

Order of Worship

“Father Forgive them, for they know not what they do.” -Luke 23:34

Prelude

Die sieben letzten Worte des Erlösers am Kreuze, Hob.XX:2 [1786-96]
Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)
(The Seven Last Words of Our Savior on the Cross)
Introduction

Welcome and Call to Worship

Rev. Will Burhans

*Gathering Hymn

There's A Wideness in God's Mercy NCH #23

Call to Confession

Kathleen Zagata

Prayer of Confession (adapted from Joseph Fort Newton)

O God, something deep and haunting in our hearts draws us to the altar of prayer, seeking in community what none of us can find alone. Let this Lenten season be a time of acknowledging our sin and repenting. Forgive us for any dull, cold, peevish or rebellious temper of mind, less we become too gloomy for hope and too self-absorbed for love. Forgive us our hardness and aloofness and open within us a fountain of praise. If we have failed of what we knew was good and brave and kind, or if we have turned aside from the hard task or left anyone to fall under a load we might have lifted, forgive us. It is in the name of Jesus, the Forgiving Savior, we pray, amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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

*An Act of Praise

Gloria Patri PH #513
Glory be to the Creator and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; World without end, amen, amen.

Time for the Young

Call to Offering

Offertory

Sonata in A minor, Wq 70/4
Adagio C.P.E. Bach (1714-88)

Scripture

Psalm 103:1-14
Luke 23:26-37
Liturgist: Tom O'Connor
OT pg. 554, LP OT pg. 517
NT pg. 89, LP NT pg. 77

Sermon

Rev. Will Burhans

"The First Last Word: Forgive"

Quiet Time for Reflection

Anthem

Die sieben letzten Worte: No. 1, "Vater, vergib ihnen, denn sie wissen nicht, was sie tun."
Haydn

Father in Heaven, look down from thy eternal throne!
Loving Father, thy only begotten Son prays for sinners, for thy children,
grant the prayer of thy Son!
Alas, we have fallen from grace,
we have grievously sinned;
but for us all and for our salvation thy Son has shed his blood.
The blood of the Lamb does not cry out for vengeance;
it redeems our sins.
Loving Father, let us find grace, grant the prayer of thy Son.

Susan K. Navien, soprano; Karen Lauterwasser, mezzo;
Peter Owens, tenor; Tony McPherson, bass

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

(The Deacons will distribute the bread and cup in the pews this morning. Everyone is welcome to partake but if you choose not to please pass the plate to the person beside you. All the bread is gluten free and the cups are filled with grape juice.)

Prayer of Thanksgiving (by Beth Merrill Neel)

O Jesus, our beloved, we give you thanks for inviting us to your table and sharing your feast. May we know that we have been fed with love and grace, and may we follow you out in the world, ambassadors of your hope and peace. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

My Shepherd Is the Living God NCH # 247

Benediction

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Postlude

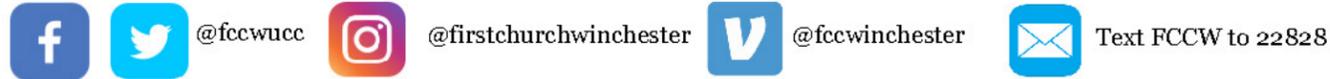
Ein Lämmlein geht und trägt die Schuld J.G. Walther (1684-1748)

*You are invited to join together for coffee hour down in Chidley Hall,
just head downstairs and towards the back of the church facility until you find the large hall.
This month coffee hour is hosted by the Mission & Outreach Ministry.*

Meet Our Church

First Congregational Church in Winchester, UCC, An Open and Affirming Congregation
21 Church Street, Winchester, MA 01890 781-729-9180 www.fcc-winchester.org

Connect with Us!



The Congregation, Ministers to the World

Rev. William Burhans, Lead Pastor
Rev. Judith B. Arnold, Associate Pastor
Kathleen Zagata, RN, MS, CS, Minister of Congregational Health & Wellness
Jane Ring Frank, Minister of Music & Worship Arts
Ben Pulaski, Minister of Faith Formation: Children & Youth
Sarah Marino, Office Manager
Ed Banzy, Building Manager
Bill Lewis, Building Superintendent
Mr. Jeffrey Mead, Organist
Brianna Connolly, Nursery Supervisor
Jose Foronda, Bookkeeper
Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Pastoral Counselor (Affiliate)

March 1, 2020

First Sunday in Lent
10:00 Worship Service

Children Check In

Please scan this QR Code to check in your children (pre-k through 8th grade) if they will be going off to their classrooms.



