

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Meditation: Calvin: “How come we play war and not peace?”

Hobbes: “Too few role models.”

From *Calvin & Hobbes* by Bill Watterson

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. 121** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of the Lord’s Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP

In Advent we watch and wait, and prepare to welcome the Christ Child into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, come!

In Advent we prepare for a life of discipleship, and watch faithfully for signs of God’s light breaking into the world. Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Holy God, we recognize that we do not know the day or the hour, but we know that the day is near.

Come, Lord Jesus, come! Be born anew in our world and in our lives.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: PEACE Greg & Carol Mills
Because of war, because of violence in our communities, because there is still so much unrest in our world, we light a candle of peace...

Because hatred is so strong, because so many swords have not yet been beaten into plowshares, we light a candle of peace.

May the light from this candle overwhelm the world, and show to us all that God’s peace is coming to earth as it already is in heaven.

Let us not be afraid for God’s peace is at hand!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. We confess we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Reconcile us to you and to all people. Set us free from a past we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image. In Jesus’ name we raise our voices in prayer, *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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation and Prayer

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:1-6

NT 72

SERMON “Prepare Ye the Way of Peace”

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Prayer

Anthem

Table of Plenty

Schutte

*Doxology - No. 44

Prayer of Dedication

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN NO. 122** *Now Bless the God of Israel*

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 345**

God Be With You

***POSTLUDE**

***Those who are able, please stand.**

We welcome all who are joining us in worship this morning. We encourage those with name tags to wear them.

Childcare is available. Please speak with an usher.

Please turn off your cell phones.

Please note! Hearing-aid devices are available. Please speak to a Deacon.

Please join us for coffee hour in Fellowship Hall after our service.

Greeters are Anne Dyer and Marcia Young.

Ushers are Martine Bindler-Desbiens, Evelyn Johnson, Matt Keeling, Ernie Kirsch, and Gretchen Partridge.

Lay reader is Cynthia DiMestico.

Flowers on the altar table are given by Jim & Alice Tow in loving memory of Marion Lyons Tow.

Deacons of the Month are Reed Hamilton & Ed Jackson. **Jr. Deacon** is Hadley Smith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Of paramount importance this morning is to thank EVERYONE who worked or contributed in any way to yesterday’s **Christmas Fair**. It was a tremendous success and another example that there is a “sweet, holy spirit” in this place. I would also like to thank all those who have, in their own small ways, have made the preparation of the Fair easier on the staff. We are truly blessed to be members and friends of this church.

The **Nominating Committee** is calling for committee volunteers - our church remains active based on our committees. They help to oversee everything from our children and music programs to our worship services and community outreach. Our nominating committee is looking for spots to be filled and would love your help. These positions begin in February. Please consider lending a hand: **Board of Trustees** - helps to ensure the church's physical and fiscal well being (meets once a month); **Stewardship Committee** - helps to promote the pledging of time, talent, and treasures among the congregation (meets several times in the fall); **Reception Committee** - does the coffee hour after church (each member serves two months of the year); **Nominating Committee** - ensures that all the committees are filled (meets several times in the fall). Please contact Jo Ann Coleman if you are willing to offer your time and talent to these committees. She can be reached at 508-563-5574 or e-mailed at: jojus@aol.com

Theater Trip – All welcome! Sunday, January 23 – 2:00 at Highfield Theater. Falmouth Theater Guild will present the musical, "GODSPELL", a joyous and colorful retelling of the parables of Matthew. Songs include *Day by Day*, *Learn Your Lessons Well*, *All for the Best*, and *Light of the World*. Tickets are only \$21 each. A great opportunity to beat the winter blahhhhs. If you are interested, sign up on the clipboard on the Opportunity Wall so we can estimate the number of tickets we need to reserve. Checks, made payable to Falmouth Theater Guild, should be mailed or given to Bette West by January 10. Please invite other members of the church to attend or even perspective members.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Mon., Dec. 6	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Stewardship Committee
Tues., Dec. 7	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
	9:00 a.m.	Men's Group
	10:00 a.m.	Friendly Circle
	10:30 a.m.	Mahjong
Wed., Dec. 8	10:00 a.m.	Outside Playtime
Thurs., Dec. 9	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Sat., Dec. 11	10:00 a.m.	Children's Clothing Project
	10:00 a.m.	Good Shepherd Project
	4:00 p.m.	Falmouth Chorale Concert

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, December 24	Christmas Eve
	5:30 p.m. – Family service with pageant
	8:00 p.m. – Service of readings and carols

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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JAMES ROWLAND, Site Manager
DANIELLE DALLIS, Director of FCC Kids

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

**Sunday, December 5, 2021
10:00 a.m.**



We welcome newcomers and visitors to our church fellowship and hope you will come again. We invite you to fill out the Friendship pad located in your pew. Also, please join us for coffee hour in Fellowship Hall after our service.

REV. JONATHAN DRURY, Minister