

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



**Sunday, September 7, 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. 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: "Freedom is the open window through which pours the sunlight of the human spirit and human dignity." *Herbert Hoover*

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. 250, *Here in This Place

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.*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION AND PRAYER

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

OT SCRIPTURE READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (OT p.233 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 14:25-33 (NT p.24 in the pew Bible)

MESSAGE: What Have We Gotten Ourselves Into?

OFFERTORY

CHORAL ANTHEM: *Welcome Home Beloved of God,* *Porter*

*Doxology - No. 44

Offertory Prayer

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* **HYMN NO. 7,** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: No. 345 *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

God be with you till we meet again; loving counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again.

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 William and Catherine Dreyer in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary.

*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

Starting today, 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.

From Donation To Impact; The Full Circle of Giving: the needs of our neighbors at The Service Center do not go on vacation during the summer months! Please remember to check the list on our food barrels and share a few items with our friends. Thank you! Your Outreach Committee.

A Look through the Tiny Door – Tours of the First Congregational Church’s Austin Pipe Organ: John Dulina is continuing to offer a 15 to 20 minute presentation about our 50 year old Austin Pipe Organ following worship. He will teach about how an organ works to create its magnificent and unique sounds. The presentation will include an opportunity for folks to tour the back of the organ to see the actual mechanical workings of the instrument. Sign-ups for future tours are available in the office lobby.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m.	Friendly Circle
	10:30 a.m.	Mahjong
Wed.	9:00 a.m.	Playtime Playgroup
	3:30 p.m.	Trustees
	7:00 p.m.	Deacons
	7:00 p.m.	Outreach Committee
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Fri.	6:00 p.m.	Guided Meditation

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

