



## Epiphany Season

**What Do You See?  
Mission Trip Worship**

**February 16, 2025**

**Welcome to the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
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.***

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST** 

**Good morning!** We are worshipping via Zoom this morning. If you are joining us live, please remain on mute during the service. You may also want to set your view to “Speaker” for the best view of worship leaders. We will occasionally invite you to unmute to contribute; you are also encouraged to use the chat to share prayers and affirmations. This service will also be recorded and posted on our YouTube channel on Sunday afternoon.

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Revs. Alison J. B. Patton and Stephen Savage

**PRELUDE - Music to Center us:**

*We Would Be Building*

Jean Sibelius

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS**

**PRAYERFUL PAUSE**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

You are invited to switch to gallery view and unmute.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

After you pass the peace, please mute and return to speaker view.

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

One: Let us prepare our hearts to hear a Word from God.

Let us turn our attention to the one they called Jesus.

**SUNG**

*First Born of Mary*

Choir

**First born of Mary, provocative preacher,  
itinerant teacher, outsiders' choice  
Jesus inspires and disarms and confuses  
Whoever he chooses to hear his voice.**

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 7:18-23

Lynne Lanctot

## MISSION TRIP REFLECTIONS

Chris Keiter, Nancy Brajtbord, Stephanie Greenland

### ANTHEM

*If I Had a Hammer*

*Peter, Paul and Mary*

### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### 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.**

**MISSION TRIP SLIDESHOW** created by Stephanie Greenland

### OFFERING INVITATION

You can make a secure online 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. *See details below re: special appeals.* ☰\*\* *Thank you!*



### PRAYER OF BLESSING

### FAITH IN ACTION (ANNOUNCEMENTS)

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

C. Hubert H. Parry

**SOCIAL TIME ON ZOOM** You are invited to unmute, return to gallery view and greet your neighbors!

### WORSHIP NOTES

☰ **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. We are now donating funds to the *Indigo Arts Alliance*. You are invited to contribute, as well. Donate by check or online, with "Royalty for Spirituals" in the memo. *Thank you.*

**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 [business@fccucc.org](mailto:business@fccucc.org).

## **CARE AND COMMUNITY**

**Need a Nametag?** Nametags help us to welcome and connect with each other. Are you new to FCC, or do you need a replacement nametag? Send an email request to Marie Jordan at [wooddk5555@gmail.com](mailto:wooddk5555@gmail.com), with your name as you would like it to appear, and your pronouns. *You don't need to be a member to have a nametag!*

**Need Comfort Food?** We are in the middle of flu season! If you or someone you know is feeling under the weather - sick, or sad or caring for a loved one and just needing a break, Chop and Chat and Prayers and Provisions are ready to lend a little care and comfort! We have ready-to-heat frozen meals and hot meals to share. Contact Kathy Sahrbeck at [outreach@fccucc.org](mailto:outreach@fccucc.org).

## **WEEKLY @ FCC UCC**

**Bible Study, every Tuesday, 12:30 - 1:30 pm in Davidson Lounge:** Join Rev. Steve Savage for a wide-ranging conversation about the previous Sunday's scripture reading.

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

**Handbells & Handchimes rehearse on alternating Wednesdays, 4:30 pm – chimes/ 4:45 pm – bells in Wright Pavilion.** Questions? Contact bell choir director Sharon Potter: [handbells@fccucc.org](mailto:handbells@fccucc.org).

## **COMING UP AT FCC UCC**

**TODAY: Mission Trip Sunday, February 16:** Worship this Sunday will include storytelling about our 2024 mission trip to Cherryfield, ME where our team worked with Maine SeaCoast Mission to build porches for a lobsterman and his family.

**NEW DATE: Fair Fancy Crafters Gathering, Thursday, February 20, from 5pm - 7pm** in the Laity Room. No special talents needed; we all teach each other. Join us! Remember: Fair Fancy Crafters welcome crafters of all levels as we will teach, supply, guide, support, and laugh as we create. No matter your level of crafting, you are welcome here!

**Game Night, Tuesday, February 18, 7-8:30 pm in Wright Pavilion.** Please join us! Questions? Contact Kathy Sahrbeck at [outreach@fccucc.org](mailto:outreach@fccucc.org) (799-3361 #112)

**New Member Sunday, February 23:** We will welcome several folks into membership during Sunday worship. Interested in joining FCC UCC? Contact Rev. Alison Patton at [revalisonpatton@fccucc.org](mailto:revalisonpatton@fccucc.org).

**Short Story Group, Sunday, February 23:** We will gather in Davidson Lounge for the next installment of our Short Story Group. This month's story: "The Baboon War" by Nnedi Okorafor. Listen online to the podcast *Lavar Burton Reads*, episode 2/6/2018 or find it in the short story collection *Kabu Kabu*, by the author.

### **MARCH - SAVE THE DATES:**

**Wabanaki Allies, March 2** with guest Meret Bainbridge of First Parish Wabanaki Ally Team to discuss the overlapping histories of our two congregations and explore the ways we can partner in becoming effective allies to the Wabanaki peoples.

**Mission Trip Info Session, Sunday, March 9, 11:30 am in Davidson Lounge:** Learn about this summer's trip to Cherryfield, ME to volunteer with Maine Sea Coast Mission and consider joining the trip! Collin Keenan and Erica Hutchinson from the Maine Sea Coast Mission will share information about the program, and Chris Keiter will share organizing and fundraising information. Questions? Contact Chris Keiter at [cfkeiter@gmail.com](mailto:cfkeiter@gmail.com).

**Affordable Housing Lunch and Learn, Sunday, March 16, 11:30 am - 1 pm:** We will welcome Jeff Logan of Grace Street Ministries as our guest preacher, then host a lunch and panel discussion on the topic of Affordable Housing. Hosted by our Mission Team.

**Short Story Group, Sunday, March 23, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm** - Read a short story, then join the discussion with Pastor Steve. Story TBA.

### **MISSION CORNER**

**State Street Winter Family Shelter:** FCC UCC is part of a coalition of congregations working together to provide hospitality for unhoused families staying at the Winter Family Shelter at State Street Church, UCC. If you would like to learn more or volunteer, contact Walter Kimball at [whkimball77@gmail.com](mailto:whkimball77@gmail.com).

**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)

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**WHAT'S UP? Want to stay in the loop?** Make sure you are on our email list! UPDATE or ADD your contact info! Go to [fccucc.org](http://fccucc.org) and select "Contact Us" then select

"Contact Info Update Form."

Also, look for us on Facebook: [facebook.com/fccucc](https://facebook.com/fccucc),

on Instagram: [instagram.com/fccucc\\_s.portland](https://instagram.com/fccucc_s.portland)

and on our YouTube channel: [youtube.com/@FCCUCCSouthPortland](https://youtube.com/@FCCUCCSouthPortland)



## **UPDATED OFFICIAL CALL TO A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

The members of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, are hereby called to meet on **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.** in the sanctuary and via Zoom for the following purposes:

- I. To receive and act upon the 2025 budget proposed by the Church Council.
- II. To hear and act upon any other business which may properly come before the church.