

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

218 W. Second St., Gaylord, Michigan 49735

www.firstuccgaylord.org

January 19th, 2020

Welcome to the First Congregational United Church of Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!



“Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”
Proverbs 31:9 NIV

***Our mission is to embrace people of every age and stage of life
and help them become the most loving version of themselves
possible.***

Words of Welcome

**Opening Song of Praise*

*"Surely God is in this place: holy ground
Surely God is in this place: holy ground"*

**Call to Worship: (WL = Worship Leader, M= Ministers)*

WL: Our God is an awesome God who breathed into emptiness and created all that is.

M: With love and care, God shaped the world in all its diversity with mountains and valleys, rivers and deserts, and people of all colors and sizes.

WL: And threading through it all are beautiful dreams of justice, compassion, liberation, and peace.

M: O God, creator of our past, our present, and our future, we thank you for the many blessings you bestow on us each moment.

WL: Lead us in paths of righteousness. Fill our hearts with compassion and a thirst for justice.

M: Teach us to understand how to support a world where all belong and share in the abundance you have given us.

All: Praise be to God.

**Opening Hymn*

(B) 427 "God Made from One Blood"

**Corporate Unison Prayer*

Loving and generous God, you are the font of every blessing, the source of all we have. Your breath gives us life, your love gives us courage and strength, healing and compassion. You feed our spirits, our minds, and our bodies. We thank you for your abundance, given freely to all. But God, forgive us for wanting more, even when we have more than we need. Create in us new hearts to love our neighbors as much as we love ourselves. Help us to know that our abundance is for others' needs. Be with us this day Lord. Hear our prayers. Touch our hearts that we may be faithful witnesses and effective voices for justice. Amen.

**Gloria Patri (sung)*

Children's Time

"Jesus Loves the Children" –by Rokko Jans
*Jesus loves the children. He says, "Come unto me."
Lord, teach our hearts to open wide
Thy Kingdom comes to those who like a child
Come unto Thee*

1st Scripture Reading

Psalm 12:1-8 (NIV)

p. 600

Thank you, God, for the many ways you still speak to us.

Offering

“Love Broke Through” by Keith Green

Sung by Stephanie Kalember

*The Doxology

2nd Scripture Reading

Luke 6:20-31 (NIV)

p. 87 (NT)

Thank you, God, for the many ways you still speak to us.

Sermon

“Understanding Poverty”

Andrea Balliet

Prayers of the People and Singing of the Lord’s Prayer (R)440

Moderator’s Message and Litany Throughout Our Pastoral Search

WL: For God’s holy presence amidst change, we pray

M: For comfort, because loss is part of change, we pray

WL: For Christ-like steadfastness during the challenges of transition and season of faith we pray

M: For reassurance through frailty and failings, we pray.

WL: For the abundant creativity Spirit provides, we pray.

M: For our loved ones in this community of faith, we pray.

WL: For God’s children beyond this community, we pray.

**Closing Hymn*

(B) 541 “They Asked Who’s My Neighbor?”

**Benediction*

**Song of Sending*

Breathe on me, Breath of God

Fill me with life anew

That I may love the way you love

And do what you would do

SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS:

Worship Leader: Andrea Balliet

Music Director: Rokko Jans

Kidz on a Mission: Brenda Brummel

Younger Kidz on a Mission: Doreen Dobosy

Ushers/Greeters: Chuck Falk and Cathy Otto

Liturgist: Sallie Anderson

January Flowers: Dave Henson and Margaret Hafner

Moderator

Rokko Jans

E-mail: rokko@alaricjans.com

Communications Coordinator

Jessica Benoit

989-732-5726

E-mail: office@firstuccgaylord.org

Jessica's Upcoming Schedule:

Tuesday: 01/21 8:00am - 2:30pm

Wednesday: 01/22 8:00am – 2:30pm



Following worship, please join us in the Fellowship Hall where our coffee hour will be hosted by Gloria House and Helen Mate.

*You are invited to stand if you feel comfortable doing so.

+ Please note that we have two hymnals, one is red (R), the other is black (B).

** Page numbers for scriptures coincide with our pew bible, Good News Bible.