



## Water into Wine January 18, 2026

We are a progressive community of faith seeking to follow the teachings of Jesus, pursue justice and live God's love.

**No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.**



**A Note for Families / Folks of All Ages:** Today we begin worship together. After the Time for All God's Children, young people grades K-8 are invited to follow teachers upstairs to our one-room classroom.

There are clipboards with paper and coloring pages at the back of the sanctuary, for worshippers of any age to use during the service.

**PRELUDE** *Cello Concerto No. 3 in B minor, Op. 51 (II. Andante espressivo)*

Andrew Sawyer, Cello

Georg Goltermann

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

### **THRESHOLD MOMENT**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *Adapted, Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago*

One: Beautiful are the works of God!

**All: Beautiful also are the skins of God's people!**

One: Beautiful is the mind of God

**All: Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!**

One: Beautiful is the heart of God!

**All: Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!**

One: God made the heavens and the earth!

**All: To God be the glory for the things God has done.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *I Woke Up This Morning* African American Spiritual 

**I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus [3 times]**

**Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu-u-u-u-ia.**

**Singin' and praying' with my mind stayed on Jesus...**

**I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on freedom...**

### **PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**Holy One: Like Mary, who nudged Jesus to lend a hand at the wedding banquet, you spur us to act in the face of injustice. Forgive us when we hold back, when we insist that a task is too daunting or too complex. Open Your storehouse of good wine and remind us that Your abundant provisions will sustain us no matter what the challenge at hand. Amen.**

### **PRAYERFUL PAUSE**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

### \*SUNG RESPONSE

*Guide My Feet*

African American Spiritual ☰

**Guide my feet, while I run this race. [3 times]**

**For I don't want to run this race in vain.**

**Stand by me, while I run this race...**

## TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Peggy Murray

One: Jesus invites us to look at the world – and God – from a fresh angle.

All: **Holy One, open our eyes, upend our assumptions and prepare us to envision Your world transformed by love and justice.**

### SCRIPTURE READING

John 2:1-11

### SERMON

*Water into Wine*

Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

### MOMENT OF CONTEMPLATIVE SILENCE

### ANTHEM

*My Heart is Ready*

Cindy Kallet / arr. Peter Amidon

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father-Mother 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 and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### SUNG RESPONSE

*Dream God's Dream*

Sirchio

**Dream God's Dream! Holy Spirit, help us dream  
of a world where there is justice and where everyone is free  
to build and grow and love, and to simply have enough.  
The world will change, when we dream God's dream.**

## OFFERING INVITATION AND PRAYER

Help us to live God's love and justice. You can make a secure gift by using the QR code, going to [fccucc.org/donate](https://fccucc.org/donate), or by adding your contribution to the box at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you!



## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

### BLESSING THE OFFERING

### CLOSING HYMN

*We'll Build a Land*

S-26

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*Day by Day*

Mark Hayes

\* \* \* \* \*

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Thank you** to this morning's ushers: Team A, Terry Dallaire, captain.

**Livestream:** Thank you to Alex Ratta for managing our worship livestream!

**Cover Photo by** Dries Buytaert, ©Creative Commons.

**The globe on the altar** is lighted by Darla Harris in memory of Bill Harris.

**How to make an altar dedication:** Would you like to place flowers on the altar or light the Mission Globe in memory or in honor of a loved one? If so, please contact Danna Wiggins at [dannawig2@gmail.com](mailto:dannawig2@gmail.com). If you'd like to dedicate the lighting of the church steeple, please contact the church office at 799-3361 or email [office@fccucc.org](mailto:office@fccucc.org).

☰ **Royalty for Spirituals:** Historically, the composers of African American Spirituals were neither known nor compensated for use of their songs. The FCC UCC music department has committed to paying forward a 'royalty' each time we include a Spiritual in worship. Funds are donated to the Indigo Arts Alliance: <https://indigoartsalliance.me/>. You are invited to contribute, as well. Mark your contribution as "Royalty for Spirituals." *Thank you.*

**THANK YOU** to FCC UCC member Bryan Wiggins for refreshing our church logo. Check out the updated design on the front cover of the bulletin.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO THE CHURCH IN 2025!**

The business office will be sending out 2025 Giving Statements near the end of January. If you need one sooner, please be in touch to let Melissa know.

If you give online and haven't taken the time to update your giving amounts for 2026, now is a great time. You can do it online by going to the donate page on the church's website, signing in, and managing your current transactions. If you are unable to do so, you can email [business@fccucc.org](mailto:business@fccucc.org) for an ACH/Credit Card Authorization form or pick one up at the church office. Fill out the required information and return it by mail or by dropping it off at the business office.

As always, feel free to reach out to Melissa at [business@fccucc.org](mailto:business@fccucc.org) with any questions. Thank you and Happy New Year!

**WEEKLY @ FCC UCC**

**Bible Study, Tuesdays, 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge:** Explore the scripture from the past Sunday, led by Rev. Steve Savage.

**Meetinghouse Choir rehearses on Wednesdays, 6:15 – 8 pm.** All singers are welcome. We meet in the Choir Room on the lower level of the church. Questions? Contact choir director Deirdre McClure at [dmclure@fccucc.org](mailto:dmclure@fccucc.org).

**Handbells rehearse on Wednesdays, 4:45 pm in Wright Pavilion.** If you are interested in ringing in the choir or would like more information, please contact bell choir director Sharon Potter: [handbells@fccucc.org](mailto:handbells@fccucc.org).

