

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor**

The Third Sunday of Lent and Restoration Celebration  
Jay Garrett-Larsen, Lay Reader

March 12, 2023

Worship 10:30 AM

PRELUDE *I Was Glad* arr. Aubrey Tucker

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW YORK CONFERENCE UCC Rev. Ryan Henderson

BRASS AND ORGAN PROCESSIONAL HYMN # 71 *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, beloved of God. Come to worship in this holy space.

**People: We gather today to celebrate our God who created the many splendors of this world.**

Leader: Come, children of the Holy One. Join together in praise for the one who made us,  
and who guides each and every day.

**People: We gather in this newly restored sanctuary to celebrate the good news of the  
gospel and our call to care for the world.**

Leader: Come, followers of Jesus. Listen to the one whose radical inclusivity bursts  
through prejudice and small mindedness.

**People: We gather as a community of faith that extends extravagant welcome to all people.**

Leader: Come, those who are visitors and those who have called this church their home for years.  
Come celebrate this historic building that has been made new, a tribute to the past and a  
gift to the future.

**People: We gather as a community inspired by the Spirit, to do justice, love kindness  
and to walk with our God.**

Leader: Get ready to celebrate as we ask for God's spirit to enter our hearts.

**People: Come meet us here Holy One. We surrender to the wild leadings of your Spirit!**

\*INVOCATION

**God of vision, you give us gifts of creativity. Bless us with courage to take new risks,  
boldness to be adventurous, and faith to know your presence. Inspire us to open our eyes to  
fresh vision. Awaken us to our creative possibilities, enabling us, as empowered people to  
transform our lives, and the life of the world. Amen.**

\*LORD'S 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 trespasses, as we forgive those  
who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the  
kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI # 734

ANTHEM *God Is Here* Green & Taylor; arr. Ferguson

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Psalm 121* Pg. 547

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON *John 3: 1-8* Pg. 86

MEDITATION *Surrendering to the Wild Leadings of the Spirit*

HISTORY OF OUR CHURCH Carla DeMeco

\*HYMN # 118 *Lord of the Dance*

NEW YORK LANDMARK CONSERVANCY Nancy Parsons

HISTORIC BUILDING PRESERVATION FUND Tarry Shipley

OFFERTORY *Day of Joy and Celebration* Choir

\*DOXOLOGY # 34

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Because you gave Jesus Christ as a gift to the world, we bring our gifts today.  
Because you have loved us, God, we renew our commitment to share love with your  
people. Because you are even now renewing our spirits and bringing us rebirth, we  
pour out our thanksgiving. The gifts we dedicate here have always belonged to you.  
The wealth we retain for our own use is yours as well. Use all that we have and all  
that we are to move your world from death to life. Amen.**

THANK YOUS AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS Cathy Brooks and Mike Parsons

\*HYMN # 136 *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Festival Voluntary* Flor Peeters

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

*Call to Worship written by Dawn Garrett-Larsen; Invocation adapted and reprinted from Sanctified Arts,  
Sarah Are; Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler*

**Greeters This Morning:** Bill Blaker, Cheryl Bootes, Marty Daniels, Jackie Lowe, Kathy Ward  
**Ushers This Morning:** Peggy Hollister & David Sauter, Jim & Karen DeMay,  
Carla DeMeco, Dan Casellas

**Live Stream This Morning:** Matt Berry

**Coffee Hour Host:** Restoration Celebration Committee

**Brass Quartet:** Matthew Bond, Paul Burri, Dianna Chase, Nick Moses,



**If you are visiting with us, welcome!**

**Please fill out a green card and place it in the offering plate.**

If you would like to use our hearing assistance system please see an usher.

### ***Happy Birthday***

3/14 Sandy Reed ~ Grace Uhlen

### ***Prayer List***

**Ancy & Family** (Fred Henry's friend); **Carol Birx** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Marjorie Case; Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Abby Coons** (Carl & JoAnn Reed's friend); **Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Marilyn DeSmith; Jerry Diver; Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Carin Herren; Barb Iglewski; John** (Lin's nephew); **Sue Kotalik; Lu Krahl; Dennis Maxfield; Paul** (Dennis Maxfield's brother); **Frank McAlpin** (Patrick McAlpin's father); **Norine** (Marilyn DeSmith's friend); **Chris Pritchard** (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Don Raw, Sr.; Pat Smith; Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Robin Wisniewski** (Alicia Francis' mom); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend);  
**Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); Jim Ziegler

### ***Calendar***

Tue Mar 14	8:00	Men's Group
	10:00	Rug Hookers/Hayes Room
	3:00	Travelers Club/Social Rooms
Wed Mar 15	10:00	TOPS/Downstairs Room
Thu Mar 16	10:00	Literacy Volunteers/Hayes Room
	10:00	Lent Adult Ed/Social Room
	4:00	Staff Meeting/Hayes Room
	7:30	Jamie Farr Presentation via Zoom: Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Sun Mar 19		<b><i>Welcoming New Members ~ One Great Hour of Sharing</i></b>
	9:00	Choir
	10:30	Worship In-Person & Live Stream, Sunday School

# **FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ

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***March 12, 2023 – Restoration  
Celebration !***



**We're a Different Kind of Church**

❖ **We value and respect diversity in the ways we express our faith.**

- ❖ **We enjoy thoughtful dialogue about faith issues.**
- ❖ **We encourage each other to work for justice and to care for people in need in our community and in our world.**