

**WELCOME, ALL WORSHIPERS**

**WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE’S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME  
HERE.**

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“**BE CAREFUL THEN HOW YOU LIVE, NOT AS UNWISE PEOPLE BUT AS WISE, MAKING THE  
MOST OF THE TIME, BECAUSE THE DAYS ARE EVIL.” EPHESIANS 5:15-16**  
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(\* ) INDICATES WHEN THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.

**PRELUDE**

**WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK AS IT IS PASSED DURING ANNOUNCEMENTS; THEN PASS IT TOWARD THE CENTER AISLE.)

**A TIME OF REFLECTION**

**\*OPENING HYMN: #506 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS**

JOSEPH SCRIVEN, 1855;ALT. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)**

**JIM McNEIL, LAY READER**

LEADER: LORD, WE HAVE HEARD YOU CALLING.

**ALL: WE ASK FOR THE STRENGTH TO FOLLOW WHERE YOU LEAD.**

LEADER: WE KNOW THAT WE MUST FOLLOW EVEN THOUGH WE MAY HAVE TO LEAVE ALL  
THAT WE ONCE KNEW.

**ALL: WE WILL FOLLOW BECAUSE WE FIND COMFORT AND STRENGTH IN YOUR PROMISES  
AND IN YOU PLANS FOR US.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**ALL: HEAVENLY SPIRIT, COME INTO OUR LIVES THIS MORNING, MAKING THE WILL OF THE  
LORD KNOWN TO US. WE KNOW THAT YOU COME TO LEAD US TO NEW PLACES, AND TO  
BRING US INTO NEW TIMES. WE ADMIT THAT WITH CHANGE COMES THE FEAR OF THE  
UNKNOWN, BUT WE KNOW THAT YOU WILL WALK WITH US THROUGH IT. WE FEAR WHAT WE  
DO NOT KNOW; WE FEAR WHAT WE CANNOT PREDICT. BUT THIS IS THE WAY THAT YOU  
OFFER IT TO US. SO, WE WILL FOLLOW, KNOWING THAT YOU WILL BE GIVING US THE  
STRENGTH TO DO AS YOU HAVE CALLED US TO DO. 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.

**ANTHEM: SPEAK TO ME IN ASHES**

WORDS: KAREN CRANE. MUSIC: DOUGLAS NOLAN. TUNE: COPYRIGHT 2019 BY HAL LEONARD LLC AND HAL LEONARD –  
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**SCRIPTURE LESSON: EPHESIANS 5:15-20**

**SERMON: “DON’T WASTE TIME”**

**REV. DICK HOTCHKIN**

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)**

**\*HYMN: # 403 MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS (VERSES 1-2)**

EDWARD MOTE, C. 1834; ALT. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

**SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

LEADER: 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 OUR GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR  
JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD’S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN: #99 ABIDE WITH ME (VERSES 1-5)**

HENRY F. LYTE, 1847; ALT. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

**\*BENEDICTION: GO IN PEACE. LET THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD OUR GOD BE UPON YOU,  
AND LINGER IN YOUR HEARTS AND MINDS THROUGHOUT THE COMING WEEK, AND  
FOREVERMORE. 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.**

**POSTLUDE**

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

**LAY READER:** JIM McNEIL

**GREETER:** MARY MINNICK

**ALTAR GUILD:** ASHLEY WEDGE

**USHERS:** GARY & SANDY JARMUZEWSKI

**FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:** BOB & DIANA KELLY AND JOE & PAT GARANT

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY                      FEBRUARY 18 10:00 AM                      WORSHIP SERVICE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ❖ YOU MAY STILL SIGN UP TO BRING A CROCK POT OF SOUP TO THE SOUP AND BREAD SUPPER WE ARE HOSTING ON FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>.
- ❖ THE LENTEN – EASTER SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE ON THE TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY.
- ❖ THERE ARE MEMBER DECLARATION CARDS ON THE TABLE IN THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY. YOU MAY COMPLETE THESE AND PUT THEM IN THE BOX BY THE OFFICE DOOR.
- ❖ THE 2024 LADIES LUNCHES ARE SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 8, APRIL 12, MAY 10, AND JUNE 14. THE LADIES WILL PLAN TO MEET AT 11:30 AM AT THE BIG BOY ON RIPLEY BLVD. PLEASE CONTACT BOBBI ZUBI AT 989-657-9996 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. ALL ARE WELCOME!
- ❖ PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK FOR CARE LETTERS AND CARDS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.
- ❖ THE AREA FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF: CANNED SPAGHETTIOS, RAVIOLI, MAC AND CHEESE, PACKAGES OF CRACKERS AND PEANUT BUTTER AND/OR CRACKERS AND CHEESE, 4 PACKS OF JELLO OR PUDDING SNACKS, CEREAL, AND POPTARTS

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 SERVICE 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 HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE LADIES RESTROOM IS NEAR THE LOCKWOOD STREET ENTRANCE. A MEN'S ROOM IS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.  
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# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**February 18, 2024**

*As an Open and Affirming congregation,  
we welcome people as they are,  
share Jesus as He is, and serve  
our community and the world in love.*



*The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Hotchkin, Transition Minister*

*The Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus*

*Organist & Choir Director: Kat Tomaszewski*

*Office Administrator: Nancy Ross*

*Treasurer: Denise Fusina*

*Custodian: Mike LaMarre*

**Office hours: 9:00am — 1:00pm, Monday — Thursday**

**Phone: (989) 356-1795**

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