

First Congregational United Church of Christ Sunday January 03, 2021



“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
Isaiah 43:18-19

Welcome To Our Church Family!

Prelude- “Rise up, Shepherd, and Follow with Children, Go Where I send Thee”
arr. by David Huntsinger, offered by Shelley Fisher

Tolling of the Bell

Words of Welcome

Hymn 728 – “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

(1) God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before your throne arise. (2) Your love divine has led us in the past, in this free land by you our lot is cast; be now our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay, your Word our law, your paths our chosen way. (3) From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence, be your strong arm our ever sure defense; your true religion in our hearts increase, your bounteous goodness nourish us in peace. (4) Refresh your people on their toilsome way, lead us from night to neverending day; fill all our lives with heaven-born love and grace, and songs of praise we’ll lift before your face!

1st Reading – Isaiah 43:18-19 Page 1127

Special Music – “We Three Kings of Orient Are” John Hopkins, Jr.
Offered by Byron Farrar, cello

2nd Reading – Philippians 3:13-14 Page 1829

Special Music- “How Great Our Joy” arr. by Stan Peter
Offered by Byron Farrar, cello

3rd Reading – Mark 2:22 Page 1555

Special Music – “Yesterday” by Paul McCartney

Morning Message – “WHY Believe in Yesterday?” offered by Toby Jones, Pastor

The Offering

- Offertory Music- “Prelude” from Cello Suite No.1, Bach.
Offered by Byron Farrar, cello

- The Doxology

Morning Prayers & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 355 – “This is a Day of New Beginnings”

*(1) This is a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on, time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain is gone. (2) For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then, can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again. (3) Then let us, with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeing new paths, and sure to find. (4) Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new. *4 In faith we'll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do. This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new.*

Charge & Benediction

Postlude



Special Musical Guest

Byron Farrar, a native of Lexington Kentucky, was born into a family of string players and began playing the cello at a young age. He attended grade school at the School for the Creative and performing arts and completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Louisville where he studied under Paul York on a full scholarship. He received a quartet assistantship to attend Southern Illinois University – Carbondale for his MM and is currently working on his DMA at the University of Alabama. He spent his time in Alabama performing in the Capstone Quartet, which recently played a series of concerts in Ireland and Italy. Byron moved to Northern Michigan in the summer of 2020 to work for the Dorothy Gerber Strings Foundation.

| Sunday 01/03 | Mon 01/04 | Tues. 01/05 | Wed. 01/06 | Thurs. 01/07 | Fri. 01/08 | Sat. 01/09 | Sunday 01/10 |
|--|---|------------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 10:30 am live-streamed Worship www.chxucc.org | 6:00 pm Pantry | | 10:00 am By-laws meeting 3:30 pm Outreach Meeting | Final Deadline for Photo Directory Submissions | | | 10:30 am live-streamed Worship 2020 Annual Report Submissions Due |
| Healing | Bryan Burns- Covid-19 Christine Ashton- Sick Dog Tim Watts- Surgery Jeannine Wallace- Fall | | | Marilyn Dumbauld- Surgery Rick Wright- Covid-19 Earl Bennett- Surgery Marv Smith- Covid-19 | | | |
| Prayers | Covid-19 Patients | | | Essential Workers | | | |
| Grieving | Family & loved ones of Marv Smith. | | | Family & loved ones of Robert Rowe | | | |

Final Call for Photo Directory Updates- Due January 7, 2020

We are in our last stages of revision prior to publishing a new photo directory for 2021. We still have several regular participants who are missing photos and other important contact information. Since that is the main purpose behind publishing a photo directory, those who do not have their information or picture on file will be listed in the back of the directory by name only. The new revision will not include photos of the church in place of participants

If you would like to be included in the new directory but do not have a photo on file with us, please send one to the office no later than January 7th.

A private link to the photo directory draft has been posted to our website. An access code was recently sent out via email. If you need it again, please email the church office.

If you have any questions or need a photo taken, please let us know and we are happy to help!

Attention Church Leadership:

2020 Annual Report submissions are due no later than January 10, 2021. Please submit your typed reports via email in an editable format, preferably Microsoft Word. No JPEG or PDF files, please. If you need help submitting your report, please let the church office know. If you would prefer, a submission form can be found on the church's website at <https://chxucc.org/2020-annual-report-submission-form/>