Order of Worship

Ricercar secondo

Gathering Music

Girolamo Cavazzoni (1520-77)

Welcome Rev. Will Burhans

Moment of Silence

Prelude

Prière **Cesar Franck (1822-90)**

Call to Worship

Rev. Judy Arnold One: Let us worship this morning and with a breath of kindness breathe out all that has come before and breathe in the refreshing Spirit of God. Let us sit and rise, keep silence and speak prayer, let us listen and sing aloud. Let us hear the words of sacred scripture and consider what truth of God's they might have for us today. Let us be and be together, all as children of God. What do you say?

All: We say "let praises be to God who creates, Christ who saves and the Spirit who sustains!"

Amen!

*Processional Hymn

Praise the Source of All Creation

(Genesis 1:1-27, 31; Proverbs 3:13-18) by Jann Aldredge-Clanton Praise the Source of all creation, giving life throughout the Earth, blessing every love relation, filling all with sacred worth. Celebrate all forms and colors, varied beauty everywhere, streams of goodness overflowing, wondrous gifts for all to share.

Many genders, many races, all reflect Divinity; many gifts and many graces help us be all we can be. Partners on this path of freedom, taking down each stifling wall, we will open doors of welcome, bringing hope and joy to all.

Long have many been excluded, judged and scorned by custom's norms; everyone will be included as we work to bring reforms. Let us end abuse and violence, bringing justice everywhere, joining Holy Wisdom's mission, helping all be free and fair.

Equal marriage, healing, freeing, nurtures body, mind and soul, reaffirming every being, all created good and whole. Come, rejoice and sing together, celebrating life and love; praise the great Creative Spirit, living in us and above.

Gathering Prayer

Kathleen Zagata

We begin our week together calling to mind and heart Your presence, O God, always with us, guiding, comforting, challenging, encouraging, illuminating. When You seem far away, we know it is because we have distanced ourselves from You with our many worries. When You seem to leave our prayers unanswered, we know that we have too narrowly defined what we believe we need as an answer from You. When You seem not to care, we know that we have failed to see the myriad of ways that You bless our lives. Forgive us our distractions and doubts. Give us attention and faith. In Jesus' holy name we pray....

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.

Time for the Young

Ben Pulaski

*Hvmn

When Bodies Join and Souls Combine

Please see insert

Rev. Will Burhans

Scripture

Genesis 1:24-31 **Galatians 3:23-29**

Liturgist: Sarah Gallop OT pg. 1, LP OT pg. 1 NT pg. 189, LP NT pg. 167

Sermon

"Beyond Natural"

Quiet Time for Reflection

Offertory

Anthem

"I Hide Myself" from Three Flower Songs

Music by Eric Whitacre (b. 1970) Text by Emily Dickinson (1830-66)

I Hide myself within my flower, That wearing on your breast, You, unsuspecting, wear me too— And angels know the rest.

I hide myself within my flower, That, fading from your vase, You, unsuspecting, feel for me Almost a loneliness.

Prayer of Solidarity

Please see insert

*Closing Hymn

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

NCH #23

Benediction

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Postlude

Benediction - Let Us All Live in Peace from Piano Book (2013) Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

^{*}Those who are able, please stand **PH** indicates Pilgrim Hymnal (red) **NCH** indicates New Century Hymnal (black)

Today's Worship Service

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of family members, given by Mike Redding.

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, An Open and Affirming Congregation
21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890
facebook.com/fccwucc
781-729-9180
Text FCCW to 22828 to join our email list

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. Ed Banzy, Building Manager

Mr. Bill Lewis, Custodian

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

We now have an inductive hearing loop for those whose hearing aids have Telecoil (ask your audiologist). Listening devices are also available in the back. For our coffee hour in Chidley Hall, 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 are trained caregivers in our a 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 water, sofas, chairs, carpet and a video 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.

Bulletin design based upon the stones and labyrinth of the Reno Garden.

September 23, 2018

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Worship Service

People for Whom We Are Praying ...

Name
Alice, friend of John Keeley
For strength

Alice, friend of John Keeley For strength
Althea Shirley For continued peace and acceptance in her cancer journey

Barbara Hoekelman Healing and comfort

Nai 'Quan Hamilton, nephew of For mercy from the criminal justice system

Lisa Loughlin

Caroline For healing

Dylan Mullane Recovering from surgery

Anthony Rozmanith For healing

Rachel, friend of Mike Redding For healing from cancer

Janet Snover For continued strength in her battle against brain cancer

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

Upcoming Events

Transgender Awareness and Understanding Today After Worship (~11:30 to 1:30)

You are invited to attend an 11th hour session today in the Palmer Room to learn about what it means to be transgender. Find out what the letters in LGBTQIA stand for. Learn about gender identities and the myriad terms that are evolving to capture the transgender experience. Explore why the Christian teaching of unconditional love and welcoming all with joy is so important for the transgender community. A light lunch will be served.

I am the proud parent of a non-binary, gender nonconforming 24-year-old whose pronouns are they/them/their. I will be presenting information that I have learned — from both of my 20-something children, from books, from presentations and from organizations such as SpeakOUT and PFLAG. Reverends Will and Judy will also make some remarks. Please come and bring your learning heart with you!

