

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

September 25, 2022 - Pentecost 16

"Life is God's gift to us. What we do with it is our gift to God."

A. R. Bernard

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "Oh, Worship the Lord" - C. C. Edmonds

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: God created us, called us from our mother's womb and formed of us a people.

People: No longer are we lonely individuals, but part of the whole human race, living and sharing with others.

Pastor: We discover life to be so complex. It is tears; it is smiles; it is joy; it is sorrow.

People: It is a gift from God. Laugh, cry, sing, be silent; in whatever way we live, be thankful unto God! And be kind to one another. Amen

***HYMN** "Come, All Christians, Be Committed" No. 498

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy mystery we come to an awareness of how close you are to us when we are swept into a place of "Knowing" that lies beyond our rational control. Today we remember bringing our gratitude for those quickly fleeting glimpses of our deep and strong unity with you. We turn again to draw strength from the unexplainable sureness of your abiding love. Remind us of this glimpse on the days when our minds and hearts seem far from you. Wrap us in memories of our "Thin Places" and "Close Encounters" when we knew without hesitation that we were one with you. Amen

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE 2 Timothy 1: 6 (black 967, red 966)

CHOIR ANTHEM

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 "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

OFFERTORY

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE Pastor's Choice

MESSAGE "Discovering Your Gifts and Using Them" - Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "There's a Quiet Understanding" No. 204

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Go Now in Peace" - D. Besig & N. Price

*POSTLUDE

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

Announcements

We are happy to welcome back Sandy Carter this morning after time spent away traveling with family and friends.

Anyone who feels comfortable joining in for a time of fellowship and light refreshments is welcome to come downstairs for coffee hour following the Worship Service this morning.

The beautiful flowers are in memory of our dear friend Paul Sampley from his beloved wife Sally made by Luahn featuring New England wildflowers. Paul passed away one year ago.

All are welcome to witness the installation of Rev. David Jones at The Ashfield Congregational Church this afternoon at 3:00 P.M. Rev. Jones was called to Ashfield in July 2019, and he was ordained there in October 2020. COVID concerns have delayed his official installation recognition worship service. Please join the Franklin Association of United Church of Christ and our friends and neighbors in Ashfield today for this very special service of worship and welcome.

Next Sunday, October 2nd, we will be celebrating World Wide Communion together with people from all around the world.



Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

P.O. Box 87

Buckland, MA 01338