**+ FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**An Open and affirming congregation of the**

**United Church of Christ, Saugus, Massachusetts**

**Service of Worship, Communion, & Children’s Sunday**

 **2nd Sunday after Pentecost, June 3, 2018, 10 a.m.**

**\*Indicates for those who are able to, please stand.**

**Bold print indicates congregational response.**

**NCH = New Century Hymnal (black cover)**

**HOP = Spiral bound cover**

*Scripture Reader is Mike Mascovitz.*

*Greeters & Ushers are Leslie Deland & Marie Brooks.*

*Deacon of the Month is John Gilmore.*

PRELUDE: “In the Day of the Lord” (MD Ridge)/ Rebecca Harrold

 “Come Now is the Time to Worship” (B. Doerksen)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE “Surely the Presence” HOP 74

***Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;***

***I can feel his mighty power and his grace.***

***I can hear the brush of angel’s wings,***

***I see glory on each face;***

***surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.***

CALL TO WORSHIP, from *Come to the Banquet* (“God, we’re here!”):

L: God has laid out a feast for us here today!

**P**: **Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

L: You who have no money, you who feel unworthy…

**P: Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

L: You who are constantly serving others, here you will find rest….

**P: Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

L: You who are lost or worried, here you will find peace and grace….

**All: Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

**\*OPENING HYMN: “I Come with Joy” NCH349, v1-2-3**

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (“God, we’re sorry”): **Holy God, we confess that we have not feasted enough on nourishing food that satisfies, but the on the junk food of life. We choose to fill our souls with empty promises to be better people, but only end up starving our spiritual selves. Forgive us. Help us feast more on the Bread of Life and Cup of Blessing, which satisfies both body and soul and gives us the strength to do your work in the world. Amen.**

**CHORAL RESPONSE: “Thy Word” HOP 92**

***Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2x)***

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (“God forgives us”), in unison:  **We are blessed to be invited to Jesus’ table today, O God. We hunger for acceptance and love. We are so grateful that our confession and your forgiveness are the beginning of our journey back to you. Amen.**

\*GLORY TO GOD “Holy, Holy, Holy” NCH #277

***Holy, holy, holy, God the Almighty! Early in the morning we praise your majesty./ Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty/ God in three persons/ blessed Trinity!***

*(Children go to Sunday School and then return for Communion.)*

SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 58: 5-9 (SP526,LP1152); Mark 2:23-28(SP708, LP1152 & insert) SP=Small print Bible; LP=Large print Bible

MESSAGE: “We Are What We Eat” Rev. Martha Leahy

**PRAYER INTRO: “Sanctuary” HOP 135**

***Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary/pure and holy,***

***tried and true./With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living***

***sanctuary for you.***

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 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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE:** “**Take My Life & Let it Be” HOP 129** ***Take my life and let it be/Consecrated Lord, to thee./ Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love/ At the impulse of thy love.***

OFFERTORY INVITATION, from *Come to the Banquet* (“God, we give back”), in unison: “**Willing hands have made this bread, with yeast and salt and labor shared. Let all hungry ones be fed. Come to the banquet, come.” Let us share our abundance so that many more may be welcomed, fed, and cared for. Amen.**

OFFERTORY: “Take My Gifts” NCH 562

\*DOXOLOGY: NCH #778 lyrics; NCH 780 tune

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God all creatures here below;***

***Praise God for all that love has done.***

***Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.***

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OUR GIFTS & PLEDGES, from *Come to the Banquet* (“God bless our gifts”), in unison: **“Abundant wine, enough for all! Our generous, loving host has called. The cup of blessing is now poured for sweet communion, come.” God, please bless our offerings so that they may be turned into the heartfelt desire to serve others. Amen.**

**\*COMMUNION HYMN: “Let Us Break Bread” NCH330** *(Children return for Communion.)*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (see insert)

 *Intinction song: “Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” NCH 329*

**PRESENTION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL CERTIFICATES**

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**

**“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” NCH 347**

\*COMMISSION AND BLESSING (“God, we will try”), in unison:

L: God has laid out a feast for us here today!

**P**: **Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

L: You who have no money, you who feel unworthy…

**P: Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

L: You who are constantly serving others, here you will find rest….

**P: Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

L: You who are lost or worried, here you will find peace and grace….

**All: Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you!**

BENEDICTION (“God, please bless us”), in unison: **God of Abundance, we will try to set the banquet table with more than enough peace, love, and joy to go around the table as many times as it takes to serve everyone who enters here. Bless us in our trying. Amen.**

POSTLUDE “Go Ye Out” (T. Booth) Rebecca Harrold

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**“We Are What We Eat”**

**1st Sunday after Pentecost**

**May 27, 2018**



First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

300 Central Street, Saugus, MA 01906

Rev. Martha Leahy, Pastor

Office 781-233-3028 Cell phone 617-763-7354

Carolyn Davis, Secretary

Rebecca Harrold, Music Director

E-mail address: uccsaugus@verizon.net

 Website: <http://1stchurchsaugus.org>

 Facebook: https:[www.facebook.com/uccsaugus](http://www.facebook.com/uccsaugus)

 Healing Circle: <https://facebook.com/healingcirclesaugus>



**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

THE INVITATION All are welcome at Christ’s table.

THE COVENANT OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH in SAUGUS UCC in simplified language (unison):

**We gather together at church to learn about God through the stories of the Bible, knowing that these stories are not the end, but the beginning, because we believe that “God is still speaking.”**

**We believe our purpose is to worship God; to tell the story of Jesus; to study Christian history so we know where we have been and where we are going; to comfort the poor and the outcast; to work for peace; and to honor diversity as God’s own creation.**

** We depend upon the Holy Spirit to teach us and guide us so that we can transform the world into God’s Kingdom here on Earth, and we look forward to the day when we will meet our loving God in Heaven. Amen.**

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

THE SHARING OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

 *Intinction song: “Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts” NCH 329*

*Please come forward in prayerful silence to receive the Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing. Then return to your seat and sit in silent prayer until all have been served.*

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison): **We thank you, O God of Abundance, for granting us these simple gifts of bread and cup, which are, for us, the meal of your covenant community. As we are fed here today - in body, mind and spirit - may we go out into the world and invite others to this table. Amen.**

**“God Speaks Through Isaiah the Prophet**

**about Keeping the Sabbath”**

Isaiah 58:5-9

5 “Is this the kind of fast I have chosen,
    only a day for people to humble themselves?
Is it only for bowing one’s head like a reed
    and for lying in sackcloth and ashes?
Is that what you call a fast,
    a day acceptable to the Lord?

6 Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice
    and untie the cords of the yoke,
to set the oppressed free
    and break every yoke?
7 Is it not to share your food with the hungry
    and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—
when you see the naked, to clothe them,
    and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?
8 Then your light will break forth like the dawn,
    and your healing will quickly appear;
then your righteousness will go before you,
    and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.
9 Then you will call, and the Lord will answer;
    you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I.”

### **Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath**

Gospel of Mark 2:23-28

**23**One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grain fields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. **24**The Pharisees said to him, “Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?”

**25**He answered, “Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? **26**In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions.”

**27**Then he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for humans, not humans for the Sabbath. **28**So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.”