

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

March 20, 2022 - Third Sunday in Lent

"At the end of life, what really matters is not what we bought, but what we built; not what we got, but what we shared; not our competence, but our character; and not our success, but our significance. Live a life that matters. Live a life of love."

Author Unknown

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT "What Wondrous Love Is This" - Southern Harmony

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** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" No. 233

*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 Exodus 3: 1-15 (blk 44, red 44)

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 "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" No. 585

OFFERTORY

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

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13: 1-9 (blk 843, red 848)

MESSAGE "Raising some Questions": "Is the Bush still Burning?" --- "Is God's will being done on earth?"
- Rich Fournier

***HYMN** "The God of Abraham Praise" No. 36 (vs. 1, 2 & 3)

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Lead Me, Lord"

*POSTLUDE

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

Announcements

The mask mandate for the Town of Buckland has been lifted, therefore it is now up to each of you to make your own decision about whether or not to continue wearing a mask. It is important that we respect everyone's choice in this matter, while continuing to strive to keep everyone safe.

Gail Abbott is in charge of flowers for Sunday Worship for the month of March, so if anyone wishes to provide flowers any Sunday in March call Gail at 413-628-4046.

We are collecting canned meats (hash, spam, pork & beans, beef stew, chicken, tuna, pasta with meatballs, etc.) for the Hilltown Churches' Food Pantry for the month of March.

Please contact Judy Willis with any information/events you want included in the April calendar/newsletter by this Wednesday, March 23rd: 413-625-2649 or judywillis56@gmail.com

One Great Hour of Sharing - the United Church of Christ is collecting funds through One Great Hour of Sharing to support partners in countries with ministries that fund health, education and agricultural development, emergency relief, refugee ministries and both international and domestic disaster response. Envelopes and brochures are available this week for the collection to be received next Sunday, March 27th.

The Worship and Spiritual Life Committee has decided to try having Coffee Hour after the worship service beginning next Sunday, March 27th, for those feeling comfortable with going downstairs for a time of fellowship and simple refreshments.



Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

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