Welcome!

We are happy you have joined us today for worship. We hope that in the coming hour of quiet, song, prayer, sacred scripture, and communal gathering, you will awaken more fully to God's presence in your life and the world around us.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located down the stairs as you first enter the front doors of the church.

Accessibility & Navigation

We have an inductive hearing loop for those whose hearing aids have Telecoil. Listening devices are also available in the back. For our coffee hour in Chidley Hall, an elevator is located out the doors to the right of the front chancel area and down the hall. Please ask a greeter if you need assistance. We have signs and laminated maps to help guide you around our building.

Childcare

Children are always welcome in the sanctuary! We appreciate the sounds of little ones among us. If you'd prefer, there are trained caregivers in our nursery on the floor beneath the sanctuary. Ask a greeter if you need help finding it.

Family Room

There is also a comfortable room outfitted with a changing table, toys, rocking chairs, couches, a water bubbler and a video link to the service for when you need more room to attend to your family. It is located just outside the doors to the right of the front chancel area.

Children (Stepping Stones) and Youth Church School

Classes for children and youth in pre-k through 8th grade are taught during worship. Families begin the worship service together in the sanctuary. Children are then invited to join us at the front (if they are comfortable) for the Time for the Young. Afterwards, the children and youth are led to their classrooms by their teachers.

Get connected!

Please tell us about yourself and/or request a prayer by filling out a Welcome/Prayer Request Card found in each pew and place it in the offering plate when it passes. We look forward to getting to know you at Coffee Hour, held downstairs immediately following the service. Just head downstairs and towards the back of the church facility until you find the large hall.

*We are a Christ-centered, nurturing community
growing in faith, serving in love, welcoming all with joy.*

People for Whom We Are Praying ...

<u>Names</u>	<u>Purpose</u>
Family and friends of Marty Rahmeier, daughter-in-law of Paul and Lynne	In their grief.
Family and friends of Janet Snover Jodie Mullane	In their grief. Prayers for recovery from shoulder surgery.
Rev. Lucy Sanders	For healing.
Don, Becky & Trent's brother-in-law	Prayers for surgical recovery and rehab.
Nai'Quan Hamilton	For God's mercy and grace to be present in his trial
Sarah Hebb Carpenter	For continued healing.
Dick Roby	For healing, courage, and peace.
Helen Scoville & George Roby	For courage as they help their father make decisions on his care.
Jane Ring Frank	For healing.
Suzanne White	For courage and comfort in her struggle with cancer.
Mimi Steffen, friend of Mike Redding	Healing as she recovers from a brain hemorrhage.
Bruce Lauterwasser	As he continues this round of chemotherapy.
Susan Zimmerman, Julianne's mother	For stabilization & relief from pain; and comfort for her family.

Please let the Deacons or Ministry Team know
if you have someone to add or remove from this list.

Today's Worship Service

Deacons

The deacons serving today are: Leigh DuPuy Carlisle, Michelle Crawford, Carrie Ehrbar, Aaron Kneiss, and Nick Troisi.

Sanctuary Flowers

Today's Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Nina McCall and Wakefield and Carmel Taylor by the McCall-Taylors.

P&D Fund

On Communion Sundays you will find envelopes for the Pastors' & Deacons' Fund. This fund offers monetary aid to congregation members who are experiencing an urgent need for financial crisis assistance. Please consider a donation as part of your worship today.

