

First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC

~ ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! ~

~MARCH 2, 2025 ~ TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY *“God places us in the world as his fellow workers-agents of transfiguration. We work with God so that injustice is transfigured into justice, so there will be more compassion and caring, that there will be more laughter and joy, that there will be more togetherness in God's world.”* Desmond Tutu

~ MARCH 2, 2025 ~TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY ~ COMMUNION

PRELUDE

Sharon Pinsonnault

WELCOME

Pastor Jane

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES AND RINGING OF THE BELL

John & Lisa Fenwick

One: What is our church's mission?

Many: To embody God's powerful love...

- welcoming all people, with a vision and message of hope,
- weaving deep relationships with Jesus and each other,
- working, praising and playing in our towns and world.

OPENING HYMN *Chalice # 100 When Morning Gilds the Skies*

*When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair;
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Discordant humankind,
in this your concord find,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let all earth around
ring joyous with the sound,
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Sing, suns and stars of space,
sing, all that see his face;
may Jesus Christ be praised!
God's whole creation o'er,
both now and evermore:
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine,
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song
through all the ages long,
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

CALL TO WORSHIP

LEADER: The call of the Holy One has brought us together.

PEOPLE: *We have been called to pray and to praise.*

LEADER: We are called to worship and to holy wonder.

PEOPLE: *May the light of Love burn brightly in us.*

LEADER: May it transfigure and transform our hearts and minds.

PEOPLE: *May it become a beacon of hope for others.*

LEADER: Come, friends, let us worship our God together this day.

INVOCATION

Andrew Donahue

PRAISE AND WORSHIP *Shine Jesus Shine*



THE 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

TIME WITH THE YOUNG—A MESSAGE OF GOD'S LOVE

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Celia Schneider

HEBREW READING EXODUS 34:29-35

RESPONSORIAL READING OF PSALM 99 GOD, THE SUPREME KING

LEADER: The LORD is king, and the people tremble. He sits on his throne above the winged creatures, and the earth shakes. The LORD is mighty in Zion; he is supreme over all the nations.

PEOPLE: *Everyone will praise his great and majestic name. Holy is he! Mighty king, you love what is right; you have established justice in Israel; you have brought righteousness and fairness.*

LEADER: Praise the LORD our God; worship before his throne! Holy is he! Moses and Aaron were his priests, and Samuel was one who prayed to him they called to the LORD, and he answered them.

PEOPLE: *He spoke to them from the pillar of cloud; they obeyed the laws and commands that he gave them. O LORD, our God, you answered your people; you showed them that you are a God who forgives, even though you punished them for their sins.*

LEADER: Praise the LORD our God, and worship at his sacred hill!
The LORD our God is holy.

GOSPEL READING LUKE 99:28-36 THE TRANSFIGURATION

SERMONIC HYMN Chalice # 112 *Holy Ground (Sing twice)*

*We are standing on holy ground
And I know that there Are angels all around
Let us praise Jesus now
We are standing in His presence On holy ground*

SERMON How do we know what is real?

Pastor Jane

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Lisa & Andrew—Deacons

INVITATION

One: Dear friends, the Spirit of God gives life to the world!

All: *Life that never ends!*

One: Here and now Christ feeds the world!

All: *Plenty for all, enough for today!*

One: Come to the table of justice and joy!

All: *No one will be turned away! No neighbor in need will go wanting!*

One: Let praise go up to God our Life!

All: *From every creature on God's good earth!*

PREFACE

One: How right it is to praise you, gracious God, for in the beginning, when the world was fresh from your hand, you made us neighbors C one people in many kinds C and lavished on us pleasures too many to name or know! For you we were a sheer delight. For each other, helpers and friends. And so you entrusted to us your justice and your joy.

All: *But we kept them for a few and denied them to many, creating worlds of poverty and pain. And so we broke each other's hearts. But you did not reject us. In the fullness of time you gave us Jesus, full of grace and truth. By his ministry of mercy, you restored us to each other and to you. Mending our hearts and repairing the world. And by his Spirit you impel us even now to be for each other what he is for us C pardon and peace, blessing and delight. For all your gifts, we thank you!*

One: And with everything that lives under, on, and above the world, we give you glory, and we praise your name!

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy- Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

One: And we remember that on the night he was handed over, while at supper with his friends, he gave us a pledge of love that does away with death.

