

---

# First Congregational Church

## February 9, 2020



## Scout Sunday

2610 East Northern Lights Blvd.  
Anchorage, Alaska  
(907) 272-8363 – [www.fccak.org](http://www.fccak.org)

---



February 9, 2020

10:30 am

*Enter with a spirit of preparation as we gather ourselves for worship*

---

**Prelude:** "Air and Variations" Elizabeth Stirling

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Choral Introit**

**Call to Worship**

**\*Processional Hymn:** "She Is the Spirit" **No. 255**

**\*Ritual of Friendship**

ONE: On our journeys of life we meet here in this sacred space.

**ALL: We affirm that we are people of the Way, we give thanks  
that today our paths cross.**

ONE: Let us greet each other as we journey together towards  
fullness of life. Let us greet the one on our left and the one  
on our right with peace and love.

**\*Greeting of One Another**

**\*The Gathering Bell**

*Please return and remain standing for the Responsive Reading*

\*Those who are comfortably able may stand.

**\*Responsive Reading:** (by Rev. Susan A. Blain)

ONE: Let the Mystery of God draw us in:

**ALL: Beautiful, Just, Merciful!**

ONE: Let the Wisdom of God surprise us:

**ALL: Vulnerable, Powerful, Searching!**

ONE: Let the Glory of God shine through our work:

**ALL: Salty, Bright and Good!**

ONE: In the Mystery, the Wisdom, the Glory of God

**ALL: Let us worship!**

**First Reading:** Joshua 24:14-17

<sup>14</sup> “Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve the Lord in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. <sup>15</sup> Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.”

<sup>16</sup> Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup> for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. God protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed;

**Musical Offering:** “We Are Called” David Haas

**Children’s Moment**

**Invitation to Giving**

**Offertory:** “Moderato” Elizabeth Stirling

**\*Doxology: (tune) No. 47**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

**\*Dedication of Gifts (unison)**

**Liberator Christ, you went to the top of a mountain,  
and taught a sacred word about the meek and the grief  
stricken, about the lost and the lonely.  
Come to this place now, and by these gifts help us to see the  
world not as it is, but as it could be, that we may become  
good news to all. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

Silent Prayer

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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 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.**

Choral Prayer Response

**\*Hymn:**

**"The Gift of Love"**

**No. 526**

**\*Those who are comfortably able may stand.**

**Second Reading:** Ecclesiastes 9:1-10

<sup>1</sup>So I considered all of this carefully, examining all of it: The righteous and the wise and their deeds are in God's hand, along with both love and hate. People don't know anything that's ahead of them. <sup>2</sup> Everything is the same for everyone. The same fate awaits the righteous and the wicked, the good and the bad, the pure and the impure, those who sacrifice and those who don't sacrifice. The good person is like the wrongdoer; the same holds for those who make solemn pledges and those who are afraid to swear. <sup>3</sup> This is the sad thing about all that happens under the sun: the same fate awaits everyone. Moreover, the human heart is full of evil; people's minds are full of madness while they are alive, and afterward they die. <sup>4</sup> Whoever is among the living can be certain about this. A living dog is definitely better off than a dead lion, <sup>5</sup> because the living know that they will die. But the dead know nothing at all. There is no more reward for them; even the memory of them is lost. <sup>6</sup> Their love and their hate, as well as their zeal, are already long gone. They will never again have a stake in all that happens under the sun.

<sup>7</sup> Go, eat your food joyfully and drink your wine happily because God has already accepted what you do. <sup>8</sup> Let your garments always be white; don't run short of oil for your head. <sup>9</sup> Enjoy life with your dearly loved spouse all the days of your pointless life that God gives you under the sun—all the days of your pointless life!—because that's your part to play in this life and in your hard work under the sun. <sup>10</sup> Whatever you are capable of doing, do with all your might because there's no work, thought, knowledge, or wisdom in the grave, which is where you are headed.

**Sermon:** "With All Your Might"  
Rev. Jacob Poindexter

**\*Hymn:** "Some There Are Who by Their Living" **No.648**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response**

**Postlude:**

“Maestoso”

Elizabeth Stirling

\*Those who are comfortably able may stand.

## News from the Pews

**Outreach Meeting** – Today, at 12:15 pm

**Community Handbell Choir** – Mondays, at 6 pm

**Lectio Divina** – Tuesdays, at 10:00 am

**Stewardship Meeting** – Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm



**Roots of Joy** – **Tuesdays, at 7:00 pm**. A service that explores other ways to engage our faith together. The new series is “Between,” where we will focus on those in between times and liminal spaces in life—the times between what was, and what is next. Join us!

