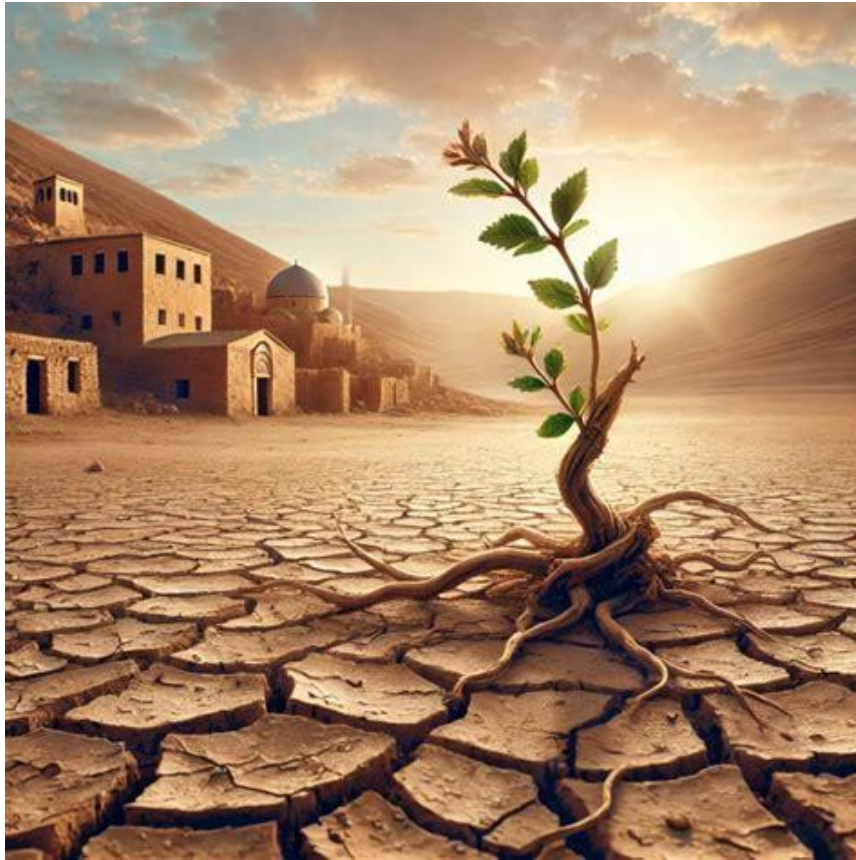


**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
of Falmouth, Massachusetts
of the United Church of Christ**



**Sunday, January 4, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

You Are Welcome Here!

We welcome all who are joining us in worship this morning. If you would like to share a prayer of joy or concern, we invite you to write them down on the podium outside the sanctuary entrances. During the *Moment of Greeting* we invite everyone to fill out the fellowship pad and pass the pad down your pew and back again.

REV. JONATHAN DRURY, Minister



ORDER OF WORSHIP

MEDITATION: "Power does not corrupt. Fear corrupts... perhaps the fear of a loss of power." *John Steinbeck*

ORGAN PRELUDE

A MOMENT OF GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

***OPENING HYMN NO. 162,** *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of the Lord's Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, there was the Word.
The Word was in God's presence, and the Word was God.
The Word was present to God from the beginning.
Through the Word all things came into being.
In the Word was life, and that life was humanity's light!
And the Word became flesh and stayed for a little while among us.
All: Let us rejoice in God's Word!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

God, your true light has come into the world, blessing all upon whom it shines. Hope, peace, joy and love are ours through the Incarnate Word. And yet we languish, O God. We do not dance. We do not sing. Instead, we find scarcity where there is abundance. Open our eyes and help us recognize the blessings that surround us. God of blinding light and gentle power, hear our prayers. *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 glory forever. Amen.*

OT SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 84: 1-8 (OT p.667 in your pew Bible)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: *Lord let us see your kindness and grant us your salvation.*

NT SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 (NT p.2 in your pew Bible)

MESSAGE: The Prophecy Fulfilled

OFFERTORY

ANTHEM: *Morning Softly Awakens* Norbert

*Doxology - No. 44

Offertory Prayer

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* **HYMN NO. 139,** *There's a Star in the East*

*BENEDICTION

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE, NO. 135,** *Angels We Have Heard on High (verse 1)*

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able, please stand

Visitors - We welcome you to our church fellowship and hope you will come again. We invite you to sign the *Friendship Pad* that is passed in the pew. There are many new faces in our congregation; we encourage those with name tags to please wear them.

Please turn off your cell phones.

Please note! Print-outs of the day's sermon are available. Please speak to a Deacon.

Greeters are Jan Goodell, David and Peggy Wickman.

Ushers are Cathy Holmes, Deb O'Neil, Evelyn Johnson, Grace Day, Joanne Blum-Carnevale, and Sally Hawkworth

Lay Reader is Cynthia DiMestico.

Jr. Deacon is Elijah Drury

Deacons of the Month are John Honey and Martine Bindler-Desbiens.

Flowers on the altar-table are given by Cathy Holmes in loving memory of her dear friend, Gretchen Partridge.

*If you would like to commemorate a person or special event by purchasing flowers for the altar should please contact Joanne Blum-Carnevale at capecodjoanne1@gmail.com or by calling 508-548-0480.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m.	Friendly Circle
	10:30 a.m.	Mahjong
Wed.	3:30 p.m.	Trustees
	7:00 p.m.	Board of Deacons
		Outreech Committee
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Fri.	6:00 p.m.	Contemplative Meditation

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, January 9 11:00 a.m.

Service of Memorial for John King

Saturday, January 17 10:00 a.m.

Service of Memorial for Jan Zlatev

CHURCH DIRECTORY

68 Main Street

Falmouth, MA 02540

Phone: (508) 548-3700

e-mail: info@firstcongfalmouth.org

REV. JONATHAN DRURY, Minister

JOHN J. DULINA, IV, Music Director

LAURA COLE, Coordinator of Care and Connection

JAMES ROWLAND, Site Manager

DANIELLE DALLIS, Director FCC Kids

JENNIFER BETH KELLY, Financial Administrator

Please check out our website! www.firstcongregationalfalmouth.org or use your phone to scan the QR code!



We Three Kings

We three kings of orient are, bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain: O star of wonder, star of night, start with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again!
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign. *Refrain*

Frankincense to offer have I, incense owns a deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high. *Refrain*

Myrrh is mine; its better perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom:
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *Refrain*

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies. *Refrain*

There's a Star in the East

1 There's a star in the East on Christmas morn;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born;
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Refrain:

Follow, follow;

Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Follow the Star of Bethlehem;

Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

2 Leave your sheep, leave your sheep, and leave your lambs;

Rise up, shepherd, and follow;

Leave your ewes and your rams, leave your ewes and rams;

Rise up, shepherd, and follow. [Refrain]

3 If you take good heed to the angel's words;

Rise up, shepherd, and follow;

You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds;

Rise up, shepherd, and follow. [Refrain]