Anne Hoenicke, for the Adult Faith Exploration Ministry

Organ Dedication & Celebration Concert

Please join us on **SUNDAY**, **September 30**, **2018**, **2:00** p.m., **for a Special Organ Dedication and Celebration Concert**: In honor of the restoration of First Congregational Church's beloved Fisk organ, Opus 50, the church offers a delightful and jubilant concert of keyboard music – performed by FCC's masterful organist, Jeffrey Mead, along with some of Winchester's most accomplished guest organists: John Kramer from Winchester Unitarian Society; Jane Bergeron O'Keefe from St. Mary's Parish; Timothy Hughes from St. Eulalia's; Harry Kelton, former FCC organist. This concert is the perfect opportunity to thank and honor our faithful donors, whose generosity revived this lovely and important instrument. Co-sponsored by FCC's Health & Wellness Ministry and Music & Worship Arts Ministry, the concert features diverse historical and contemporary treasures for organ. The concert, **free and open to the public**, will be followed by a warm reception in the Palmer, Tucker and Henry Rooms.

Ingredients Needed for the Outdoor Church. Walkers are Needed Too!

On the 5th Sunday of the month (4 times a year), the First Congregational Church makes and brings sandwiches and other items to the Outdoor Church congregation in Cambridge. Our tradition is to make the sandwiches in the kitchen after worship on "our" Sunday using ingredients donated by the Congregation. Two to five members of the congregation volunteer to deliver the food and to spend a few hours with the clergy of the Outdoor Church following a route around Harvard and Central Squares offering food to those who are hungry. There are some people who are ongoing members of the Outdoor Church and some we will only see once or twice. This sign up is to gather the ingredients needed. Our next Sunday is **September 30th** – you can deliver ingredients to the church kitchen the week prior to that date. Sign up on our homepage or through our weekly email.

Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?!? Thursday, October 4th at 8:15pm

Join Rev. Will and Ben in Chidley as we watch the Patriots take on the Colts on our 12 foot screen. We will have snacks and beverages. This is a great opportunity to invite your friends and neighbors. For more information contact Rev. Will (william.burhans@gmail.com) or Ben (ben.pulaski@gmail.com)

Starting Tuesday Sep 25th – Introduction to the Old Testament

On Tuesday evenings at 7:00-8:30 p.m. for 6 weeks, we will be offering the second course of the Massachusetts Bible Society's Exploring the Bible series Introducing the Old Testament.

This second course helps you better understand the Old Testament in the context of the world in which it was written. The Old Testament is the story of the Jewish people and their distinctive God, giving us a glimpse through story, song, history, and law of the rocky, raucous, faithful, fumbling beginnings of one of the oldest religions on earth.

You don't need to know a thing to participate and you don't have to have taken the first course, but if you did we hope you sign up again. Join Rev Will Burhans and Anne Hoenicke, class leaders, for lively discussion, small group exercises and faith enriching study of scripture. Student Guides will be provided. Class size is limited so you'll need to sign up on our homepage or through the weekly email.

WISE Congregations for Mental Health Conference:

Saturday, Sep 29, 2018 from 8:30 to 5 pm at South Congregational Church in Andover, MA For details: mhn-ucc.blogspot.com/p/wise-congregations.html

"On behalf of the UCC Mental Health Network, I warmly invite you to attend our fourth WISE Conference on Mental Health. Being impacted myself by mental health conditions in my own family; I know this Conference does make a difference. It reduces the stigma about mental illness and increases our understanding of mental health conditions and how our congregations can respond. You will experience personal stories; and be introduced to the WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, Engaged) Covenant for congregations for mental health. Please join us." ~ Rev Alan Johnson, Chair

SAVE THE DATE!!!

November 3RD, 2018 5-10pm

IT'S BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND Fun, Festive, Fellowship. Church Progressive Dinner. Saturday, Signups online and in Chidley Hall will begin within the next several weeks!

"When Bodies Join and Souls Combine"



8.8.8.8. Tune: THORSON

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PRAYER FOR THE JEWISH NEW YEAR Rabbi John L. Rosove

Voice 1 - May we hold lovingly in our thoughts those who suffer from tyranny, subjection, cruelty, and injustice, and work every day towards the alleviation of their suffering.

Voice 2 - May we recognize our solidarity with the stranger, outcast, downtrodden, abused, and deprived, that no human being be treated as "other," that our common humanity weaves us together in one fabric of mutuality, one garment of destiny.

Voice 3 - May we pursue the Biblical prophet's vision of peace, that we might live harmoniously with each other and side by side, respecting differences, cherishing diversity, with no one exploiting the weak, each living without fear of the other, each revering Divinity in every human soul.

Voice 4 - May we struggle against institutional injustice, free those from oppression and contempt, act with purity of heart and mind, despising none, defrauding none, hating none, cherishing all, honoring every child of God, every creature of the earth.

Voice 1 - May all peoples know peace in this New Year, And may we nurture kindness and love everywhere.