



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
Order of Worship

**All who are able please stand*

March 1, 2015

Communion Sunday

10:00 AM

Meditation

"Control is an illusion."

~Sheldon Kopp ~

Please join us in a period of meditative silence before the Service.

PRELUDE "Blessed Assurance" Jay Chandler
Fanny Crosby & P.P. Knapp, Arr. Dino Kartsonakis

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS*** Pastor Frank
****If you have an announcement to share, please come to the front of the church.*

*INVOCATION (responsively) Pastor Frank
In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #7 (red) "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

*CALL TO WORSHIP Jane Clabaugh

Leader: In many and various ways, God has spoken of old to our ancestors by the prophets.

People: But in these last days, God has spoken to us through Jesus the Christ.

Leader: We have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses.

People: but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sinning.

Leader: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that We may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

All: Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Frank

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Leader: Let us confess our sin and receive grace from the ocean of mercy which flows from the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Let us pray:

All: We confess that we are often wandering through life as if asleep. We are lost in our thoughts and the drama created in our mind. We worship an idol set up in our head, and call it You. We are sure we are right. As a dreamer wakes from a nightmare and is no longer affected by the dream, we pray. "Awaken us" from our own delusions, that we might hear your voice and seek your face in the light of truth. Holy God, Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM "Lamb of God" Choir
By Twila Paris, Arr. Mark Hayes

"JESUS LOVES ME" Jay Chandler
(Children are dismissed during "Jesus Loves Me"
for Sunday School. The children will return for the Sacrament of Holy Communion)

SCRIPTURES Bill Clabaugh
OLD TESTAMENT: 1 Kings 19: 1-9

GOSPEL ALLELUIA #736 (please stand to sing)

GOSPEL: Matthew 4: 1-11
Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*GLORIA PATRI #734 (blue)
SERMON "Running From Things That Scare You" Pastor Frank

*HYMN: #153 (Red) "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

PASTORAL PRAYER
CHORAL RESPONSE Choir
OFFERTORY "Liebestraum/Great is Thy Faithfulness" Jay
Chandler

F.Liszt/T. Chisholm & W. Runyun, Arr. Dino Kartsonakis

***The 1st Sunday of the month loose cash goes to the Diaconate Fund for outreach.*

*DOXOLOGY #34 (blue) #514 (red)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

****Note:** Red is wine and white is grape juice.

INVITATION: *(responsively)*

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE PRAYER

RESPONSE OF PRAISE: *(sung together)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.

Heaven and earth are full, of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

(be seated at close)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

(Please wait until all have been served so as to share together)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***CLOSING HYMN (See insert) "Thy Strong Word"**

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Choir

POSTLUDE "How Majestic is Your Name"

Jay Chandler

Michael W. Smith, Arr. Dino Kartsonakis



Altar Flowers

"In celebration of Diane and John Moretti's Wedding Anniversary"

*The First Congregational Church
978-632-2142*

Email: fccgardner@gmail.com

Pastor: Frank McKenzie

Christian Education Director: Sue Rader

Organist: Jay Chandler

Administrative Assistant: Marion McCann

Custodian: Dale Rader

Deacon: Cynthia Henshaw

Trustee:

Ushers:

Fellowship: Diane and John Moretti

Nursery: is available for parents use

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

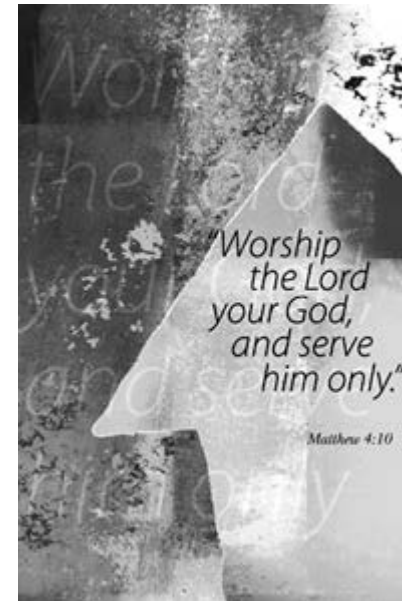
United Church of Christ

28 Green Street

Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

March 1, 2015

Communion Sunday



As the First Congregational Church of Gardner, our Mission together through Jesus Christ is to nurture, inspire and support ourselves and each other in our daily lives through worship, fellowship, education and service so that we may reflect God's love and grace in our homes, our community and the world.