

Order of Worship: Earth Communion Sunday

Gathering Music

Welcome Rev. Judy Arnold

Moment of Silence

Prelude
Ein feste Burg Georg Friedrich Kauffmann (1679-1735)

Call to Worship Jason Parkhill

Blessed are the poor, **For theirs is the Kingdom of God.**
Blessed are the hungry, **For they shall be filled.**
Blessed are the meek, **For they shall inherit the earth.**
Blessed are the pure in heart, **For they shall see God.**
Blessed are those who mourn, **For they shall be comforted.**
Blessed are the merciful, **For they shall be shown mercy,**
Blessed are the peacemakers, **For they are children of God.**
Blessed are those who care for the earth, **For great is their reward.**
Come let us bless God through worship, **And receive God's blessing for the days ahead!**

***Processional Hymn**
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise NCH #1

Prayer of Confession Kathleen Zagata

O God forgive us for living out of balance within this remarkable and delicate eco-system that we call earth. Forgive us for consuming too much and filling the earth with our waste. Forgive us our arrogance and our belief that the earth exists for our purposes when you have called us to be responsible stewards of an earth created for Your purposes. Forgive us for the way the most vulnerable and poorest among us bear the brunt of fallout from our lifestyles. And God, forgive us our short-sightedness, for making messes upon the earth now that our children and their children will have to clean up in years to come. Forgive us, O God, and help us to find balance again.

Assurance of Forgiveness and the Lord's Prayer

Through the gift of the Creator, the love of Christ and the embrace of the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven and invited to know again that the image of God is what is deepest in us. Let us live out of that image and pray together the words of Jesus...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen

***An Act of Praise**
Gloria Patri PH #513
Glory be to the Creator and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; World without end, amen, amen.

Testimony Rev. Jessica McArdle

Sung Response
**For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.**

Scripture Psalm 103 Liturgist: Jason Parkhill
OT pg. 554, LP OT pg. 517

Sermon "God is God" Rev. Will Burhans

Quiet Time for Reflection

Sacrament of Holy Communion
Hymn of Preparation *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* NCH #347

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(Communion this morning is by intinction. Please come forward by the center aisle, receive the elements by dipping the bread in the juice and return to your seat by the side aisles. Deacons will gladly bring the elements out to those who are unable to come forward. All the bread is gluten free.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Offertory Music: Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)
Text: George Herbert (1593 – 1633), alt. *The Call*

My Faith, My Hope [2016]

My Faith, my Hope, my Strength, my Light...

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a Way, as gives us breath:

Such a Truth, as ends all strife: Such a Life outliveth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a Light, as shows a feast:

Such a Feast, as mends in length: Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a Joy, as none can move:

Such a Love, as none can part: Such a Heart, as joys in love.

***Doxology** NCH #780

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above you heavenly host, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn**
All Creatures of Our God and King (vv. 1, 2, 3, & 5) PH #64

Benediction

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Postlude
All Creatures of Our God and King James Woodman (b. 1957)
II. Brother Sun

Today's Worship Service

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the glory of God, and in loving memory of Bertha Schwint and Betty Luettich, by their granddaughter, Debbie Johnston. The Narthex flowers are given in loving memory of Ethel LeRuth, by Susan, David, Kristen, Meghan, and Casey Leathers.

P&D Fund

On Communion Sundays you will find envelopes for the Pastors' & Deacons' Fund. This fund offers monetary aid to congregation members who are experiencing an urgent need for financial crisis assistance. Please consider a donation as part of your worship today.

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, *An Open and Affirming Congregation*
21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890 781-729-9180
www.fcc-winchester.org

We are a Christ-centered, nurturing community: growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.

The Congregation, Ministers To The World
Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor
Rev. Ms. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor
Ms. Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Congregational Health & Wellness
Ms. Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts
Mr. Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth
Ms. Sarah Marino, Office Manager
Mr. Tyler Campbell, Sexton
Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist
Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

Welcome!

We are happy you have joined us today for worship. We hope that in the coming hour of quiet, song, prayer, sacred scripture, and communal gathering, you will awaken more fully to God's presence in your life and the world around us.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located down the stairs as you first enter the front doors of the church.

Accessibility

Listening devices are available in the back of the sanctuary for the hearing impaired. An after-worship coffee hour is held in Chidley Hall on the bottom floor of the church building. An elevator is located out the doors to the right of the front chancel area and down the hall. Please ask a greeter if you need assistance.

Childcare

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary! We appreciate the sounds of little ones among us. If you'd prefer, there is a professionally staffed nursery on the floor beneath the sanctuary. Ask a greeter if you need help finding it.

Family Room

There is also a comfortable room with sofas, chairs, carpet and an audio link to the service for when you need more room to attend to your family. It is located just outside the doors to the right of the front chancel area.

