

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Meditation: “Be thou the rainbow in the storms of life. The evening beam that smiles the clouds away, and tints tomorrow with prophetic ray.” Lord Byron

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. 117 O Come, All Ye Faithful

ANNOUNCEMENTS Passing of the Lord’s Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP When Jesus is born to Mary and Joseph, God is there. When Simeon holds Jesus in his arms, God is there. When the prophets recognize Jesus in the temple, God is there. This very morning, no matter where we may be, God is here.

INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER Loving God, you make your presence known in unexpected ways, and challenge our comfortable assumptions about how you work. Meet us here today and open our hearts to recognize you in our midst, calling us to live into your new thing: a world where your love takes shape as justice and peace. In the name of the One who dwelt among us, we pray: 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.

*HYMN NO. 141 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:22-32 NT 71

SERMON “The Favor of God Was Upon Him”

OFFERTORY Hymn No. 141 The First Nowell *Doxology - No. 44 Offertory Prayer

CALL TO PRAYER PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*HYMN NO. 134 Joy to the World *BENEDICTION *CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 142 vs. 3 Silent Night *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 Carol Andersen & Anne Dyer. Ushers are Wil Bindler-Desbiens, Penny Foster, Betsy Honey, Bob Johnson, Carole Lyons, and Doug Oesterheld. Lay reader is Tom Stone. Flowers on the altar-table are given for friends. Deacons for the service are Carolyn Belmore & Evelyn Johnson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Women’s Union will meet on Wednesday, January 10, 10:00 a.m. Martine Bindler-Desbiens will guide a Valentine workshop with all participants making cards for residents of area nursing homes. Bring a ‘brown bag” sandwich for yourself. Beverage & dessert will be provided. Sign up to enjoy the play, Clue presented by the Falmouth Theater Guild on Sunday, February 18 at 2:00 p.m. at Highfield Theater. Tickets are only\$28.00 per person and guests are welcome. The play is based on the movie and the popular game and is a hilarious mystery. It begins at a remote mansion where six mysterious guests assemble at a dinner party where murder is on the menu!!! Sign up with a check payable to Falmouth Theater Guild and is due by February 5, 2024. Give to Bette West at church or mail to her at 42 East Harbor Drive, Falmouth MA 02536.(508-457-9860)

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Mon., Jan. 1	Church closed for holiday
Tues., Jan. 2	9:00 a.m. Prayer Group
	10:30 a.m. Mahjong
Wed., Jan. 3	9:30 a.m. Playtime
Thurs., Jan. 4	7:00 p.m. Adult Choir
	7:00 p.m. Coffeehouse/Song Circle
Fri., Jan. 5	6:00 p.m. Meditation
Sat., Jan. 6	1:00 p.m. Memorial service for Peter Perpall

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, January 28 314th Annual Meeting of the church

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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Phone: (508) 548-3700 e-mail: info@firstcongfalmouth.org

Web site: http://firstcongregationalfalmouth.org

REV. JONATHAN DRURY, Minister


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JOHN J. DULINA, IV, Music Director

LAURA COLE, Coordinator of Care and Connection

JAMES ROWLAND, Site Manager

DANIELLE DALLIS, Director FCC Kids



Please check out our website!
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, December 31, 2023
10:00 a.m.**



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

