



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

November 27, 2011

10:30 a.m.

Meditation
 "What if God were one of us."
 ~Joan Osborne~

PRELUDE

Linda Tooley

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 #110 (red) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Nathan Orwig

Leader: A voice cries out in our wilderness.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Create new pathways, even in a barren desert.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Comfort your people with your faithful promises,
 exceedingly great and precious.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: We prepare a place for Christ in our hearts.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray:

(in unison): Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Orwig Family

Luke 1:46-55

DUET

"Blessings"

Carol

Bailey & Karen Lenthall

**A TIME FOR THE CHILDREN IN ALL OF US
 and the LORD'S PRAYER (debts)**

Brian Smith

(Children are dismissed afterward for Sunday School Classes.)

SCRIPTURES David Orwig

Old Testament: Daniel 5:1-9, 24-28

Gospel: Matthew 3:1-3

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Praise be to God.

***GLORIA PATRI #734 (blue)**

SERMON

"Handwriting on the wall."

Pastor Frank

***HYMN #160 (blue) "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"**

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

Offertory

Linda Tooley

***DOXOLOGY #34 (blue)**

***CLOSING HYMN #116 (red) "Angles We Have Heard on High"**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE
Linda Tooley

Anointing of the Sick



GO and Make Disciples



Our Vision:
An Active, Welcoming and
Growing Community of Faith

We always welcome visitors to join us at worship. We are glad that you are here. We encourage you to sign a visitor card, found in the pew, or to sign a guest book at the entry doors. If you leave a visitor card in the Offering Plate or your mailing address in the guest book, we can mail you our newsletter, the Tower Times, to let you get to know us better. Please join us for hospitality in the Fellowship Hall following Worship so that we may meet you and greet you personally. The Lord Bless your time here with his overflowing grace.

The First Congregational Church
978-632-2142

Email: office@fccgardner.org

Pastor: Frank McKenzie

Christian Education Director: Sue Rader

Organist: Linda Tooley

Administrative Assistant: Denise Smith

Custodian: Dale Rader

Deacon: Brian Smith

Trustee: Dale Rader

Acolyte: Adam Hofhaug

Ushers: Marcia Rieth and

Sue Menard

Fellowship: The Smith

Family

Nursery: Rachel Taylor



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
28 Green Street
Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

November 27, 2011

First Sunday
in Advent



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.