**COMING UP @ FCC UCC**

**Monthly Game Night, Tuesday, January 20, 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Wright Pavilion:** Do you like to play board games? From classics like Rack-O and Rummikub to newer options like Ticket to Ride, there's something for everyone. Questions? Contact Kathy Sahrbeck at [outreach@fccucc.org](mailto:outreach@fccucc.org).

**Second Hour with Maggie Somers, Maine Conservation of Voters, Sunday, January 25, from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.:** Our Wabanaki Allies working group will host a forum on Wabanaki bills pending in the short session of the 132nd Maine legislature. Guest speaker Maggie Somers will help get us up to speed on two bills,

in particular: LD 395 (An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws Beneficial to the Wabanaki Nations) and LD 785 (An Act to Enact the Remaining Recommendations of the Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act).

**Hymn Sing, Sunday, February 1, 9:30 am in the chapel:** Choir Director Deirdre McClure invites you to learn some hymns and short songs. Please come! Singers and non-singers alike are invited, and if you feel like you might not quite fit in— that is the *very reason* you should come!

**Annual Budget Meeting, Sunday, February 1, 11:15 am:** All are invited and encouraged to attend this important gathering in the life of our congregation. Learn about the financial health of the church. Bring your questions. Members will be asked to approve the 2026 budget. Our finances fuel our ministry, and all members have a role in stewarding those resources. So, mark your calendars and join us. Thank you!

**Fellowship Club, Tuesday, February 3, 2026, 6:15 pm:** Chicken pot pie dinner and entertainment by the Peter Dunphey Trio. Email [carolyn.clark353@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.clark353@gmail.com) for reservations by February 1 at noon. \$25 per person, for more info email [blockwood@portlandresearch.com](mailto:blockwood@portlandresearch.com). Rides available.

**Women's Spirit Circle of FCCUCC, Tuesday, February 10, 7 pm, Community Room (5<sup>th</sup> floor):** A welcoming, sacred space where we can slow down, breathe deeply, and connect with one another through laughter, reflection, and soulful conversation. Come just as you are. All women, including LGBTQIA+ women, are welcome. For more info, contact Nancy Brajtbord: [nancy.brajtbord@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.brajtbord@gmail.com) Or Pat Thatcher: [pat.thatcher123@gmail.com](mailto:pat.thatcher123@gmail.com)

**Parents of Adult Children group, Sunday, February 15, 2026, 6:00 - 7:30 pm:** All parents of adult children (over 18 years old) are welcome to join us. For more info contact FCC UCC member Jill Saxby at [revjillsaxby@gmail.com](mailto:revjillsaxby@gmail.com).

## **MISSION AND SOCIAL WITNESS**

**Clynk Bags** are in the narthex (inside main entrance). Collect your returnable cans and bottles and return them to a Clynk collection site at Hannaford or other participating grocery stores. Scan the code on the bags and the refunds will automatically be donated to our FCC mission team. *Thank you!*

**Volunteer for Preble Street Food Hub:** On the last Friday of each month, we prepare meals at the Food Hub, 75 Darling Avenue, South Portland, for delivery to Preble Street satellite sites. Please join us! To learn more about how to volunteer, see the Weekly Word or contact Danna Wiggins at [dannawig2@gmail.com](mailto:dannawig2@gmail.com)

## THE WIDER COMMUNITY

**Community Sing, Sunday, February 8, 3:30 pm** at HopeGateWay, 515 Woodford Street, Portland: A monthly gathering of people from around Greater Portland who want to cultivate hope by singing together. Founded by musician-turned-community-organizer Emilia Dahlin. Sign up to learn about future events or opt-in to the Response Team to sing at resistance and change events at [emilia@emiliadahlin.com](mailto:emilia@emiliadahlin.com).

**Weekly Multi-Faith Vigil outside the Cumberland County Detention Center, at the corner of Congress and County Way, every Wednesday from 2:45 – 3:15 pm**  
Community faith leaders host these vigils, which may include songs, silence, prayer or other spiritual practices to honor the sacred worth of all people, and to hold up everyone involved - those detained, officers, and our entire community.

**Youth Service Corps February Meeting, Sunday, February 8, 12 – 2 pm:**  
Youth are invited to join with youth from around the area on Sunday February 8th, from 12 - 2 pm at First Congregational Church in South Portland, to assemble cleaning kits for Maine Needs. A pizza lunch will be provided at no cost! If you or your young ones have questions, please contact Pastor Steve at [steve@fccucc.org](mailto:steve@fccucc.org).

## WHAT'S UP?

**Want to stay in the loop?** Make sure you are on our email list! To UPDATE or ADD your contact info, go to: [fccucc.org](http://fccucc.org) and select "Contact Us" then select "Contact Info Update Form."

**Your positive reviews on social media help others to find us.**

**Write a review on Google (Thanks!). Like and follow us:**



3RD ANNUAL  
**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.  
CELEBRATION**



Artwork by Emma Wolfsohn

**SONGS AND COURAGE FOR OUR TIMES**

FEATURING THE SEA CHANGE CHORALE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2026

2:00 - 3:30 PM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

301 COTTAGE ROAD

SOUTH PORTLAND, ME

Free admission

Sponsored by the Greater Portland Multifaith Group