

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Meditation: “It is not more surprising to be born twice than once; everything in nature is resurrection.”** Voltaire, 18<sup>th</sup> century

### ORGAN PRELUDE

[We request that the chimes be the signal for a time of quiet meditation before the service]

### A MOMENT OF GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**\*OPENING HYMN NO. 193** *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Passing of the Lord’s Peace**

### CALL TO WORSHIP

The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again?

**O God, you know!**

We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, loss and grief?

**O God, you know!**

The gift is sure and unmistakable:

**God’s breath poured out as new life for weary souls!**

Let us celebrate the gift of God’s new life,

**And come to worship God with thanksgiving!**

### INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

**Life-giving God, the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life for all who long for you. One breath from you and we are rescued from the arid valley of dry bones, given muscles and sinews and joy with which to praise you, and filled with the holy hope you grant to all your faithful children. Life-giving God, your power goes far beyond our own, and yet still we act as though the pains of this world have final claim upon us. We give in to the despair and hopelessness of death, not trusting in your ability to call forth new life from the tombs of our lives. Forgive us for doubting your power to raise up new life in the midst of all the deaths we experience. Open our eyes to the wonder of new life sprouting into being in our very midst. Hear us now as we raise our voices in 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 glory forever. Amen.***

### LET THE CHILDREN COME

[After this, FCC KIDS may go to their classes.]

**\*HYMN NO. A-9** *How Great Thou Art*

**SCRIPTURE READING** Ezekiel 37:1-6 OT 987

**SERMON** “A View From the Valley”

### OFFERTORY

Anthem *Jerusalem My Destiny* Cooney

\*Doxology - No. 44

Offertory Prayer

### CALL TO PRAYER

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**\*HYMN NO. 87** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 368** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

**\*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 Anne Dyer & Evelyn Johnson.

**Ushers** are Grace Day, Ann & Tom Stone.

**Lay reader** is Nicholas Dreyer.

**Flowers** on the altar-table are given in loving memory of Gretchen (March 26, 2022) by Peter and the family.

**Flowers** in the narthex are given by Cynthia DiMestico in loving memory of Max and in heartfelt gratitude for Niki.

**Deacons for the service** are Reed Hamilton & Ed Jackson.

**Jr. Deacon** is Evan Bostwick.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we accept our annual **One Great Hour of Sharing** offering. The leaflet in your bulletin highlights the work of this important program. Envelopes are included for your donation; make checks payable to the church and mark “OGHS” in the memo portion. Also, please write your envelope number on the outside of the envelope – it greatly helps the counters on Monday. Thank you.

You will see an interactive sign on a table in Fellowship Hall for the next few Sundays. The purpose is to gather information from our membership in a quick, informal, light-hearted, engaging way as groundwork for the Strategic Planning Committee. Our first question: **“What are the strengths of our church?”** Please stop by during

coffee hour to put your answer on a post-it note on the displayed sign. If you can’t make it into the hall, submit your answer to: [moderator@firstcongfalmouth.org](mailto:moderator@firstcongfalmouth.org).

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, March 29, so Martha can make a sojourn (hopefully her last) to Boston.

This Wednesday is the deadline to order the **Easter Lilies** which will grace our sanctuary on Easter, April 9. Price is \$15. Either tell, call, or email Martha in the office to let her know you’d like to give a lily. They will be available for taking on Easter Sunday. Those not taken will be given to those in our church in local care facilities.

This Thursday, March 30, 1:30 p.m., **Ben Carnevale** will give a presentation on his book, *Nobska*, in the Hermann Room at the Falmouth Public Library. This is a joint effort between the library and Neighborhood Falmouth.

One big question that is on many lips is: **“Will there be a Rummage Sale this year?”** YES – there will be! The sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Our departments, department heads, and other specifics are: Ladies’ clothing – Linda Dalton; Men’s Clothing – Taska Hener; Jewelry – Jackie Nuccio (please bring items to the church office); Books – Martine & Wil Bindler-Desbiens (please, no magazines, Reader’s Digest condensed books or encyclopedias); White Elephant – Carol Andersen; Men’s Table – Greg Mills; Linens – Nancy Hussey (linens, blankets, bedspreads. Please mark size of each item); Plants – NEED A DEPARTMENT HEAD! (Flower, herb, vegetable plants, perennials, and shrubs. Label pats with names & color. Please, no house plants); Cleanup – NEED A DEPARTMENT HEAD! The sign-up book is now ready and waiting for you to find where you’d like to volunteer. It’s on the table outside the church office.

### FCC Kids

FCC Kids will start in the sanctuary and listen to Pastor Jonathan Drury's children's message.

Next, we will all meet in the lower lobby and kids will break off into their groups. Grades K-5 will go to the ART workshop and make hats/bonnets to wear for Palm Sunday and Easter. We will also talk about the Easter Story and discuss the movie we watched last week. Grades 6-8 will meet in the Teen Room to make hats/bonnets as well. Snacks and juice boxes will be provided!

**The Service Center needs... Pasta & Canned Fruit!**

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Mon., Mar. 27 6:30 p.m. Bible Study  
Tues., Mar. 28 9:00 a.m. Prayer Group  
10:00 a.m. Friendly Circle  
10:30 a.m. Mahjong  
Wed., Mar. 29 Church office closed  
10:00 a.m. Outside Playtime  
Thurs., Mar. 30 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir

## NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is **Palm Sunday**. Our worship service will be highlighted by a Palm Parade while singing *The Palms* and a performance of John Rutter's *Requiem* by our Adult choir and a chamber orchestra.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, April 6 Maundy Thursday Office of Tenebrae & Holy Communion – 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, April 9 Easter Sunday! Festival service with Holy Communion – Egg Hunt after worship

### CHURCH DIRECTORY

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**LAURA COLE**, Coordinator of Care and Connection  
**JAMES ROWLAND**, Site Manager  
**DANIELLE DALLIS**, Director FCC Kids



Please check out our website!  
[www.firstcongregationalfalmouth.org](http://www.firstcongregationalfalmouth.org)  
or use your phone to scan the QR code!

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

**Sunday, March 26, 2023**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**LENT V**



We welcome all who are joining us in worship this morning. Nursery care is available throughout the service - please speak to an usher. Children and youth in FCC KIDS will leave the service after the children's message. 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**