
First Congregational Church

February 16, 2020



Communion Sunday

2610 East Northern Lights Blvd.
Anchorage, Alaska
(907) 272-8363 – www.fccak.org



February 16, 2020

10:30 am

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

Prelude: "Jubilation Suite" Janzer

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit

Call to Worship

***Processional Hymn:** "Come and Find the Quiet Center" No. 575

***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:**

ONE: May God's peace rest on our busy and lonely moments so that we are quieted into prayer.

ALL: May God's love flow through our words and deeds of worship so that we are awake to opportunities to serve and to thrive.

ONE: May God's grace embrace every need and may the restless movement of the Spirit renew our hearts.

ALL: For these words of peace, love, and grace, we declare Amen! May it be so.

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19a

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷ And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

Musical Offering: "Let Us Walk This Road Together" John Carter

Children's Moment

Invitation to Giving

Offertory: "Pastoral No. 1" Uehlein

***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)**

Renewing and birthing God, through days of difficulty and ease we gather the fragments of ourselves and release them to your care and work. Bless them into new life, moving beyond our hands and building a new realm beneath our feet and in our world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

*Those who are comfortably able may stand.

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 Voice of God Is Calling" **No.666**

Second Reading: Poetic reading, by Mark Nepo

Sermon: "Soil, Seeds, & Sunlight: Lessons from the Earth"

-Service of Holy Communion-

This community meal celebrating Communion at FCC is an open table. All are welcome to share in this meal, no matter what your faith tradition may be. No matter what has led to this moment, young and old alike come to share. May this moment be a time grace and belonging.

Invitation:

ONE: God in Christ calls us to this meal of growing imagination...
ONE: At this table we receive God's peace made food, God's solidarity with us made living and real. What we receive, we now share together.

Communion Prayer:

ONE: May God be with you.
ALL: And also with you!
ONE: Gather in your hearts.
ALL: We gather together with God
ONE: Let us give thanks to God among us.
ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise!
ONE: Through the Spirit's imaging, we give thanks...

Words of Institution

ONE: We remember ...

ONE: So now, renewing God, bless those gathered here, together with this bread and cup, through the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us one household, the church, your serving people, that we may be the bread and cup shared for your hope for the world.

ALL: Amen! Come Holy Spirit!

Preparations of the Elements

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*You are invited to take the bread, and when all have been served, we will eat together. There is gluten free bread available in the center bowl for those who cannot eat wheat. When the cup is passed, please take and drink as you are ready. The **red** cups contain wine and the **white** cups contain juice.*

*The **clear** cups in the center contain water.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: Gracious God, we thank you for this meal and for all of the ways you nourish us. Grow among us that we may nourish others. Sustain us as we press toward the goal of your call in Christ Jesus. Amen.

***Hymn:** "This Is a Day of New Beginnings" **No. 518**

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Postlude: "Benedicamus Domino" Uehlein

Notes & Doodles

News from the Pews

Council Meeting – Today, at 12:15 pm

Community Handbell Choir – Mondays, at 6 pm

Lectio Divina – Tuesdays, at 10:00 am



Roots of Joy – **Tuesdays, at 7:00 pm**. A service that explores other ways to engage our faith and spirituality together. The current 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!

Fellowship Meeting – Wednesday, February 19th at 3:30 pm

Soup Group – **Thursdays, at 10:00 am**. Previously known as *Creating Liturgia*, it’s the same great group under a different name. Come and help plan and create, and enjoy soup, bread, and fellowship.

Worship Meeting – Thursday, February 20th at 6 pm

Intergenerational Handbell Choir – Practice will begin again **February 23rd after the worship 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.

Friday Food & Fun – **February 28th at 6:00 pm**. We will be meeting at *Mexico in Alaska*, 7305 Old Seward Hwy. Please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, February 26th at 3 pm so the restaurant can be prepared for us.

Cover Art: "Epiphany" by Erin Beardemphl,
used with permission from Worship Ways

Did you know George Burroughs...

400 YEARS OF *Faith*
AMERICAN
CONGREGATIONALISM
SINCE 1620

Born in 1652, in Suffolk, England, George came to the settlement of Roxbury, in the Massachusetts Bay Colony with his mother when he was a child. He graduated from Harvard College in 1670 with distinguished honors and became a Congregational minister.

He married his first wife, Hannah Fisher, in 1673. In 1674, he moved to Falmouth, Maine, where he served as pastor of Falmouth Congregational Church. He continued to serve as the pastor until the town was destroyed during a violent conflict with the Wabanaki Confederacy on August 11, 1676. The Wabanaki Confederacy was comprised of 5 principal nations established in 1606, in what is now northern New England and Canada. This included the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy, Abenaki, Penobscot nations. Wabanaki roughly translates to "people of the first light."

George served in Salem Village 1680 - 1683, departing after a pay dispute with the congregation. Hannah had passed away, and he had to borrow money for funeral expenses, as the congregation had failed to pay his salary. He remarried Sarah Ruck Hathorne, who also died sometime later.

George moved to Wells, Maine, where he married again and continued in the ministry. It was while he was there that he was arrested and convicted on charges of witchcraft on April 30, 1692, having been accused by some personal enemies from his former congregation who had sued him for debt.

Standing on the ladder, waiting to be hanged, he recited the Lord's Prayer, something considered impossible for a witch to do. After he was killed, Cotton Mather spoke from horseback to the crowd, assuring them that George had been convicted in a court of law. His speech convinced the crowd to execute four others similarly accused and convicted. He was the only minister executed for witchcraft during the Salem Witch Trials.

...was a Congregationalist?

Celebrating 400 Years of American Congregationalism
Learn more about our Congregational History at nacc.org

New Prayer Concerns

Family of Dr. Donald McLean

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Cathy White and her family

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

Music Ministry

Organist & Director, Northern Lights Ringers: **Caroline Valentine**

Chancel Choir Director: **Lori Parker Wasko**

Sunday Volunteers

Deacon Serving: **Ralph Lynch**

Greeting: **Sue Hanas**

Liturgist: **Nathan Amber**

Fellowship Hour: **Lynn Barber**

Usher Team: **Louise Smith & Sally Janis**

This Sunday's Communion
Table flowers were
donated by Louise Smith,
in honor of Ginger Smith's
birthday!

Flowers provided by
Evalyn's Floral

Contacts

Admin. Assistant & Editor: **Krystal Poindexter** – 272-8363, 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

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.

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



February 2020

Outreach: Hats, Scarves, Socks, NICU Blankets

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

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