

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Fifth Sunday in Lent
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor
Marty Daniels, Lay Reader

March 21, 2021

Worship 10:30 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *When Jesus Wept* arr. David Schelat

CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy One, we ask for your presence to surround us, to fill our hearts and our lives.

God will write the new covenant on our hearts.

We continue on our Lenten journey, a journey that will take us to the cross and to the empty tomb beyond.

We will wade into the mystery of dying and of rising with new life.

Today we will hear of a growing God of Love, generous, extravagant, and abandoned.

We will learn of grace wide enough to embrace the failed and successful alike, the wayward and the stalwart, the humbled and the hardened.

We will try to look through God's eyes and see the world in new perspective.

We will lay aside our habits of ranking and judging and finger-pointing and let compassion be our lens.

But will the eyes of love change everything?

Will we become new creations as we cross the threshold?

We pray that the world will take on new life, beginning with us.

Plant our hearts in you, O God. Grow your everlasting love in us, a love without boundary or limit or hesitation, a love joyous and free, in Christ. Amen.

HYMN #48 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (vs 1 & 3) (Please sing along at home)

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.**

INVOCATION (in unison)

Gestating Spirit, your gifts of transformation await me on every threshold. Your life-giving power raised Christ from the bleak tomb of darkness. Raise what has died in me. Refresh it with your touch of love. I open the door of my heart to you. I open the door. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

*GLORIA PATRI (Please sing along at home)

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Jeremiah 31: 31-34*

HYMN #257 *What Wondrous Love is This?* (vs 1 & 4) (Please sing along at home)

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!**

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON *John 12: 20-33*

SERMON *Crossing the Threshold* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

DRAMATIC READING *I am Giving Me to You* Marty, Dawn and Jesse

OFFERING OF SPECIAL MUSIC *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* arr. Hal Hopson
Hannah Cox, cello; Edie Rice, piano

*DOXOLOGY (Please sing along at home)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

We dedicate these offerings to the proclamation of your word, the teaching of your ways, and the living of your will for all humankind. We reach out with joy and gladness to offer your love to the world. May these gifts enable the sharing of your presence with many who have not experienced a sense of their own

value as your children. As we keep covenant with you, we would also share its joys and obligations with our neighbors. Amen.

HYMN #311 *Now the Green Blade Rises* (vs 1 & 4) (Please sing along at home)
**Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lies again that with the dead has been;
love is come again like wheat rising green.**

**When our hearts are wintery, grieving, or in pain,
Your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again like wheat rising green.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Jesus, Priceless Treasure* arr. Michael Burkhardt
Our Hymn Leaders for today are: Hannah Cox and Jesse Garrett-Larsen

*Call to Worship adapted and reprinted from Breathing New Life Into Lent, V. 3, Pritchard, McKinstry & Powers;
Invocation adapted and reprinted from Open Door, by Joyce Rupp; Unison Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Led By Love by Lavon Bayler*

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

Thank you to our Live Stream team of Don Raw, Jr. and Mike Ryan

Happy Birthday

March 21 – Gary Henehan, Mike Parsons & Peter Sarkis
March 23 – Barb Iglewski
March 27 - Pat Hallett, Dan Casellas & Alicia Francis

Prayer List

Ancy (Fred Henry's friend); **Steve Beck** (Heidi Schwarz's brother); **Brad Bliss**; **Marjorie Case**; **Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' and Elaine Hilton's friend); **Cathy Coots**; **Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Julie English** (Janet & Kim Tenreiro's friend); **Brian Fuscaldo** (Mara Huberlie's nephew); **Jerry Gomez** (Kathi Nacca's friend); **Carin Herren**; **Jim and Carolyn** (Amy Ogden's friends); **The King Family** (Fred Henry's friends); **Jim Kolesar** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Sue Kotalik**; **Jan Larsen** (Dawn's mother); **Michelle List** (JoAnn Reed's friend); **Loren** (Jack Radley's friend); **Lynn** (Joan Ryan's friend); **Eileen McCarthy** (Carla DeMeco & Betsy Dresser's friend); **Sally Mueller**; **Liz Nelson** (Kathy Ward's friend); **Norman** (Jennifer Maxfield's uncle); **Paris and Kira** (Friends of Fred Henry); **Pia** (Jim & Connie Malone's friend);

Chris Pritchard (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Jack Radley**; **Don Raw, Sr.**; **Sara** (Jack Radley's granddaughter); **Smith/Dworetsky Family** (Okke & Kathy Postma's friends); **Pat Smith**; **Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Sally Stowell** (Alice Berry's mother); **Walker** (Don & Dorice Raw's friend); **Tom Wallace** (Jackie Lowe's significant other); **Kathy Ward**; **Gordon Wenner** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Robin Wisniewski** (Alicia's mom); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Linda Zeller** (Kathy Ward's daughter in law)

Calendar

Mon. March 22 - Study Grp 9; 5:30 Study Grp
Tues. March 23 - Men's Group Gateway 8; Study 9; Thurs. March 25 - Zoom Soup Supper 6:30
Wed. March 24 - Study 9; TOPS 10
Thursday March 25 – Soup Supper 6:30 Zoom
Friday March 26 - Prayer Shawl @ Sally Mueller's 2:00
Sunday March 28 – Palm Sunday Worship Live Stream 10:30; hybrid Sunday School

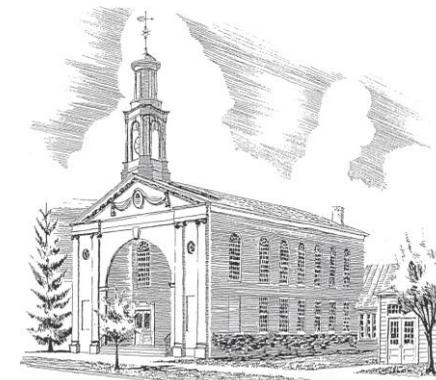
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

58 N. Main St., Canandaigua, NY 14424 (585) 394-2184

Website: www.canandaiguachurch.org

E-mail: office@canandaiguachurch.org



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.**

