

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451

Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor

Sandy Carter - Organist / Pianist

**February 21, 2021**

**First Sunday in Lent**

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*"Lent is about becoming, doing, and changing, whatever it is that is blocking the fullness of life in us right now."*

*by Sister Joan Chittister*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT** "What Wondrous Love Is This" - American Folk Hymn

### CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: Welcome fellow travelers to our Lenten journey!

**People: This faith journey is the best route to the land called Life!**

Pastor: Then come and express your faith by living to the fullest.

**People: We will let our spirits soar like eagles. Amen**

**\*HYMN** "Tell Me the Story of Jesus" No. 130

### \*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O Blessed One, and Blessed Oneness, we long to find for ourselves the eagle's grace to ride effortlessly the thermal of life. Fear and distrust sometimes keep the wings of our hearts closed. We have been swept up too often by promises broken, by twists of fate unanticipated, by tragedies unexpected. And so, in this Lenten season, we journey with Jesus, Spirit-led, into the wilderness of our apprehension to face our own times of testing, and to find the courage to lean once more into the winds of grace and be uplifted by your enveloping presence. Amen

**\*GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" No. 575

**FIRST SCRIPTURE** Isaiah 35 (selections) page 578

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "Lenten Meditation" - J. Althouse

## PRAYER REQUESTS

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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. 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** "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" No. 585

**OFFERTORY** (We request that you leave your contributions in the basket on your way out or mail them to Vi Scott.)

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 4: 1-11 page 785

**MESSAGE** "Encounter in the Wilderness – A Time of Testing"  
Rich Fournier

**\*HYMN** "Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days" (insert)

## BENEDICTION

## CHORAL RESPONSE

## POSTLUDE

\*=All who are able, are invited to stand.

## Announcements

The **No Bake, Bake Sale** February fundraiser has begun. Please support the Mary Lyon Church by sending a donation to P. O. Box 87 Buckland, Ma. 01338 and indicate on your check, No Bake, Bake Sale. Thank you for your generosity.

A reminder that we are still collecting food for the Hilltown Food Pantry. For the month of February we are focusing on collecting items needed for baking such as flour, sugar, vanilla, spices, etc.

We are looking for additional volunteers to facilitate the Zoom Service in church Sunday mornings. We'd love to have at least three or four individuals who could share this responsibility. Instructions and training will be provided. If you are able to help out, please contact Annie Stephany or Judy Willis.

The church directory is in the process of being updated and will hopefully be ready to print and be distributed in April. Jill is the contact person for updates and changes that need to be made. Jill's correct phone number is 413- 625-8109. The number was incorrect in the newsletter.



# Mary Lyon Church

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P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338