He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: Take and eat, all of you: This is my body, surrendered for you. And when the supper was over, he took a cup filled with wine, gave thanks for it, and shared it with them, saying: Take and drink, all of you: This is the seal of a new covenant, my poured-out life.

I will drink this cup with you again at the table of God's joy in the New Day that is coming. Whenever you do these things, remember me.

REMEMBERING JESUS

One: And now, O God, we remember Jesus. (A brief silence.)

One: We remember that he forgave our sins.

All: *He breathed on us the peace of God.*

One: We remember that he called us friends.

All: *He taught us to love each other as he loved us.*

One: We remember that he feasted with the poor and rich, with strangers and friends.

All: *To eat with him was to taste how good you are.*

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

One: Come, Holy Spirit, bless this bread that the earth has given and human hands have made.

All: *May it be for all the Bread of Life!*

One: Bless also this cup, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

All: *May it be for all the Cup of Peace!*

One: Bless us too, that by our eating and drinking we may have love for each other and be servants of Christ's peace, until the New Day comes and every creature finds an honored place at the Banquet of Life!

All: *We pray in the name of the Risen One, who is with us now, and to the end of the age!*

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION HYMN VIDEO *Behold the Lamb*

GIVING THANKS

One: Let us give thanks.

All: *Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion: oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends.*

CLOSING HYMN *Chalice # 595 Be Thou My Vision*

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won,
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.*

*Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,*



Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

*Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

Sharon Pinsonnault

Our thanks to everyone who helped with the worship this morning

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service

PRAYER LIST Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS: Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, Patty Stannard, Chelsea, C.J. Dave Mallory, Connie Manukka, Judy Sheldon, Carlene Kasuba, Alan Wolmuth, Phil Stack

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN BOOK STUDY Let's read, *Give Up Something Bad for Lent* by James W. Moore. The easy to read book is available in Reed Chapel for \$4.00 each. Let's read the introduction and chapters, 1 2 and 3 (pages 7 thru 33) We can meet on **Sunday, March 23rd** to have a light lunch and discussion.

ASH WEDNESDAY Deacons, Debbie Pratt and Mary Ann Charron will give ashes to go on **Wednesday, March 5th from 12:00 Noon—1:00 PM in the front of the church** Pastor Jane and Deacon, Ron Stack will give ashes to go **from 5:00 PM—6:00 PM in front of the church.**

Let's watch CHOSEN together during Lent. The Methodist Church in Poultney has invited us to join them on Friday evenings, at 6:00 PM beginning March 7th. This will be potluck. Bring something to share. Please let Pastor Jane know if you plan to join in the fun. A discussion will follow the episode.

DEACONS MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH

TRUSTEE MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 16TH

TICKETS ARE NOW ON SALE QUEEN SIZE QUILT, 85" X 89"

A beautiful quilt made by Clem Levesque, age 91, is hanging in Reed Chapel. Clem donated this quilt to help with fund raising for the organ. **Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20.** The drawing will be held on Easter Sunday at the church.

If you would like to schedule time with Pastor Jane, please call her directly at 802-430-3636 or email her at janechurchlady@gmail.com

To schedule time with a Deacon either in-person or zoom, please contact Eileen via email to be placed on their calendar. Eileen@fhucc.org

Prayer Circle: If you or someone you know is in need of prayer you may call anyone of the following:

Karen Festa 802-287-2405
 Maryann Charron 802-468-3207
 Karyn Jockell 802-278-8058
 Lana Petty 802-353-0485

WE TRY TO MAKE IT EASIER TO COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

Trouble with Stairs?

A Handicap RAMP is available on the Caernarvon Street side of Church! You MAY park on the church side of Caernarvon Street during church events.

A handicapped accessible bathroom is available on the main floor of the church.

Parking. Please save spaces near the front of the church for those who have difficulty walking. One handicapped space is available on Caernarvan St. near the ramp.

Pastor Jane LoBrutto janechurchlady@gmail.com 802-430-3636

Church Administrator: Eileen Hurlburt eileen@fhucc.org

Debbie Pratt - Lead Deacon

Sharon Pinsonnault & Joan Brown Organist/Pianist

Andrew Donahue and Ron Stack – Social Media

Thank you for coming to worship with us!

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