



First Congregational Church



Fourth Sunday in Lent

27 March 2022



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

Prelude: "Variations on Azmon" Michael Helman

Welcome and Announcements

Choral Introit: "Behold the Lamb of God"

Call to Worship

* **Hymn:** "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" **No. 16, P. 7**

* **Responsive Reading: Psalm 32**

ONE: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

ALL: Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, & in whose spirit there is no deceit.

ONE: While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

ALL: For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

ONE: Then I acknowledged my sin to you, & I did not hide my iniquity;

ALL: I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," & you forgave the guilt of my sin.

ONE: Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

ALL: You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

ONE: I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

ALL: Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not

stay near you.

ONE: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

ALL: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Musical Offering: "Love So Amazing" arr. Lowell Mason
FCC Chancel Choir

Children's Moment

Invitation to Giving

Offertory: "Offertory on *Bunessan*" A. Royce Eckhardt

***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:**

ALL: O Generous One, we give thanks to you for your steadfast love endures forever. May these gifts be used to feed the hunger and satisfy the thirst of your creating Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

ALL: 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.

Prayer Response

Second Reading: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³ So he told them this parable:

¹¹ Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will

get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

Sermon:

Ollie Bergh

* **Hymn:** "There's a Wideness on God's Mercy"

No. 73, P. 6

* **Benediction**

*Benediction Response: "May the Grace of Christ Our Savior"



May the grace of Christ our Sav - ior And the Fa - ther's bound - less love,



With the Ho - ly Spir - it's fa - vor, Rest up - on us from a - bove.

Postlude: "Variations on *Amazing Grace*" Kevin Norris

Music permission obtained from ONE LICENSE #A-724680. All rights reserved.

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy 73



1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2. There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more grac-es for the good!
3. For the love of God is broad-er than the meas-ure of our mind;
4. If our love were but more sim-ple, we should rest up-on God's word;



there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
There is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
and our lives would be il - lu - mined by the pres - ence of our Lord.



16 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1. Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 2. Here I raise to thee an al-tar; hith-er by thy help I'm come;
 3. O to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar-rive at home.
 Let thy good-ness, like a fet-ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove.
 Je-sus sought me when a stran-ger, wan-dering from the fold of God;
 Prone to wan-der, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



Praise the mount! I'm fixed up-on it, mount of thy re-deem-ing love.
 he, to res-cue me from dan-ger, in-ter-posed his pre-cious blood.
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a-bove.



Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

News from the Pews

- ☆ **Guest Speaker Willy Templeton**—Today, after worship
- ☆ **Lectio Divina**—Tuesdays at 10am (Zoom)
- ☆ **Taizé Service**—Tuesdays at 5:45pm
- ☆ **Handbell Rehearsal**—Wednesdays at 5:15pm
- ☆ **Choir Rehearsal**—Wednesdays at 6:30pm
- ☆ **Soup Group**—Thursdays at 10am

Guest Preacher Ollie Bergh—Ollie is a seminarian and an associate chaplain at Providence Hospital. He's approved for ordination in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America following his graduation in May from Wartburg Theological Seminary. Ollie grew up in Lake Oswego, Oregon and studied theatre at Western Oregon University before converting to Christianity and eventually following the call to seminary. In his spare time, he can be found experimenting in his kitchen, cooking for his wife Erika (who pastors Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church) and one year old daughter Ottilie.

Willy Templeton— Willy is joining us TODAY, March 27th after worship to continue the learning opportunity that we started at the end of 2021. We will be learning more about Alaska Native history, this time focusing on post-statehood



Easter Flower Orders—We will be ordering assorted azaleas and cyclamen to decorate the chancel for Easter. If you would like to order flowers to take home after the Easter worship service, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the narthex table. You can also email or call the church office with your order, and we will add you to the list.