**Creating Liturgia** – Thursdays, at 10:00 am

**Family Game Night** – **Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm**. This month, we will be meeting at Caroline and Craig Valentine’s home, 3838 Westminster Way. Parking is tricky on the cul-de-sac, so carpooling might be a good idea. Since this will be Valentine’s day and we want to celebrate appropriately, please consider bringing something with CHOCOLATE to share, or you can bring something salty/savory to cleanse our palates between chocolate samplings.

**World Interfaith Harmony Week** –To celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week First Congregational Church will be sharing its music programs with visitors from many faith communities in our city. NEEDED: a few tasty goodies for our friends on **Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**; the event is at **6:00 pm**. Will you help me provide a few simple snacks for them as part of our welcome? I’m looking for finger foods, sweet or savory, easy and tidy to pick up and enjoy. Please contact Susan Faith, [rsfaith@gci.net](mailto:rsfaith@gci.net); 907-274-0202 or the church office. See [www.facebook.com/interfaithanchorage](http://www.facebook.com/interfaithanchorage) for more details.

**Intergenerational Handbell Choir** – Practice will begin again **February 23<sup>rd</sup> after service**. No experience required, open to all ages from single digits to triple digits. This is a great opportunity to try handbells and to create a part of our communal worship.

## **Notes and Doodles**

If you could choose one thing in 2019 that you would want people to remember you by, what would that be?

## **Did you know Lyman Beecher...**

Though Lyman Beecher was the founder of a famous family of Congregational preachers, his father and grandfather were blacksmiths. As a student at Yale, Beecher was led to the Lord by Timothy Dwight, president of the college. Ordained in 1799 at age twenty-four, Beecher first served in a Presbyterian church, but he was not a good fit in that denomination, even being tried for heresy for preaching against the hyper-Calvinist doctrine that God has specifically elected certain individuals to go to hell, and they should just accept that. Though he was acquitted of heresy, he still left the Presbyterians to become a Congregational preacher.

During what he called his “continuous revivals,” Beecher preached fervently about repentance and faith in Jesus, but also railed at drunkenness, Catholicism, and Unitarianism. He initially supported antidisestablishmentarianism, not wanting Congregational churches to lose their status as the established church of New England. Later, Beecher changed his mind and said that disestablishment was “the best thing that ever happened” to the churches. “It cut them loose from dependence on state support and threw them wholly on their own resources and on God.”

In 1827, Beecher preached these words against slavery, crying that the flame of freedom still “burns, and still the mountain heaves and murmurs; and soon it will explode with voices and thunderings and great earthquakes. And then will the trumpet of jubilee sound, and earth’s debased millions will leap from the dust and shake off their chains and cry, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David.’”

**...was a Congregationalist?**

**Celebrating 400 Years of American Congregationalism**  
**Learn more about our Congregational History at [naccc.org](http://naccc.org)**

**New Prayer Concerns**

Sue Hanas  
Cathy White and her family

**Ongoing Prayer Concerns**

Hilde Errico, family of Marcie & Greg Errico  
Bob Reupke, husband of Toni Reupke  
Robert Spivey, family of Julie and Scott McClure  
Barbara & Don May, great grandparents of Reagan & Avery Binek  
Nicholas Nelson, friend of Erin Binek  
Ray & Ora Lorraine Bauer, family of Don & Susie Coates  
Anne Sharyon, mother of Kathy Means  
Margaret Webber, friend of Barbara Bowerman and Pam Wright  
Joe's daughter, friend of Harry and Elisabeth Kachline  
Mary Anne's mother, friend of Harry and Elisabeth Kachline  
Paul Chapin, cousin of Chris Walker  
Family of Ian White, director of Crow Creek Pipe & Drum  
Keith Rolison, friend of Marilyn Lee from Anchorage Concert Chorus  
Nicole Johnson, niece of Eric Johnson and Marilyn Lee  
Hans Roar Nilssen, father-in-law of Marilyn Lee's daughter  
Wayne Pratt, brother of Sharon Higgins  
Sunny Bird, friend of Chris Walker  
Bill Hampton, friend of Don Coates  
Don and Susie Coates  
Jacob Kreuzenstein; grandson of Peggy Kreuzenstein  
Irene Stewart  
Charlene Demshki, mother of Ginger Smith  
Javier Ayunerak  
Elizabeth Amber, family of Nathan and Jenna Amber  
Lillian Soth, granddaughter of Jeanette and Fermen Dillon

**Deaths**

Daniel Sopcak, friend of Caroline Valentine  
Judge Bob Erwin, friend of Deb & Dennis Stauffer  
Holly Charland, granddaughter of Susan Faith

For all the teachers, aides, staff and volunteers who educate our children; for first responders, those serving in the military, and those that serve our community in a variety of ways; for the peacekeepers and public servants; for those in our community who are in need and those who are struggling in different ways; for the people with whom we are in conflict, we pray.

