

First Congregational Church
Our Church in Worship

January 26, 2020 10:00 AM

Third Sunday of Epiphany

PRELUDE *Air from Water Music – G. F. Handel* Adam Peithmann

WELCOME Rev. Kevin Pleas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF SILENCE

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

INTROIT *The Summons – arr. John Bell* Chancel Choir

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known; Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me? Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare? Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me? Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) Written by Joanna Harader

LEADER: Jesus comes along side us and calls us by name:

PEOPLE: “[Your name], follow me.”

LEADER: A simple call. A hard call.

PEOPLE: **Because following requires leaving.**

LEADER: And we look around to see who else Jesus could be talking to.

PEOPLE: **And we look around to see the trappings of the life we know.**

LEADER: It's hard to leave our nets and walk away from the lake.

PEOPLE: **But we have come this far, to this place, where we can listen and be transformed.**

*OPENING HYMN NO. 277 *Christians, We Have Met to Worship*

OPENING PRAYER (UNISON) Written by Walter Brueggemann

You are the God who makes extravagant promises.

We relish your great promises of fidelity and presence and solidarity, and we exude in them.

**Only to find out, always too late,
that your promise always comes in the midst of a hard, deep call to obedience.
You are the God who calls people like us,
and the long list of mothers and fathers before us,**

**who trusted the promise enough to keep the call.
So we give you thanks that you are a calling God,
who calls always to dangerous new places.
We pray enough of your grace and mercy among us
that we may be among those who believe your promises
enough to respond to your call.
We pray in the one who embodied your promise
and enacted your call, even Jesus. Amen.**

TIME WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

Led by Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight

OFFERING FOR OUR CHILDREN'S MISSION PROJECT

SCRIPTURE READING

MESSAGE

CLOSING PRAYER

CHORAL ANTHEM *Guide My Feet, Lord – arr. John Carter* Chancel Choir
Guide, my feet, Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I don't want to run this race in vain...
Hold my hand, Lord, while I run this race... Stand by me, Lord, while I run this race.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Barbara Papagian

LEADER: God, in your mercy

PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer**

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

*HYMN NO. 342 *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

*DOXOLOGY

Chalice Hymnal No. 46

**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.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)**

In the name and spirit of Christ, we bring our gifts to you, O God. Help us to give with them, a ready mind, a willing spirit, and a joyful heart. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 4:12-23 Jeanine Finefrock

SERMON What will you leave? Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight

*CLOSING HYMN NO. 337 *Jesus Call Us O'er the Tumult*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Allegro Vivace* from Water Music – G. F. Handel

*You are invited to stand if you wish.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 4:12-23 The Passion Translation

Pew Bible: New Testament page 3

Jesus Preaches in Galilee

When Jesus heard that John the Baptizer had been thrown into prison, he went back into Galilee. Jesus moved from Nazareth to make his home in Capernaum, which is by Lake Galilee in the land of Zebulun and Naphtali. He did this to make the prophecy of Isaiah come true:

Listen, you who live in the land of Zebulun
and the land of Naphtali,
along the road to the sea
and on the other side of the Jordan,
and Galilee—the land of non-Jewish peoples!
You who spend your days shrouded in darkness
can now say, “We have seen a brilliant Light.”
And those who live in the dark shadow land of death
can now say, “The Dawning Light arises on us.”

From that time on Jesus began to proclaim his message with these words: “Keep turning away from your sins and come back to God, for heaven’s kingdom realm is now accessible.”

Jesus Calls His Disciples

As he was walking by the shore of Lake Galilee, Jesus noticed two fishermen who were brothers. One was nicknamed Keefa (later called Peter), and the other was Andrew, his brother. Watching as they were casting their nets into the water, Jesus called out to them and said, “Come and follow me, and I will transform you into men who catch people for God.” Immediately they dropped their nets and left everything behind to follow Jesus. Leaving there, Jesus found three other men sitting in a boat, mending their nets. Two were brothers, Jacob and John, and they were with their father, Zebedee. Jesus called Jacob and John to his side *and said to them*, “Come and follow Me.” And at once they left their boat and their father, and began to follow Jesus.

Jesus’ Ministry of Healing

Jesus ministered from place to place throughout all of the province of Galilee. He taught in the synagogues, preaching the hope of the kingdom realm and healing every kind of sickness and disease among the people.

First Congregational Church



January 26, 2020

**Manchester, New Hampshire
United Church of Christ**

508 Union Street, Manchester, NH * 603-625-5093
Sunday Worship 10:00 AM (9:30 Summer)

You are welcome here!
An Open & Affirming Congregation