



**Lessons from the Wild
Week 2 - Have You Heard?
Sunday Worship
July 14, 2024**

**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 

I close my eyes and listen to the voices of the rain.

— Robin Wall Kimmerer

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A Note for Families / Folks of All Ages: Welcome! Today we begin worship together. After the Time for All God's Children, children are welcome to move to the Craft Corner in the narthex (the entryway at the back of the sanctuary), accompanied by an adult. Worship can be heard through the open door.

There are also clipboards with paper and coloring pages at the back of the sanctuary, for anyone who wants to sit in a pew and draw/color during the service.

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PRELUDE

The Heavens Are Telling

Mendelssohn

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

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

THRESHOLD MOMENT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God is good! The toucan and bluejay declare it;

All: Crickets and tree frogs chirp in praise;

One: Merry breezes rustle sun-kissed leaves;

All: The west wind blows while waves keep time.

One: All are crafted by the Artist's own hand,

All: Each with their own way to sing God's praise.

One: Let us join the grateful chorus;

All: Let our hearts beat in rhythm with the spheres!

*Please rise, on your feet or in your hearts.

***OPENING HYMN** *To You, O God, All Creatures Sing* St. Francis of Assisi
/adapted Miriam Therese Winter

To you, O God, all creatures sing, and all creation, everything,
Sings your praises, alleluia! Your burning sun with golden beam,
Your silver moon with softer gleam
Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Your wind that blows the tempest by, your clouds that sail across the sky
Sing your praises, alleluia!
Your morning rises with a song, and lights of evening sing along,
Sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

To you, O God, day after day, your planet earth in every way,
Sings your praises, alleluia!
As savory fruit and fragrant flower show forth your glory and your power,
Singing praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Now we, who are of tender heart, forgiving others, take our part,
Sing your praises, alleluia!
To you we lift our pain and care, receive the burdens that we bear,
Singing praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Holy One, you made us kin with all creation, intertwined and interdependent.
When we move through our days with heads bowed and ears plugged; when the
noise we generate in the name of speed or efficiency drowns out the cries of our
siblings, the land and its creatures, forgive us, we pray. Slow us down, tune our
ears to hear and our hearts to respond to the weeping and wisdom of the world
you made. 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**

We Are One in the Spirit

Scholtes

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Unison

Kevin Cleary

**Open our hearts and minds, O God, by the gift of your Holy Spirit, so that as this word is read and proclaimed we may hear what you have to say to us today.
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 19:1-4

SERMON

“Have You Heard?”

Rev. Alison J. Buttrick Patton

ANTHEM

Rising Green

McDade
Jill Saxby, soprano

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.

SUNG RESPONSE:

Hear Our Prayer, O God

Whelpton

**Hear our prayer, O God. Hear our prayer, O God.
Incline your ear to us and grant us your peace.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

You can make a secure online gift by using the QR code, going to 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

For the Beauty of the Earth

#54

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Peace Be Still

Baker

WORSHIP NOTES

Thank you to this morning's ushers: Team I, Tom Hamerski, captain.

Flowers: The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Rose and Sherwood Lawler, from Heather Payson and Family.

THIS SEASON AT FCC UCC

TODAY Sunday, July 14, 11:30 am: *The High Mountains of Portugal* - Book Read and Discussion - REPRISE: Did you miss our first discussion of this unique novel? Still finishing the book? Contact Pastor Alison if you'd like to join her for a second round of group reflection on Yann Martel's three-part contemporary fable:
revalisonpatton@fccucc.org

Let's Take a Walk! Wednesday, July 17, 5 pm at the Kettle Cove parking lot in Cape Elizabeth. We will walk along Crescent Beach, through the woods and then back. Come for the company and for a chance to tune into the other-than-human voices in God's creation!

Pop-up Hand Chime Choir, July 21, 8:30 am: you KNOW you want to! They are so much fun to play and it is a great way to be musical together. You don't have to read music! Learn a piece at 8:30 am, then play together during 10 am worship.

Pop-up Choir, August 4, 8:30 am: Our first outing on June 30 was lovely. Please join us as we learn a piece to sing together, to sing during the 10 am worship that day.

IN THE COMMUNITY

BTS Center's Convocation 2024 - Hope in Small Places: Becoming People of Refugia Faith, September 26-27, 2024: Keynote by Debra Reinstra, author of *Refugia Faith*, will help us consider ways for churches to be places of nurture and flourishing in an unsettled, climate-changed world. Pastors Alison and Steve will both be attending. Learn more at <https://thebtscenter.org/convocation-2024/> Register by the end of June for a registration discount.

SUMMER SCHEDULES

Bob DesMueles: Beginning July 1, our bookkeeper, Bob DesMueles, will be in the office two days a week. This coming week, he is in on Monday and Thursday.

Rev. Steve Savage will be away on vacation July 1-14.

Pastor Alison Patton will participate in our FCC mission trip, leaving after church on Sunday, July 21 and returning on Saturday, July 27.

She will be away on vacation July 29 - August 19.

WHAT'S UP? Want to stay in the loop? UPDATE or ADD your contact info!
Go to fccucc.org and select "Contact Us" then select "Contact Info Update Form."



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On Instagram: instagram.com/fccucc_s.portland



And on our YouTube channel: youtube.com/@FCCUCCSouthPortland

The Beacon newsletter: The July/August issue went out via email early this week. Didn't get it? Make sure you are on our email list!

DEADLINE: Please send your content for the *September* issue to Bethany Porter at communicate@fccucc.org by August 18, 2024. Thanks!



Bulletins are now available to view online.
Scan the QR Code for the digital version.

Doodles, Notes and Reflections...