# People of First Congregational Church

## Senior Minister

Rev. Jacob L. Poindexter – (907) 272-8363 – [jacobp@fccak.org](mailto:jacobp@fccak.org)

## Music Ministry

Organist & Director, Northern Lights Ringers: **Caroline Valentine**  
Chancel Choir Director: **Lori Parker Wasko**

## Sunday Volunteers

Deacon Serving: **Ralph Lynch**  
Greeting: **Chris Walker & Jack Richter**  
Liturgist: **Vivian Pike**  
Fellowship Hour: **Jim and Liese Munter**  
Usher Team: **Jim Munter, Max Errico,  
Strijker Errico**

This Sunday's Communion  
Table flowers were  
donated by  
Deb & Dennis Stauffer

Flowers provided by  
Evalyn's Floral

## Contacts

Admin. Assistant & Editor: **Krystal Poindexter** – 272-8363, [office@fccak.org](mailto:office@fccak.org)  
Church Sexton: **Scott McClure** – 350-9148  
Wedding Coordinator: **Sandra Skaggs** – 223-7659

**Connect - Get Involved - Share a Prayer Request.** Fill out one of the connect cards located in the back of the pew in front of you and drop it in the offering.

### Hearing-Assist System

Connect directly to a smart device with Bluetooth hearing aids or traditional headphones.

1. Download the AudioFetch app: 
2. Connect to Wi-Fi signal: FCCAK HEARING ASSIST
3. Make sure hearing aid is Bluetooth connected
4. Open AudioFetch app and enjoy the sound!

**Member:** National Association of Congregational Christian Churches. 



[www.facebook.com/fccak.org](http://www.facebook.com/fccak.org)

### Online Giving

In addition to cash or checks, First Congregational Church accepts donations and pledge payments securely online with a credit card.

-Scan the QR code or go to [www.fccak.org/give](http://www.fccak.org/give).

Thank you for your financial participation in the work of  
First Congregational Church of Anchorage!



# February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>9</b> 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 12:15pm Outreach Mtg	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10am Lectio Divina 11:30am Staff Meeting 3:30pm Stewardship Mtg 7pm Roots of Joy	<b>12</b> 5:15pm Handbells 6pm Interfaith Harmony Wk (CM) 6:30pm Choir	<b>13</b> 10am Creating Liturgia	<b>14</b> Valentine's Day 6pm Family Game Night	<b>15</b> 9am Organist
<b>16</b> <b>Communion</b> 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 12:15pm Council Mtg	<b>17</b> Presidents' Day (regional holiday) 6pm Community Bell Choir	<b>18</b> 10am Lectio Divina 11:30am Staff Meeting 7pm Roots of Joy	<b>19</b> 3:30pm Fellowship Mtg 5:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Choir	<b>20</b> 10am Creating Liturgia 6pm Worship Mtg	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9am Organist
<b>23</b> <b>Family Sunday</b> 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship 11:30am Potluck: Worship 11:45am Intergenerational Handbell Practice 12pm PF Activity	<b>24</b> 6pm Community Bell Choir	<b>25</b> 10am Lectio Divina 11:30am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake (CM) 7pm Roots of Joy	<b>26</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 5:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Choir	<b>27</b> 10am Creating Liturgia	<b>28</b> 6pm Food & Fun	<b>29</b> 9am Organist
<b>1</b> <b>First Sunday in Lent</b> 9:30am Choir 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 11:45am Intergenerational Handbell Practice 12pm Life & Learning Mtg.	<b>2</b> 6pm Community Bell Choir	<b>3</b> <b>Super Tuesday (regional holiday)</b> 10am Lectio Divina 11:30am Staff Meeting 7pm Roots of Joy	<b>4</b> 5:15pm Handbells 6:30pm Choir	<b>5</b> 10am Creating Liturgia	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9am Organist

**Color Key-** Black: Worship Services, Blue: FCC Activities, Purple: FCC Partnership Activities