



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
Order of Worship
**All who are able please stand*

May 3, 2015 First Communion Sunday 10:00 AM

Meditation

"I am the Living Bread which comes down from Heaven"
~Jesus~

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

PRELUDE "Sonata No.2 – Grave, Adagio" Jay Chandler
Felix Mendelssohn

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 #649 (blue) "Gather Us In"**

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Marlene Wiita
Leader: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And blessed be
His Kingdom, now and forever. Amen

People: Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia
Leader: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins. His mercy endures forever.
**People: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
And from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name;
Through Christ our Lord. Amen**

CALL TO CONFESSION Pastor Frank

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

People: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Trust in the
ocean of mercy which flows from the Sacred Heart of Jesus Christ.

Let us pray:

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in
thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have
left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not
loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly
repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and
forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to
the glory of your Name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM "Be Still and Know That I Am God" Choir
David Lantz III

"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 Christy Gulsby
EPISTLE: 1 John 4: 7-21

GOSPEL ALLELUIA #736 (*please stand to sing*)

GOSPEL: Luke 24: 13-35
Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

***GLORIA PATRI #734 (blue)**
SERMON "Recognizing Jesus" Pastor Frank

***HYMN: #254 (Red) "Break Thou the Bread of Life"**

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE Choir
OFFERTORY "Meditation on "St. Anne" Jay Chandler
Gordon Young

***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)

Please welcome our First Communicants and their parents as they come forward at this time: Haley Bosselait and Isabelle Duval

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

FIRST COMMUNION HYMN: #288 (Red) “Let Us Break Bread Together”

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION:

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN #8 (Red) “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Choir

POSTLUDE Fugue in C, “The Trumpet Fugue” Jay Chandler
J.S. Bach

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

28 Green Street

Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

May 3, 2015

First Communion Sunday



OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS:

HALEY BOSSELAIT

ISABELLE DUVAL

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: Marjorie Whittemore

Trustee: Tom Erickson

Ushers:

Fellowship: Karen and Dan Lenthall

Nursery: is available for parents use

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.