

First Congregational United Church of Christ
“Where No One Is A Stranger”
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 6, 2022

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (read responsively)

One: Great is the grace and glory of God.

Many: We give thanks with hearts of joy.

One: Great is the strength and mercy of our creator.

Many: We give thanks with hearts of hope.

One: Great is the courage and hope of our Lord.

Many: We give thanks with hearts of faith.

One: Great is the mercy and compassion of the Holy One.

Many: We give thanks with hearts of love.

***OPENING SONG:** “Holy, Holy, Holy” #136

***OPENING PRAYER** (prayed together)

Holy One, you are ready to meet us wherever we are in our lives, offering vision, interruption, hope where we may least expect it. Surprise us here at worship today with some grace unexpected that will change something in us —large or small—and send us into the world inspired and impassioned to do your work. In Jesus’ name we pray.

Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (prayed together)

God of wonder and joy, we look in the mirror and do not see holiness reflected back. We long to be sisters and brothers with others, but don't want to be an intrusion in our friends' lives. We yearn to be more compassionate, yet it is often spite and malice we offer to someone else. We are so busy listening to those internal i-pods, that we have trouble hearing the cries of loneliness coming from those around us.

Forgive us, God who longs to be enthroned in our hearts. You call us to different lives, so we might make a difference for all who hurt. You invite us into your realm, so we might show others the way. You challenge us to take a risk by following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, so we might become your children once again. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

L: The One who alone is Holy became wholly human so we might see the face of grace. The One who is seated in the heavens endured the cross so we might see the face of salvation. This is our good news: we are forgiven!

P: By God's grace, with God's grace, we are who we are meant to be: forgiven, restored, called people. Thanks be to God. Amen.

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 5:1-11

***AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UCC Statement of Faith (read together)
(inside back cover of hymnal)

***GLORIA PATRI** #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Psalm 138 shared from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE: “Hold on Tight” Pastor Chris

GATHERING AT CHRIST’S TABLE Invitation, Communion Prayer, Sanctus, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord’s Prayer, Sharing the Bread and Cup

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, God, for renewing us at your table through this bread and this cup and by the presence of Jesus. Thank you for your eternal love, that sustains all creation. May you continue to love us in our faithful acts and by that love discourage us from our unfaithful acts, that we might rejoice as your servants to the world. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God who alone is holy, we offer our gifts, our lives, our compassion, our service to others, and to your creation. Bless all that we offer, so that we might be blessings of hope, peace, and grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Closing Song**

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

#470

***Going Forth with the Peace of Christ**

The Call to Worship is by Michelle L. Torigian from *The Abingdon Worship Annual – 2022* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Opening Prayer is from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted), Words of Assurance, and Offering Prayer of Dedication are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith is a version of our United Church of Christ Statement of Faith.

The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (adapted) is by John W. Riggs from *Flames of the Spirit-Resources for Worship Like Bread for the Journey* edited by Ruth C. Duck.

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Organist:	Liz Reynolds
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	Pastor Chris Burtnett

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February Radio Sponsor: David Burrow

Birthdays: February 7- Josephine Reynolds

Today, February 6: 10:00 am. – Worship with Communion
Sunday School
Food Pantry
Coffee

Tuesday, February 8: 9:30-11:30 am. Feed Mill
6:30pm Food Pantry Board Meeting

Thursday, February 10: 8:30-Ministeral Meeting at Grace

Sunday, February 9: 10:00 am. – Worship with Sacrament of Baptism
Sunday School
Coffee

We will be celebrating the sacrament of communion this morning. Everyone is welcome at the table. The inner ring is wine and outer ring is grape juice.

Today is Food Pantry Sunday. Donations of canned food, paper products and monetary donations are welcome. If you include your monetary donation with your offering be sure to mark the amount in the memo of your check.

Radio sponsors are needed for March and September. There is a sign-up sheet in the parlor or let the church office know if you would like one of these months.



*First Congregational
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