

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



**Sunday, April 26, 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. The Toddler/Preschool Playroom is open but unstaffed. You are welcome to make use of it at anytime during the service, but please remain with your child at all times.

REV. JONATHAN DRURY, Minister



ORDER OF WORSHIP

MEDITATION: "Ask the animals, and they will teach you; in God's hand is the life of every living thing." *Job*

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. 404,** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of the Lord's Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come all you people, enter the gate of God's sheepfold.

We hear God calling us by name.

Jesus will bring all people to be one flock, one shepherd.

From every nation, every people, tribe and language.

That they may be one.

We proclaim: We are one!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious God, into the shadows of our isolation you speak words of life and community.

Challenger of our lives, you call us from places we call home to lead us more deeply into the world you love. With your gentle, healing touch you redeem the broken places of our

lives and you heal the wounded places of the earth. Inspire our worship this day, so we may receive liberation in your word, and share your reconciling love throughout the

earth. Hear us now as we raise our voices in prayer and praise to you, *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.

* **HYMN NO. A-13,** *Here I Am, Lord*

SCRIPTURE: OT: Psalm 23 (p.617 OT)

SONG RESPONSE: *This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.*

NT: John 10:1-10 (p.126 NT)

MESSAGE: Live Life, and Live it Abundantly

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM *With a Voice of Singing* Shaw

*Doxology - No. 44

Offertory Prayer

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* **CLOSING HYMN NO. 355,** *Lord, You Give the Great Commission*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE, *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One.

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich:"

because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.

*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.

Print-outs of the day's sermon are available. Please speak to one of this morning's Deacons.

Greeters are Anne Dyer and Jan Goodell.

Ushers are Martine and Wil Bindler-Desbiens, Dennis and Lisa McGillicuddy, Katie and Bill Dreyer.

Jr. Deacon is Nate Birmingham.

Lay Reader is Linda Church.

Deacons of the Month are Susan Anttila and Bob McGowen.

Flowers on the altar-table are given by Marge Taylor in memory of loved ones.

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

Announcements

Rummage & Plant Sale

Sat May 9th, 9am-1pm

First Congregational Church

68 Main Street, Falmouth MA 02540



Donate your: Rummage

Books and puzzles

Clothing – adult women’s and men’s

Household, kitchen, and garden items

Gadgets & Gear – sporting goods, tools, portable electronics, luggage...

Drop off, Portico Entrance, lower level (elevator available)

Mon thru Fri, starting Mon, April 6 thru Wed, May 6 from 9am to 3pm

Donate your: Jewelry – Drop off in Church Office

Mon thru Fri, starting Mon, April 6 thru Fri, May 8 from 9am to 1pm

Donate your: Plants – Special Instructions

We are looking for donations of annuals, perennials, small shrubs, seeded vegetable plants, and herbs. Donations can be dropped off directly to the plant tables outside of Fellowship Hall either on Wed, May 6 or Thurs, May 7 between 9am – 3pm. Please water your plants and label with plant name and color (if known).

Volunteer to Help

Sign up to help in the **red three-ring binder** outside the church office or contact Jackie Nuccio, Chair (text 508-540-5488 or email kaolin4669@mypacks.net) or Carol Mills, Assistant to the Chair.

Join in the Fun! Thank You!

Blanket Sunday - May 10

Please make a donation to Church World Service during the special offering on Sunday, May 10th at 10am. Cash or Check made payable to Church World Service or CWS.



Or make your donation using a credit card during Fellowship Hour (see Carol Mills, Assistant to the Treasurer) or use this QR Code for the DONATE button



and put “Blankets” in the memo line. The church will send these donations to CWS.

Sponsored by the Outreach Committee of the
First Congregational Church of Falmouth

Additional Rummage Sale Requests: Along with the items already highlighted, we are asking for individually wrapped baked goods (cookies, bars/brownies, cupcakes, etc.), sterling silver and gold jewelry, and fine costume jewelry. Please try to drop off items as early as possible.

FCC Book Group will meet on Monday, April 27 at 1pm in the church parlor: We will discuss The Correspondent by Virginia Evans. All are welcome. Contact Mary-Ellen Craig-me.craig@verizon.net with questions.

New Bible Study begins Tuesday, May 5 at 6:30PM: We will be studying the book of Genesis and the book of Revelation. The Alpha and the Omega of our Bibles. Each class will be self-contained and one hour long.

This Week’s Calendar

Mon.	1:00 p.m.	BookGroup
Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m.	Friendly Circle
	10:30 a.m.	Mahjong
Wed.	10:00 a.m.	Playtime!
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Fri.	12:00 p.m.	Mindful Meditation

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest;
take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive,
suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Here I Am, Lord (I, the Lord)

“I the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Who shall I send?”

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

“I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?” *Refrain*

“I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them, Whom shall I send?” *Refrain*

Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Lord, you give the great commission: “Heal the sick and preach the word.”
Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.

Refrain: With the Spirit’s gifts empow’r us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service: “In my name baptize and teach.”
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,
give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community. *Refrain*

Lord, you make the common holy: “This my body, this my blood.”
Let us all, for earth’s true glory, daily lift life heavenward,
asking that the world around us share your children’s liberty. *Refrain*

Lord, you show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure all that you so freely give.
May your care and mercy lead us to a just society. *Refrain*

Lord, you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend
and, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity. *Refrain*