## Welcome, All Worshipers

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

"We know nothing at all. All our knowledge is but the knowledge of schoolchildre	'n
The real nature of things we shall never know, never." ~Albert Einstein	

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

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Prelude

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BORIS GERBER, LAY READER

\*OPENING HYMN: #8 PRAISE TO THE LIVING GOD ALL VERSES

## \*Call to Worship (Psalm 8):

Leader: We stand in AWE of God's creation. The recently launched James Webb telescope fills us with awe and wonder. It looks 13 billion years in the past, and we can feel small and insignificant. Bill Nelson, NASA's administer has said that "If you held a grain of sand at arm's length, that would represent the speck of universe you see in this image. Because it takes time for light to travel, some of the light in the new image is more than 13 billion years old. That's less than 1 billion years after the Big Bang." As we worship this morning, let the words of the psalmist bring us to humble praise:

Psalm 8:3-6

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet.

Who are we, Holy Creator, that you draw near when we call?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, Loving God, that you care for us?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, Holy One, that you crown us with honor?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, O God, that you make us stewards of the earth?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

Leader: Who are we, O God, to deserve your faith and trust?

All: Your faithful people call your name.

## \*Opening Prayer:

Leader: Holy One, as near as the breath of our lives and as distant as the farthest star, we gather to worship you this morning.

All: From the time you fashioned the heavens and the earth from a formless void, O God, your creative energy has done marvelous works, all around us. May your creative Spirit be at work in our hearts and minds today as we worship you and, always, as we strive to live in obedience to your will. 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.

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 8, PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

CHILDREN'S SERMON

\*HYMN: #555 HERE, SAVIOR, IN THIS QUIET SPACE ALL VERSES

SERMON: BENEATH THE SURFACE REV. ROBERT CASE

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*CLOSING HYMN: #556 GOD, WHO STRETCHED THE SPANGLED HEAVENS ALL VERSES

## \*BENEDICTION

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.

Minister: And the blessing God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. 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 and music by Michael Joncas. Copyright 1979 OCP. Permission to reprint/stream this music obtained from OneLicense #A-739847.

#### **Postlude**

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

Lay Reader: Boris Gerber

Altar Guild: Sandy Jarmuzewski

Ushers: Nancy Wedge and Ashley Wedge

Live Stream Operators: Jay Kettler

and Lynn Borke

Fellowship Hosts: Bob & Diana Kelly

### This Week's Calendar

Sunday August 21 10:00 a.m. Worship Service Wednesday August 24 1:30 p.m. Discussion Group Thursday August 25 5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

#### **Announcements:**

- ❖ Today is Collection Sunday for Heifer International. In addition to today's collection, donations may be dropped off or sent to the church office (payable to First Congregational Church, with note "for Heifer") anytime this month, noting the animals you wish to purchase if you have a specific preference.
- ❖ After the August 28 worship service with Godspeed Ceremony, Reverend Case and Reverend Bacon will no longer be performing weddings, funerals, baptisms or other pastoral duties. The new person serving as Interim or Residential Minister should be called on.
- Please join us for a very special Fellowship Hour following next Sunday's worship service (August 28) to celebrate Reverend Case and Reverend Bacon and all they have done for our congregation.

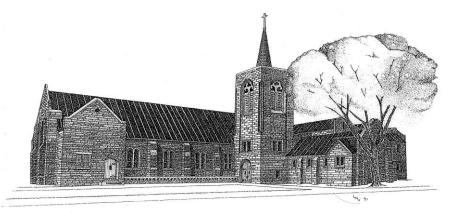
A unisex handicap-accessible restroom is located through the doors to your left as you exit the sanctuary. A ladies' room is near the Lockwood Street entrance. A men's room is in the middle hallway.

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# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 21, 2022

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



Transitional Ministers: Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case (Pastor Emeritus)

and Reverend Eugene Bacon

Organist & Choir Director: Kat Tomaszewski

Office Administrator: Judy Suszek

Treasurer: Denise Fusina Custodian: Mike LaMarre

Office hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday – Thursday

Phone: (989) 356-1795

Email: officeuccalp@gmail.com Web page: www.uccalpena.org

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## Psalm 8

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

<sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

<sup>4</sup>what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup>You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet,

<sup>7</sup>all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

<sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## Philippians 2:1-11

2If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

