs. 1, 2, 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 "Jesus Paid it All" **Hugh Livingston**

***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: Gifts without limit we have received from You, O God, and we return our gifts, joyfully and with thankfulness!

All: We give, so that the way of Jesus may be known through the life of our faith community:

One: A way of encouragement and support,

All: A way of compassion and practical help.

One: A way of concern for the needy of this suffering world,

All: A way of concern for the needy in this neighborhood,

One: A way that we are called to walk together,

All: A way that Christ has shown clearly to us. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *“Forty Days and Forty Nights”* No. 179 Vs. 1, 3, 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 *“Christ Lag in Todesbanden”* J.S. Bach

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

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

(*) Please rise in body or spirit.

† 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

Greeters: Don and Marion Olen

Liturgist: Jim Parr

Ushers: Nancy Lightbody, Steve Hendry, Mark & Peggy Horton



PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE
IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS



Maureen Grubb
Robbie Coleman
Maytha Southard
Missy Gage

Myron Krueger
Florence McCann
Florence Wescott
Ginny Hamilton

Priscilla Depetris
Jack Horton *(who is
serving in Iraq)*

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



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

The Falmouth Food Pantry will be open the on the following days in March: Monday, March 18, 9:00 – 11:00 AM; Tuesdays, March 12, 19 & 26, from 9:30-11:30 AM; and Thursdays, March 14, 21 & 28, from 4:30-6:30 PM.

We have openings for chancel flowers. Sign up to hold a special date to celebrate the Glory of God and remember or honor a loved one. You can provide the **Chancel Flowers** by selecting a Sunday 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 along with a check for \$38 payable to Falmouth Congregational Church UCC.

The Pastoral Transition Committee, led by Steve Hendry and including Peggy McGehee Horton, Laurie Davis and Cathy Bowden, have begun their work supporting a smooth and successful transition as Falmouth Congregational Church UCC prepares to say goodbye to Pastor Michael and welcome Pastor Amelia. Please look for updates and details in upcoming Congregators and bulletin notes. And, feel free to speak with one of us with questions and thoughts. We look forward to working together to recognize Pastor Michael's contributions and prepare for Pastor Amelia's arrival.

Ministry of Missions ~ SCHOOL KITS:

We are nearing our goal for this year. Still needed are:

- 17 - 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages
- 19 – 12” rulers

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

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LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

- March 6- Ash Wednesday – The Mystery of Life and Death
- March 10 – The Mystery of Good and Evil
- March 17 – The Mystery of God's Glory
- March 24 – The Mystery of Sin, Suffering and Hope
- March 31 – The Mystery of Relationship and Reconciliation
- April 7 – The Mystery of Love and Sacrifice
- April 14 – The Mystery of Joy and Salvation

We will meet after worship in either the Grant Room or Beinema Hall. Soup and bread will be provided.

Booklets for the study will be available March 3rd. Please see Pastor Michael. Volunteers to provide soup/bread are greatly appreciated.

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, March 10 ~First Sunday of Lent

- 10:00 AM** **Worship Service & Kids' Church**
- 11:15 AM** **Coffee Fellowship ~ featuring "Coffee by Design" coffee**
- 11:30 AM** Council of Ministries (Grant Room)
- 11:30 AM** Lenten Bible Study (Beinema Hall)

Deadline for April Congregator Article Submissions!

Monday, March 11

- 6:00 PM** Fiddle-icious (Beinema Hall)

Tuesday, March 12

- 9:00 AM** Aerobics (Beinema Hall)
- 10:00 AM** Bible Study at Ocean View
- 6:00 AM** Cub Scout Pack Meeting (Beinema Hall)

Wednesday, March 13

- 8:30 AM** Aerobics (Beinema Hall)
- 7:00 PM** Transitional Committee Meeting (Grant Room)
- 7:30 PM** Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 14

- 1:30 PM** **Prayer Shawl Ministry (Grant Room)**
- 7:00 PM** Boy Scouts Troop 93 (Beinema Hall)

Friday, March 15

- 9:00 AM** Aerobics (Beinema Hall)

Sunday, March 17 ~ Second Sunday of Lent

- 9:00 AM** Choir Practice
- 10:00 AM** **Worship Service & Kids' Church**
- 11:15 AM** **Coffee Fellowship ~ featuring "Coffee by Design" coffee**
- 11:30 AM** **Lenten Bible Study (Beinema Hall)**



Next Sunday's Lectionary

Genesis 15:1-12; Psalms 27; Philipians 3:17-4:1; **Luke 13:31-35**