The flowers are \$25 each and orders are due on April 3, 2022

New Prayer Concerns

Friends & family of Don Coates	Friends & family of Macrina Sudbeck; mother of Aimée Sudbeck
--------------------------------	--

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Our prospective minister	
The Pastoral Search Committee	Doris Stackhouse, daughter of Darlene Gilman
Kathleen Tarr; friend of Marilyn Lee & Eric Johnson	Scott McClure
Bob Reupke	Carolyn Rinehart
Ann & Steve Hutchings	Casey Graff; grandniece of Marilyn Lee
Fermen Dillon	Jeannie, family of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline
Julie, cousin of Claudia Kniefel	Sally & Tom; friends of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline
Tim Griffith; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline	Elizabeth Amber; family of Jenna & Nathan Amber
Irene Stewart	Steve McKean
Christina Pike; daughter of Vivian Pike	Stan Parker; brother of Lori Wasko
John Allen	Roger Meyer; brother of Cindi Crawford
Ron Broome	Elisabeth Kachline
Mary Anne’s mother; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline	Margaret Webber; friend of Barbara Bowerman & Pam Wright
Joe’s daughter; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline	Barbara May; great grandma of Reagan & Avery Binek
Alice Butler; mother of Jane vonBirgelen	Nicole Johnson; niece of Eric Johnson & Marilyn Lee
Jacob Kreuzenstein; grandson of Peggy Kreuzenstein	Family of Ian White; Director, Crow Creek Pipe & Drum
Wayne Pratt; brother of Sharon Higgins	Lillian Soth; grandchild of Jeanette & Fermen Dillon

Deaths

Mike Gannutz , cousin of Chris Walker	Lois Hale; family of Susan Faith
---------------------------------------	----------------------------------

For all the teachers, aides, staff, & volunteers who educate our children; for the 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 struggling in different ways; for the people with whom we are in conflict, we pray.

First Congregational Church of Anchorage

2610 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99508
907.272.8363—www.fccak.org

Guest Minister

Ollie Bergh
907.272.8363

Music Ministry

Caroline Valentine
Organist and
Director, Northern Lights Ringers
Lori Parker Wasko
Director, Chancel Choir

Sunday Volunteers

Deacon Serving: Sandy Skaggs
Usher Team: Paul Wasko
Greeter: Erin Binek
Liturgist: Mark Zimmerman
Audio/Video Tech:
Fellowship Host:

Krystal Poindexter

Administrative Assistant
907.272.8363—office@fccak.org

Olive Nyiramucyo

Church Custodian

Julie McClure

Wedding Coordinator

This week's Communion Table flowers are given by Louise Smith, in memory of her daughter, Marjorie Kurtz

Flowers provided by Evalyn's Floral

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 plate.

Scan the QR Code to receive news and updates from FCC Anchorage in your inbox.



Hearing-Assist System

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

1. Download the AudioFetch app:  audiofetch
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



Member— #1700

Open & Affirming Congregation (ONA)

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!

First Congregational Church of Anchorage

March & April 2022

Outreach: Catholic Social Services Wishlist

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Fourth Sunday in Lent Guest Preacher: Ollie Bergh 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship: Guest Speaker Willy Templeton	28 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	29 10am Lectio Divina 5:45pm Taize Services	30 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	31 10am Soup Group	Apr 1	2 9am Organist
3 Fifth Sunday in Lent Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Denise Sudbeck 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 11:45am Outreach Mtg 12pm Life & Learning Meeting	4 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	5 10am Lectio Divina 12:30pm Piano Tuning (S) 5:45pm Taize Services	6 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	7 10am Soup Group 5pm Fellowship Mtg 6:30pm Investment Club	8	9 9am Organist
10 Palm Sunday Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Denise Sudbeck 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 12pm PF Activity	11 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	12 10am Lectio Divina 5pm Stewardship Mtg 5:45pm Taize Services	13 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	14 Maundy Thursday 10am Soup Group 7pm Maundy Thursday Service	15 Good Friday	16 9am Organist
17 Easter Sunday Communion Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Denise Sudbeck 10:30am Worship & Sunday School 11:30am Fellowship 11:45am Council Mtg	18 6pm Crow Creek (BR, S)	19 10am Lectio Divina	20 5:15pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Choir	21 10am Soup Group 7pm Worship Mtg	22	23 9am Organist