**+ FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**An Open and affirming congregation of the**

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

**Service of Worship 10 a.m.**

**8th Epiphany Sunday, February 24, 2019**

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

**Bold print indicates congregational response.**

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

**HOP = Spiral bound cover**

**PRELUDE** Hymn Sing

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Rona Tyndall

**LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

The earth was without form and void,

and darkness was upon the face of the deep;

and God said, "Let there be light!" and there was light.

**P: And God saw that it was good!**

L: And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together   
into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.

**P: And God saw that it was good!**

L: And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures:

cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth."

And it was so.

**P: And God saw that it was good!**

L: The God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, after our likeness.

So God created human beings. In the image of God, God created them. Male and female, God created them. And God blessed them.

**P: And God saw that it was good!**

L: Let us sing praise to the God of all creation!

**\*OPENING HYMN:** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You” #4 NCH

**CONFESSION (unison):**

**Almighty and merciful God, you created and are creating, still. Cleanse us from the illusion of our innocence, that we might trust in your mercy and dare to begin again. At times we squander the gifts you offer, neglect the environment, grasp for goods which cannot satisfy, use each other and love power more than people. Forgive us, God. Come into our hearts and our lives, making us new again, we pray.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*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!***

**SCRIPTURE:** Hebrew Scripture Genesis 1:1-19

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-28

**\*HYMN** “We Are Often Tossed and Driven #444NCH

**SERMON: "**Chaos & Confidence” Rev. Rona Tyndall

**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: “God, Creation’s Great Designer” #371 in NCH**

**DOXOLOGY:** 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**

**\*CLOSING HYMN:**

**"He’s Got The Whole World In His Hands”**

He's got the whole world in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the fish of the sea in His hands  
He's got the birds of the air in His hands  
He's got the fish of the sea in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the gamblin' man in His hands  
He's got the sinner man in His hands  
He's got the gamblin' man in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got the little bitsy baby in His hands  
He's got the little bitsy baby in His hands  
He's got the little bitsy baby in His hands  
He's got the whole world in His hands

He's got everybody here in His hands  
He's got you and me, brother, in His hands  
He's got everybody here in His hands  
He's got the whole world...  
He's got the whole world in His hands

**CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Strength for the Journey”**

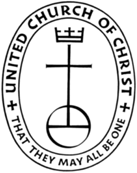
**Refrain: I will be, I will be, I will be strength for the journey.**

**POSTLUDE**



**8th Epiphany Sunday**

**February 24th, 2019**



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