

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 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

*"Lent is a call to renew a commitment grown dull, perhaps,
a life more marked by routine than by reflection."*

by Sister Joan Chittister

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Wherever You Are Found" - American Folk Hymn

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: We trust in God's steadfast love and compassion.

People: We seek a real and vital relationship with our God.

Pastor: We are eager to know by experience the God who loves us.

People: We are ready to learn God's plan for us.

Pastor: We are open to the renewing Spirit that God offers.

People: We seek guidance and presence for daily living.

***HYMN** "God Loved the World" (insert - vs. 1, 2 & 4)

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

So this is our prayer Lord: Open us! Gentle us open, pry, shock, tickle, beguile, knock, amaze, squeeze, any wily way you can open us. Open us to see your glory in the coming again of the light of each day, the light in babies' eyes and lovers' smiles, the light in the glaze of weariness that causes us to pause, the light of truth wherever spoken and done. Open us then, to share the gifts you have given us and to the deep yearning to share them gladly and boldly, to sweat for justice, to pay the cost of attention, to initiate the exchange of forgiveness, to risk a new beginning free of past grievances, to engage with each other in the potluck of joy and to find the gifts of a larger love and a deeper peace. Amen

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE Genesis 12: 1-4a page 8

CHOIR ANTHEM "Let Us Gather in the Shadow of the Cross"-
J. Martin & B. Nix (Part of the song is in Latin
and the translation is "Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us")

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 John 3: 1-17 pages 863-864

MESSAGE "Spirit on the Move" Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "Spirit of God in the Clear Running Water" No. 191

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE "I Am the Light" - Terry D. Taylor

POSTLUDE

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

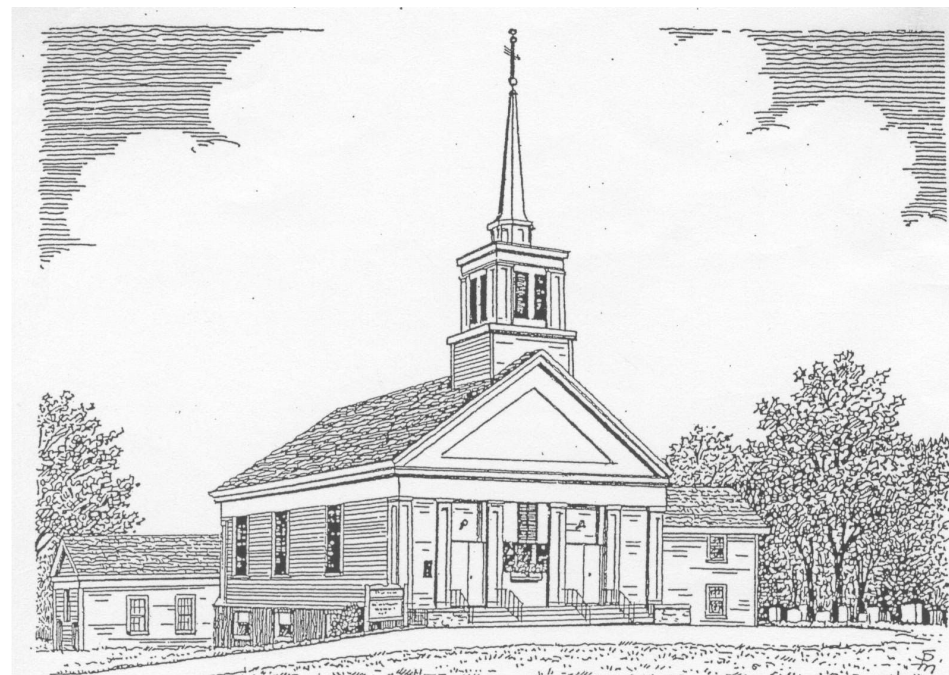
Announcements

Next Sunday, March 7th, we will be sharing communion together. Plan to bring your own bread and grape juice, or if you forget, there will be some individually packaged in the foyer for you to take as you enter the church.

A reminder that we are still collecting food for the Hilltown Food Pantry. For the month of March we are focusing on collecting cereals, especially hot choices: oatmeal, cream of wheat, 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

First Congregational Church of Buckland

P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338