Children (Stepping Stones) and Youth Church School

Classes for children and youth in pre-k through 12th grade are taught during worship. Families begin the worship service together in the sanctuary. Children are then invited to join us at the front (if they are comfortable) for the Time for the Young. Afterwards, the children and youth are led to their classrooms by their teachers.

Get connected!

Please tell us about yourself and/or request a prayer by filling out a Welcome/Prayer Request Card found in each pew and place it in the offering plate when it passes. We look forward to getting to know you at Coffee Hour, held downstairs immediately following the service. You can also learn more about our community through our website and Facebook page:
www.fcc-winchester.org
[facebook.com/fccwucc](https://www.facebook.com/fccwucc)
Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list

October 1, 2017

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 Worship Service

People for Whom We Are Praying ...

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Goomba, Jen Capobianco's father	To maintain the power & faith to once again overcome his health issues.
The Martin family	In their grief
The Crowell family	In their grief
Abby & Ashley, two teenagers	Trying to find their way
Roger McCaughtry, Laurie Roby's cousin	For courage & healing
Family of Nancy Whitman	In their grief
The father of Peter Petras	87 years old and not feeling very well this week
Martha George	For courage and healing
Dory Cole Ogden, niece of Stephen W. Cole	For healing
Joyce Mills	For strength and healing
Janice Richardson Snowden	Strength, comfort, & healing
Bob Shirley	For strength and healing
Jessica Brand	For healing

Please let the Deacons or Ministry Team know if you have someone to add or remove from this list.

Upcoming Events

Reformation Series begins Tonight!

In honor of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the ministry team is offering a 4 part series based on a UCC Study Guide. In order to provide opportunities for as many people as possible to come, we will offer the same 90 minute session at 3 different times during each week. One will be on Sunday evening at 6:30; one will be on Tuesday morning at 10:00; one will be on Tuesday evening at 6:30. Coffee/tea will be provided. Each week the 3 sessions will cover the same material. You are not expected to stick with the same weekly time slot – you can choose what works for your schedule. The signup link is in the weekly email. If you don't get a chance to sign up, just come join us anyway.

Refugee Immigration Ministry (R.I.M.)

A group of your church friends have been connecting with RIM through the Metro North Cluster. There are 9 clusters in the Boston area and each cluster has clients. Currently the Metro North Cluster has two clients: a transgender person from Honduras and a family from Egypt. Each of these clients is in the process of seeking asylum. As petitioners for that status, they receive work permits but that can take from a few months to over a year. RIM helps with necessities – financial support for rent, clothing, food, transportation and other requirements. RIM volunteers also help with networking and interpreting our culture. Each Cluster raises money to support their clients. One of Metro North's major fundraisers is a **Bulb Sale**, which is going on now. There are order sheets on the table in the reception hall, and in the narthex. You can also find them on our website. These bulbs are from Holland and have proven to be beautiful and durable.

Ordering ends Today!

Contact Linda Alexander lgalexander@comcast.net 617-763-0650 or hand her your form and check during coffee hour.

The Dwelling Place needs volunteers for Saturday, October 21st!

We already have one family signed up (Yay!), so we are looking for 1 or 2 more volunteers to prepare and serve a meal for about 25 people at the Dwelling Place on Saturday, October 21st. The Dwelling Place is a collaboration of area churches that prepares and serves meals at the United Methodist Church in Woburn for individuals and families in need. Our FCC is responsible for preparing and serving the meal on the third Saturday of each month.

Can you and your family or friends help?

- Volunteers can be adults and children.
- Serving time is only 2 hours -- from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- The food is simple and easy to prepare.

If you want to serve but are not sure you can prepare the food, we can help with that. We also can provide gift cards to help defray the cost of the food.

To sign up, please contact your FCC Dwelling Place coordinators:

Lisa Loughlin (781.346.1241) lisa3abp@aol.com

Linda Alexander (617.763.0650) lgalexander@comcast.net

Fall Fellowship Gathering: Sunday, October 29th at 2 pm.

Join Health Ministry for the video screening of *The Nature of Horn Pond*, a visual story of a small pond, its flora, wildlife and changing seasons. We are pleased to have Philip Valende, the artist and producer introduce the film. The afternoon program and reception is open to church members, our elders and their families and all those who enjoy the pond.

Blessing of the Animals 2017 Sunday, October 15, 10 AM, Town Common Rain location: Chidley Hall



Each fall, the church hosts the Blessing of the Animals to honor the special animals in our lives. Wherever your pets are on life's journey, they are welcome to this festive worship service, where we celebrate and give thanks for all God's creatures, great and small. This year, the service will again be held across the street on the Town Common, and include brief readings, prayer, and individual blessings for animals on leashes, in cages, in arms, or in a picture.

Families and their pets are grouped in sections by animal to avoid conflicts between our furry friends. If you do not wish to bring your pet, you can bring a picture or a stuffed animal to represent them.