

Welcome to First Congregational Church



Manna raining down from heaven. Circa 1250, Anonymous

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Emergency Bucket Challenge Item for August:

5 dust masks(N95 particulate respirator dust mask preferred: No surgical masks.)

Please drop them off in the Chapel by August 31st.



Pastor Emilia's Sabbatical - She will be on Sabbatical from July 1st until September 30th, returning to the office on October 1st. In August and September she will be crossing the "pond" to visit St. Julian of Norich's anchorage, to spend a week following C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkin in Oxford, and a month tracing her Cornish ancestral roots in Cornwall.

If you need pastoral care during this time, please call the church office.

Our summer concert series continues this week with the Scott Spradling Band on Thursday. Spradling, who is an Emmy-award winning former reporter, anchor and political director for WMUR-TV in Manchester, is a versatile vocalist who leads an 11-piece band alongside the talented Sureya Ennabe. The band plays songs from Chicago, Billy Joel, Frank Sinatra, Michael Buble, Elton John and more. The concert starts at 6:00PM behind the church and will move into Hanna Hall in the event of inclement weather.

We still need some volunteers for this event, Visit ClintonStreetConcerts.org to sign up!

Welcome to First Congregational Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Timothy Wildman

August 4, 2024

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

The Wildman Brothers

Setting Intentions for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 78:23-25 Annie Papinsick

One: God commanded the skies above, and opened the doors of heaven

Many: **God rained down on them manna to eat, and gave them the grain of heaven.**

All: **Mortals ate the bread of angels, he sent them food in abundance.**

OFFERING OUR MOMENTS OF BEAUTY

Song #18

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer (Public Domain)

1 Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the River Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on heaven's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

Hear now the Psalm from the Benjamin Chavis Psalter
Here ends the Psalter Lesson

Amen

Let us here now from the Hebrew Scriptures
Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 16:2-4. 9-10
Here ends the Lesson

Annie Papinsick

Amen

READING FROM CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE

Annie Papinsick

Here ends the reading

Amen

COMMUNION MEDITATION "Bread of Heaven"

PAUSING FOR MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SONG #342 Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread (Public Domain)

1 Be known to us in breaking bread, but do not then depart;
O Savior, stay with us, and spread your table in our heart.

2 Here share with us, in love divine, your body and your blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine, be our immortal food.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response: God who sustains

All: **Receive our prayers**

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and
the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Offertory

Invitation

GRATITUDE MUSIC

The Wildman Brothers

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SONG (Insert)

Let Us Break Together

Let US Break Bread Together

Contributors: James Abbington

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SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Luke, the evangelist, wrote of our risen Savior, who at the table with two of the disciples took bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, and they recognized the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the breaking of the bread.

COMMUNION PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all you have made. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unit our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere.

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Merciful God, as sisters and brothers in faith, we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ. Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; This is my body." Jesus took the cup, and after giving thanks, gave it to the disciples and said: "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." We remember Christ's promise not to drink of the fruit of the vine again until the heavenly banquet at the close of history, and we say boldly what we believe:

Christ has died.

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

Come, Holy Spirit, Come. Bless this bread, and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

Amen

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is offered for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.

Amen

Drink this, for it is the blood of Chris, shed for you.

Amen

Come, Holy Spirit, Come. Bless this bread, and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

SONG #347

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Contributors: Fred Kaan

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SETTING INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Wildman Brothers