Lenten Worship Series: 7 Last Words of Jesus from The Cross

During the 6 Sundays of Lent this year leading up to Holy Week and Easter, our worship services will be centered upon the 7 Last Words of Jesus from the cross. Our tradition, from the very forming of the Gospels, has always held these last "words" (phrases or sayings) he spoke before his death as especially sacred. The 7 Words, including "Father forgive them for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34) and "Woman here is your son... Son, here is your mother" (John 19:26) among others, are spread across the four Gospels and reveal the very human anguish that links him in a profound way to the sorrows and struggles of our own lives. At some point in the Middle Ages the words were ordered as they stand now and services were held – often during Holy Week - to invite worshippers to reflect upon the words and through them how Jesus speaks into their own lives. During our Lenten worship services starting Sunday, March 1st, we'll engage each of the 7 Words through prayers, sermons and our music. Each week, to further illuminate the 7 Words, the choir, along with the esteemed Aryaloka String Quartet and organ, will offer a corresponding movement from Joseph Haydn's profound masterpiece, *The Seven Last Words*. The work serves as a meditation on the gravity of tragedy, as well as on the promise of redemption. Our hope is that this worship series will open you to the compassionate heart of Jesus as you move through the reflective season of Lent and prepare you for the joyful celebration of Easter.

Music Notes

Each week, the FCC Choir will provide a movement of Haydn's dramatic and moving oratorio, *Die sieben letzten Worte des Erlösers am Kreuze* (The Seven Last Words of Our Savior on the Cross), Hob.XX:2. Originally composed as an orchestral work in 1786, Haydn subsequently made a string quartet arrangement, solo keyboard version and, finally, an oratorio for vocal soloists, chorus, and orchestra. To begin each movement or "word," you will hear a short chorale-like episode (in German, corresponding to the text of the 7 last words), written in traditional chant style, with no meter or rhythm. We have placed the "chant" before the sermon. The movement offered immediately following the sermon is Haydn's own anguished reflection on the corresponding "word" or "sentence." We are blessed to welcome the Aryaloka String Quartet to our chancel each week during Lent: Beth Welty, violin; Mark Latham, violin; Noralee Walker, viola; Joel Wolfe, guest cellist. With our own Jeffrey Mead at the organ, we have an opportunity to meaningfully and prayerfully explore these beautiful 7 last words.

News & Upcoming Events

11th Hour in Ripley, TODAY - Safe Communities Act Presentation

Members of the Immigrant Justice Committee (IJC) of the Network for Social Justice will lead an informative discussion of the Safe Communities Act which is being considered by the Massachusetts Legislature. What would it mean for Winchester to become a Safe Community as they hope? A video of Laura Rotolo of the ACLU explaining the act will be shown, and IJC members will facilitate a question and answer period that will follow.

TUESDAYS WITH JESUS and one another.

Each Lent we have a series of Tuesday night gatherings that begin with Centering Prayer at 6:30. This year we'll be praying in Ripley Chapel. Then we'll adjourn to the Tucker Room for a simple supper of soup and bread. This year we will adopt the practice that many monasteries use. One voice will read while everyone enjoys the soup and the calm that comes from listening. We will take some time at the end of the evening's reading to share some thoughts. We will be reading *On the Brink of Just About Everything: Grace, Gravity and Getting Old* by Parker Palmer. Our plan is to complete the book by Holy Week. We plan to conclude each Tuesday by 8:00 p.m.

The Open Door of Blessing

A contemplative retreat, Saturday March 14, 10am to 2pm, Ripley Chapel.

The setting for "The Open Door of Blessing" is the beautiful Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church. It is a space that speaks warmth, lofty and yet inviting, with a view to the untouched space that surrounds the back of the church. The retreat will answer some of your questions about the well-known, yet enigmatic blessing passage called the Beatitudes ... a clarion call to belonging on a deeper basis. We will use poetry, image and text with conversation. Members of the church will offer their own thoughts. There will be a generous pause for reflection toward the end.

If this feels right for you, do join us ... mid morning to early afternoon on Saturday March 14. Use the attached brochure (QR code on it works too) or call the church office (781-729-9180).



RIPLEY PRESENTS

CRIS WILLIAMSON: The Changer and the Changed **FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2020, 7:30 pm**

A special concert featuring singer, songwriter and activist Cris Williamson. Please join us in the newly renovated Ripley Chapel for a dynamic and inspiring evening that celebrates the 45th anniversary of Cris' ground breaking and critically acclaimed album, "The Changer and the Changed." Says Bonnie Raitt, "The first time I heard Cris' music, it was like hearing honey dripped on a cello... Cris has been a whole lot of women's heroes -- including mine." Williamson was honored in 2018 at the Americana Music Awards with a Lifetime Achievement Award for the work done in support of women in the music business, particularly the support of Lesbian artists in the early 70's and beyond.

