

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451
Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor
Roberta Wooldridge - Guest Pianist / Guitarist
November 7, 2021

*"Every saint has a past, and every sinner has a future."
Oscar Wilde*

*"I am not a saint, unless you think of a saint as a sinner
who keeps on trying."
Nelson Mandela*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "All Things Bright and Beautiful" - C. F. Alexander

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: There are many who have walked the path toward God before us, showing the way with their lives.

People: We come to give thanks for them.

Pastor: As they were called, so are we called to live as Jesus did, answering the call of God, saying, "Here am I! Send me."

Pastor: We come to ask for guidance and courage.

Pastor: We are, each of us, like those who have gone before us, a strange mix of saint and sinner. God accepts us that way and fills us with the Spirit, who empowers us to act.

**People: We come to worship our Living and Loving God.
Amen**

***HYMN** "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" (insert)

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Dear God, bind us together with all those who have come before us, whose rest is now in your presence, and with all who live out their hopes and trials in other lands and places, whose names we do not know, whose faces we have not seen, but with whom we are all one

people, all your children. May we have communion with them in our thoughts and prayers, and share the bread of life with them in praise of your glory. Amen

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE Wisdom of Solomon 3: 1-9 pg. 544-545

CHOIR ANTHEM "Blowin' in the Wind" - Bob Dylan

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 "Come, Share the Lord" - Bryan Jeffery Leech

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" No. 572

SCRIPTURE READINGS Isaiah 25: 6-9; Revelation 21: 1-6a
pgs. 568, 1007-1008

MESSAGE "A Communion of Saints and Souls" - Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "Break Thou the Bread of Life" No. 220 (vs. 1, 3 & 4)

COMMUNION

UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

We Give you thanks, O God, for bringing us to this table as sisters and brothers. Lead us now, through each of our moments, to that glorious day when all your children will gather as family. We pray in

the name of Jesus, the Living Christ Spirit, who is our peace made flesh. Amen!

***CONGREGATIONAL SONG** "Blest Be the Tie" No.207 (first verse)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

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

Announcements

We will be sharing communion together today, so folks at home will want to have their bread and grape juice ready, if they wish to participate.

We are happy to welcome back Roberta Wooldridge as our guest pianist this morning.

The flowers on the altar are given in loving memory of Cyndie's husband, Charlie Stetson, who passed away Nov. 11 four years ago. Always remembered.

HELP WANTED

Our church cleaner completed her last month with us in September. Therefore, we need a solution for keeping our beloved building clean. Volunteers cleaned the church during October. If you know of someone who might be interested in the job or volunteering to clean the church, please refer them to Judy Willis at 413-625-2649. It takes 1 – 2 hours per week and the rate of pay is currently \$14.00 per hour. Or, if you would like to volunteer, sign up with a friend to make it go faster and have fun. A list of duties will be provided. Please contact Judy Willis if you are interested in the job or volunteering.



Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338

The Silver Bell bazaar will be held on Saturday, Nov. 20 from 9 am until 3 pm in the downstairs of the church and also the Buckland Public Hall. If you have any craft items, please let Cyndie know at 339-4231. We are also having a bake sale, so please consider making something for the bake sale table.

The Monday Nighters are once again selling raffle tickets to be drawn at the Silver Bell Bazaar on November 20, 2021! This year's prizes are:

1st prize - Barbara Scott's Grandmother's Quilt finished by the Monday Nighters

2nd prize - a print of Cyndie Stetson's watercolor painting "Autumn Barn"

3rd prize - Christmas themed pillow using the "Around the World" quilt pattern.

Tickets are 3 for \$5 or one for \$2 and are available at the Atherton Farm, from Luahn Page, (413) 634.5451, and will be sold at the Silver Bell Bazaar.