

Welcome, All Worshipers

**Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.**

“Accept surprises that upset your plans, shatter your dreams, give a completely different turn to your day and – who knows? – to your life. Leave the Father free himself to weave the pattern of your days.” ~Dom Helder Camera

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(\* indicates when those who are able will stand.)  
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Prelude

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS **MARILYN KETTLER, LAY READER**
(Please complete the Friendship Book as it is passed during announcements; then pass it toward the center aisle.)

***OPENING HYMN: #459 COME, O FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING** VERSES 1-3

*Call to Worship

Leader: O come, let us sing to our God and make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

All: **We lift our hearts and voices in joy and thanksgiving for being here together in the presence of our beloved God.**

Leader: Come, let us worship this amazing God, for we belong to God.

All: **We will listen for God's word and live in the hope it inspires.**

*Opening Prayer

All: Loving and caring God, we come this morning in hope -- hope that will sustain us in our trying times, our lonely times, our doubting times. Refresh us this morning with the living water of your presence and love. Open us to the possibilities of friendship – the possibilities of encountering you in unexpected ways, the possibilities of seeing the miraculous in everyday life. Amen.

*The Gloria Patri (sung)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Words: Anonymous, 4th Century. Music: Henry Greatorex. This selection is in the public domain.

FIRST READING: EXODUS 17:1-7, ROMANS 5:1-11

ANTHEM

CHOIR

SECOND READING: JOHN 4:5-42

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MARILYN KETTLER

SERMON: GOT WATER

REV. JON GOUGEON

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

***HYMN: #596 ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME** VERSES 1-4

(PLEASE BE SEATED.)

SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERING

MINISTER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY** **PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.
WE SHARE FROM OUR ABUNDANCE WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH
PASSION FOR JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD'S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.**

***CLOSING HYMN: #18 GUIDE ME, O MY GREAT REDEEMER** VERSES 1-3

*Minister: Let us join together and read responsively:

*All: **Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.**

*BENEDICTION

Minister: We have encountered the living God through the love of the living Christ. We have been refreshed by living water. Go now to live in the hope this encounter inspires. Be water bearers to a dry and parched world, knowing that the God of love and hope goes before you and with you always. Amen.

***UNISON RESPONSE: And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand. Amen.** Words/music by Michael Joncas. Copyright 1979 OCP. Permission to reprint/stream obtained from One License #A-739847.

Postlude

*Please join us for Fellowship Time following the service.
We would love to get to know you better!*

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Lay Reader: **Marilyn Kettler**
Ushers: **Lillian Banas** and **Boris Gerber**
Communion Ministry: **Pat Garant**
Counter: **Boris Gerber**

Altar Guild: **Pat Garant**
Greeters: **Dan & Lois Kibbe**
Children's Message: **Marilyn Kettler**
Fellowship Hosts: **Ron & Lynn Borke**
and **Beth & Megan Petty**

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 12, 2023

*We welcome people as they are,
share Jesus as He is, and serve
our community and the world in love.*

This Week's Calendar

Sunday	March 12	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service & Fellowship Time
Monday	March 13	5:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday	March 15	5:00 p.m.	Simple Supper & Worship Service (at First Presbyterian Church)
Thursday	March 16	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice

Announcements

- ❖ Please note - After this week, the next two community Lenten observances are scheduled for:
 - March 22 - First Congregational Church - Simple Supper at 5:00 followed by Worship Service at 6:00.
 - March 29 - St. Paul Lutheran Church - Simple Supper at 5:00 followed by Worship Service at 6:00.
- ❖ We are in need of 12-15 crockpots of soup for our March 22 Simple Supper at First Congregational UCC. Please complete the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary or contact the church office if you can supply some soup.
- ❖ Also at the back of the sanctuary is a sign-up sheet for all those who wish to help plan our Church Family Reunion and 50-Year Member Celebration.
- ❖ Feed a Family needs for March - Hamburger Helper (all flavors), cereal, canned ravioli and Spaghettios, chicken noodle and tomato soups.
- ❖ Please remember to check for care letters and cards each week in the middle hall.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed, shown on the Internet, as they are happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday services may be seen as part of the live-stream and recording.

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A unisex handicap-accessible restroom is located through the doors to your left as you exit the sanctuary. A ladies' room is near the Lockwood Street entrance. A men's room is in the middle hallway.  
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Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus
Part-Time Interim Pastor: *Reverend Jon Gougeon*
Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*
Office Administrator: *Judy Suszek*
Treasurer: *Denise Fusina*
Custodian: *Mike LaMarre*

Live-stream Technician: *Brayden Broad*
Office hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday – Thursday
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