Childcare will be provided
Tickets: \$18 General Admission.
To order tickets, please go to www.bit.ly/fccwcris

Faith Formation News

Stepping Stones

This week, the children will be reading two parables that Jesus taught, the Lost Sheep and the Lost Coin. It teaches us that no matter who we are God cares about each one of us individually. Here are some conversation starters for this week:

1. How do you feel when you've lost something?
2. What are your best tips for finding lost things?
3. How do you know God loves each and every one of us?
4. Take turns telling about a time when you were lost. What did you do? Talk about what the best things to do in such a situation are.

As a fun activity to do this week...engage your children in a fun game of hide and seek!

Middle School

The students will be reading Luke 14:25-35 for a lesson entitled "The Cost of Discipleship". This lesson will help teach students the difference between cheap and costly discipleship. Cheap discipleship is about following Jesus for what we can get out of it. Costly discipleship (true discipleship) is about recognizing that following Jesus won't always be easy, but it will always be worth it because Jesus is the only one worth following. Students will also think about how they can start preparing for potential difficulties they'll encounter on the road of discipleship.

Ask your middle school youth the following:

1. Does anything about following Jesus make you excited? Nervous?
2. What's one thing you might have to sacrifice to follow Jesus?

Rites of Passage Ceremony-June 7th

This year we are starting a new tradition with our 8th graders which is based loosely off of the old Rite 13 Ceremony we have had in years past. On June 7th, during the worship service, the church and their parents will bless each individual 8th grade student as they prepare to move on to high school. More information will be sent to those families in the near future.

Forum

This week's lesson is called "Jesus treats the least as family" and it comes from Mark 5:21-34. It is about hospitality. Some say it's a spiritual gift that certain people are wired with, while the rest of us are free to focus on other things. When Jesus lived on earth, he extended hospitality to those around him, welcoming them into his presence with warmth and kindness. And he made a point to include the least. As Christ-followers who seek to do the things that Jesus did, we can extend hospitality because God welcomed and loved us first. Take some time to talk to your teens about how you can make your house more welcoming to different people? What would be the most welcoming and why to those people: Your friends, the coolest kid at school, your Sunday School teacher, the most awkward student/teacher at school, the last homeless person you saw, the President of the United States.

High School Overnight March 7th-8th

Attention all High School Students. We will have a very exciting overnigher in a few weeks. Please text or email me if you are planning on attending! The doors will open at 8pm and will close at 10pm...so make sure you are in the church by then. We are planning on playing some great games, making some delicious pancakes (perhaps Nick will make his infamous Red Bull pancakes) and have a meaningful time of worship in the early hours of Sunday.

Confirmation Class

This week, the confirmation class will be headed to Eastern Point Retreat Center in Gloucester to walk the stations of the cross. Please continue to pray for them and this year long journey that they are nearing the end of.

On Saturday June 13th, the members of the confirmation class will be invited to a ceremony for them to make the decision about whether they want to join the church or not. It will be a very special service for them. On the following day, June 14th, those who made the decision will be recognized during our normal worship service.

Church Library

On your way through the lobby, please stop to browse through the library books on display. There are several new books among the excellent collection of books for your Lenten journey.

Repair Café

The Environmental Ministry committee is excited to announce that it will be moving forward in developing a Repair Cafe. Having been started in the Netherlands, the Repair Café Foundation has the following goals: a) To bring repairing back into local society in a modern way. b) To maintain repair expertise and spread this knowledge. c) To promote social cohesion in the local community by bringing people together from different backgrounds – while benefitting the larger environment too.

A special thank you to Karen Bellacosa, whose investigative work has demonstrated the viability of such an initiative. Given the enthusiastic response at Sunday's meeting, FCC has committed to holding a Repair Cafe this coming October. It is our hope and prayer that interest will continue to build - thereby establishing a coalition base made up of other Winchester churches and organizations.

There are currently Repair Cafés operating successfully in the northeast including Salem, Framingham and Newburyport, MA. Melrose is working towards starting one also. We will keep you posted on this exciting development.