

## Welcome, All Worshipers

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

“When the Nazis came to get the Communists, I was silent, because I was not a Communist. When they came to get the Socialists, the Catholics, and the Jews, I was silent. [By the time] they came to get me, there was no one left to speak.”  
~Martin Niemoller - German pastor during the Nazi era [abridged]

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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

**\*OPENING HYMN: DEEP IN THE HEART OF WINTER** (SEE INSERT – SING TO THE TUNE OF  
OH JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED)

#### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Lent calls us to journey along the edge, to anticipate the final trip to Jerusalem.

**All: Lent calls us to the cutting edge, when we gaze over the abyss of death and dare to believe there is something bright and good on the other side.**

Leader: Lent calls us not only to give up something, but also to take upon ourselves as community the intention of true participation in the mystery of God-with-us.

**All: Lent calls us to corporate penitence, accountability, and preparation.**

Leader: Lent calls us to concentrate on our baptismal vocation to be a sign of the New Earth.

**All: Lent calls us to face the darkness with courage knowing that Christ goes before us.**

#### \*Prayer of Confession

**All: Merciful God, what a gentle and healing balm it is to come to you with our secret thoughts, our sad discouragements, and our noblest dreams, and find you here to listen, to forgive and to renew us! We confess our reluctance to understand your will and our hesitancy to act upon it. We are quick to blame others and slow to**

accept responsibility for ourselves. We wish for signs of your power even while we take for granted the beauty and love with which you have surrounded us. We desire your guarantee of your favor, and, at the same time, shudder to think about the suffering of the cross and the suffering of people in war-torn lands and what it portends for us and for our world. Submerge us in your Spirit and grant us faith to perceive good arising from evil and to sense your immediate presence in the world around us. Amen.

**\*LENTEN SONG OF PRAISE: AS THE DEER** (SEE INSERT)

**SCRIPTURE: LUKE 4:1-13**

**ANTHEM: BLESS THE LORD MY SOUL**

**CHOIR** (WITH JUDITH CASE ON FLUTE)

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### CHILDREN'S SERMON

**\*HYMN: #490 – I WANT JESUS TO GO WITH ME** ALL VERSES

**SERMON: KNOWN BY OUR “NO’S”**

**REV. EUGENE BACON**

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

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION** (PLEASE REFER TO INSERT)

**\*CLOSING HYMN: #439 – A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD** 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.**

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### Postlude

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

Lay Reader: **Marilyn Kettler**  
Altar Guild: **Nancy Wedge**  
Fellowship Hosts: **Beth & Megan Petty**  
and **Ron & Lynn Borke**

Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**  
and **Lynn Borke**  
Communion Ministry: **Bobbi Zubi**

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 6, 2022

## This Week's Calendar

Sunday	March 6	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service
Tuesday	March 8	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Wednesday	March 9	1:15 p.m.	Mysticism Class

### Announcements:

- ❖ We are gathering together a prayer group. If you are interested in joining the prayer group, please contact the office or add your name and contact information to the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary.
- ❖ It is time to order Easter flowers! Your order may be made in memory of, or in honor of a loved one. Tulips, hyacinths and daffodils cost \$17, and Easter lilies cost \$20. Please call or email the office before March 31 to place your order.
- ❖ Lenten "No" Challenge - No meat on Fridays throughout Lent.

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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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*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

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## **Deep in the Heart of Winter**

Deep in the heart of winter, when days seem cold and bleak,  
Our faith calls us to enter this space of seven weeks.  
We turn to prayer and fasting, take scripture as our guide,  
Prepare our souls for Easter, and joyful Eastertide.

A time of deep reflection, a time to search the heart.  
Yet more than introspection calls us to do our part.  
We turn our thoughts to others, our kin both far and near,  
Our families, sisters, brothers, the ones we hold most dear.

Our prayers reach further out now, and think of all whose needs  
Cry out for our attention, yearn for our faithful deeds.  
The sick, the poor, the hungry, all those who are oppressed,  
Those folk our Savior taught us to see as truly blessed.

So mark these days as holy, our truly Lenten time.  
Let every seeking soul be restored, renewed, refined.  
Till in our Savior's footsteps, beneath his cross we pray,  
Then meet him in the garden, rejoice on Easter Day.

## **As the Deer**

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.  
You alone are my strength, my shield;  
To you alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

490

I Want Jesus to Go with Me

African-American spiritual; alt.

1. I want Je-sus to go with me;  
I want Je-sus to go with me;  
All a-long my pil-grim jour-ney,  
O I want Je-sus to go with me.
  
2. In my tri-als, O com-fort me;  
In my tri-als, O com-fort me;  
When my heart is al-most break-ing,  
O I want Je-sus to com-fort me.
  
3. When I'm in trou-ble, O stay with me;  
When I'm in trou-ble, O stay with me;  
When my head is bowed in sor-row,  
O I want Je-sus to stay with me.

## A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

439

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981

1. A might-y for-tress is our God,  
a bul-wark nev-er fail-ing,  
Our pres-ent help a-mid the flood  
of mor-tal ills pre-vail-ing.  
For still our an-cient foe  
does seek to work us woe  
with craft and pow-er great,  
and armed with cru-el hate,  
on earth with-out an e-qual.
  
2. Did we in our own strength con-fide,  
our striv-ing would be los-ing,  
But there is one who takes our side,  
the One of God's own choos-ing.  
You ask who that may be?  
Christ Je-sus sets us free!  
With might-y power to save,  
vic-to-rious o'er the grave,  
Christ will pre-vail tri-um-phant.
  
3. And though this world with dev-ils filled  
should threat-en to un-do us,  
We will not fear for God has willed  
the truth to tri-umph through us.

## STRUGGLE AND CONFLICT

The powers of e-vil grim,  
we trem-ble not for them;  
their rage we can en-dure,  
for lo, their doom is sure:  
one lit-tle word shall fell them.

4. That word be-yond all earth-ly powers  
for-ev-er is a-bid-ing;  
The Spir-it and the gifts are ours,  
for Christ is with us sid-ing.  
Let goods and kin-dred go,  
this mor-tal life al-so;  
the bod-y they may kill;  
God's truth shall tri-umph still;  
God's reign en-dures for-ev-er.

Ps. 46

## **Sacrament of Holy Communion\*\***

Pastor: This is the table of the Lord and belongs to no individual, church or denomination and is open to all people who wish to come closer to God shown to us in Jesus the Christ.

Pastor: Come to this table, not because you must, but because you may; not because you are strong, but because you stand in need of God's love, mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help. Come, because you love the Lord a little and would like to love him more. Come, because he loved you and gave himself for you. Come and meet the risen Christ, for we are his Body. Come to this table as you are.

**All: We come to the table that is spread for you and me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to be renewed and strengthened in our common mission to share God's love.**

Pastor: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to God.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the God of mercy.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration of Bread and Cup

**The Sharing of Bread and Cup**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**All: Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in the Sacrament and united us with Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen**

**\*\* We sing one verse of "Let Us Break Bread Together" before we eat the bread and one verse of "Walls Mark our Bound'ries" before the cup. They are found on the inside back cover of the hymnals.**

**\*\*During Covid we ask you to please pick up the prepackaged wafer and cup. We all partake of the bread at the same time and the same with the cup. Please dispose of the cup on your way out or place it in the holder on the back of the pew.**