

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



**Sunday, September 14, 2025
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: "Say that we are a puff of warm breath in a very cold universe. By this kind of reckoning we are either immeasurably insignificant or we are incalculably precious and interesting. I tend toward the second view." *Marilynne Robinson, When I Was a Child I Read Books*

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. 10,** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of the Lord's Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 139)

O God, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O God, you know it completely.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Amazing God, open our hearts to hear your voice in unexpected times and places. Appear to us in forms we cannot deny, and open our eyes to your glory in all creation. Let your presence be real in our hearts and minds. Forgive us for our doubt. We are sorry for failing to put you first in our lives and pray you will invigorate us with new life. Inspire us to dream big dreams of what could be and challenge us in ways we cannot avoid. Open our hearts to your love. Hear us now as we offer you 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 the glory forever. Amen.*

OT SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 32:7-14 (OT p.97 in the pew Bible)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Lord Is Kind and Merciful

Psalm 103 Psalm VII for Ordinary Time Marty Haugen

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NT SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 15:1-10 (NT p.95 in the pew Bible)

HYMN NO. A-13, *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

MESSAGE: *Joy in the Presence of Angels*

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM: *We Have Been Told,* Haas

*Doxology - No. 44

Offertory Prayer

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* **HYMN NO. 110,** *Jesus Shall Reign*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 341 *Peace I Leave with You*

PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU,

ORGAN 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.

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

Greeters are Deb O'Neil and Carla Zavorskas.

Deacons are John Honey, Evelyn Johnson, Don Lans, Bob McGowen, Deb O'Neil, Cathy Holmes.

Lay Reader is John Densler.

Deacons of the Month are Grace Day and Ed Jackson.

Flowers on the altar-table are given by Ton and Susan Hutchinson in loving memory of family members who all shared September birthdays: John and Eleanor Hutchinson, Ruth Crockett, and Elizabeth Rhodes Hutchinson.

*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.

Announcements

All Are Invited

Judy Handley's Part II:

Indonesia, Madagascar, Bali, Borneo before seeing pictures from an African safari.

Wed, Oct. 8th, 10am

Program starting immediately following a brief Women's Union business meeting.



Judy Handley will present PART II of her journey which she and her husband made beginning in 2005 on Windbird, a 42-foot cutter-rigged Tayana sailboat. They visited 36 countries on 5 continents and sailed almost 39,000 miles on their 6-year journey.

There will be a light lunch following the presentation.

Please sign up by October 5 if you plan to stay for the lunch. Or email Barbara Kirsch, epk23brk@comcast.net

You will notice we have an additional Old Testament scripture reading along with a musical selection called the Responsorial Psalm. Often in a liturgical celebration a Responsorial Psalm is placed in between the first two readings as a means of meditation, sung prayer or even just a shout of joy to the Lord. From now until Advent we will be using a Responsorial Psalm and changing it every few weeks. The Music Committee is would like to hear your thoughts and suggestions about this new addition to our worship together.

SEPTEMBER is HUNGER ACTION MONTH, the Feeding America network's annual nationwide campaign designed to inspire people to take action and raise awareness of hunger in the United States. For those in need, a daily meal is often not a choice between different dishes. It can be a choice between food and other crucial needs like medicine, rent, or utilities. You can take action to help our own neighbors in need by donating food items to our Service Center. Please check the list on our food barrels and share a few items with our friends. **THANK YOU! YOUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m.	Friendly Circle
	10:30 a.m.	Mahjong
Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Fri.	6:00 p.m.	Guided Meditation

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



Charity Golf Event

Sponsored by: **First Congregational Church of Falmouth**

Woods Hole Golf Club

Nine-Hole Round & Dinner

Thurs. Oct 2, 2025 – 3pm



For a Registration Form:

FCCEvents@gmail.com

Or - <https://firstcongregationalfalmouth.org/dates-to-remember>

Gold Sponsor:



Gold Sponsor:



Silver Sponsor:



Holy, Holy, Holy

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, canting down their golden crowns around the
glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, God everliving, through eternity.
Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hid thee, though the sinful human eye thy glory
may not see;
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love, and purity.
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and
sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty; God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

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

Jesus Shall Reign

**Jesus shall reign where’er the sun doth its successive journeys run;
Christ’s love shall reach from shore to shore till moons shall wax and wane no more.
Through Christ shall endless prayer be made, borne by the Spirit’s ceaseless aid;
like spring perfume new hymns shall rise sweet’ning all the endless skies.
People and realms of every tongue dwell on Christ’s love with sweetest song,**

**and infant voices shall proclaim their earliest prayers in Jesus’ name.
Blessings abound where’er Christ reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blessed.
Let every creature rise and bring tributes of praise for all to sing;
let angels sound good news again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**