

Third Sunday after Epiphany  
January 22, 2012

GOD WELCOMES US

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**Preparing for Worship**

Before worship begins, please turn off all cell phones,  
blackberries, and electronic devices.

Please wear your name tag. Thank you!

\* Asterisk indicates: "Please stand as you are able."

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**WELCOME!** We welcome guests, visitors, and members alike for  
worship today. We are so glad you are with us!

**THOUGHTS FOR PREPARATION**

"We do not think ourselves into new ways of living, we live ourselves  
into new ways of thinking."

— Richard Rohr

"Jesus tapped me on the shoulder and said, 'Bob, why are you resisting  
me?'"

— Bob Dylan, 20<sup>th</sup> century poet/songwriter

**Acolytes:**

9:00 Suchir Sivakumar, Andrew Leonard

11:00 Trai Gozzi, Kaylie Behuniak

**Greeters:**

9:00 Christine Fitzmaurice, Peter Gadsby, Karen Gravino,  
Teena Griggs

11:00 Janet, Alex & Lauren Hisey, Gordon & Lee Hurlbert

**Flowers** on the north pedestal are given by Bob & Bobbie Porter in  
honor of our children and grandchildren.

PRELUDE

Joseph D'Eugenio

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Jeffrey Braun

**GOD GATHERS US IN PRAISE**

WE ARE CALLED TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Jeffrey Braun

Leader: Simon, Andrew, James and John—  
casting their nets 'til Jesus came and said, "Follow Me"

**People:** Mary and Martha, Joanna and Susanna—  
working at home 'til Jesus came and said, "Follow Me"

Leader: To our own Marys and Marthas, Jaimes and Jacks,  
Peters and Susans, to you and to me –  
at our computers and desks—  
busy on smart phones—  
busy with busyness—

**People:** It is to our lakeshores Jesus comes--

Leader: and he says, "Follow Me"...

**All:** Help us, O God, to live *yes*.

HYMN 347 Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Congregation (seated) sings refrain

Verse 1: soloist, Verses 2 & 3: Select Choir, Verse 4: Congregation,  
(standing)

*(Written Prayer Cards, found in the pew rack, are received by ushers at this time).*

\* WE INVOKE GOD'S LIVING SPIRIT

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

4.  
CHILDREN'S TIME

Children preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade leave at the conclusion of Children's Time for their respective classrooms for Church School. Parents please pick up children at their classrooms when worship ends.

*Please refrain from flash photography during baptisms. You may video from your seat.*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM (11:00) for Nathan Tyler McWeeney-Cappetta.

The Rev. Jeffrey Braun  
Deacon, Kirsten Sullivan

**Congregational Response:** Affirming our unity with Christ and with the whole church, we joyfully accept our responsibility to support each child and family with constant love, Christian example, and faithful prayer.

GOD SPEAKS

OLD TESTAMENT: Jonah 3: 1-5, 10 (Pew Bible p. 860-861)

ANTHEM: To Thee, O Lord S. Rachmaninoff

NEW TESTAMENT: Mark 1: 14-20 (Pew Bible p. 35)

SERMON: Come and See The Rev. Alison McCaffrey

\* HYMN 350 The Summons

GOD LISTENS

WE REFLECT AND PRAY

WE OFFER OUR THANKS

OFFERTORY: Day by Day Mark Hayes

\* DOXOLOGY (Hymn 34)

**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

GOD SENDS US

\* HYMN 458 O Jesus, I Have Promised

\* BENEDICTION

We are so grateful for your presence this morning.



Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in Parish Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Annual Meeting: January 29**

There will be a potluck supper beginning at 5 P.M. in the Parish Hall with the annual meeting immediately following. Sign up on the connector table sheet indicating the food you will bring to the potluck.

**Babysitters for Our Annual Meeting: January 29**

We are looking for 2-3 teens and/or adults to babysit after dinner for our annual meeting. Activities will be provided, if you are willing and able to help please see Carol Cyr.

**Midnight Run: Monday, January 30**

We will take food and warm clothing to the hungry and homeless in New Haven. If you would like to contribute ingredients for the meal, please sign up on the Midnight Run board at the church. We always need warm clothing, especially men's clothing, new or used in good condition. New men's socks and underwear are usually in short supply. We gratefully accept trial sized toiletries. The toiletry item of the month is lip balm.

### **Chili Bowl Cook-off: February 4**

Do you like to eat chili or can your chili compete as the best? The youth group will be hosting the Cheshire "Chili Bowl" on February 4 at 5 P.M. The sign-up sheet to bring chili is in the Parish Hall. All proceeds from this event will benefit the youth group mission trip.

### **\* GPS to ASP: Help the Adult Mission Team Go the Distance to Jonesville, Virginia**

Great News! Your generous donations of \$360 to date have brought us 72 miles, or 1/10 of the way to Jonesville! We have gone through Waterbury to Danbury, then crossed over to NY and merged onto I 684 Southbound. In three miles we will reach the Saw Mill Parkway, then on to I 287 West to the Tappan Zee Bridge, some 20 miles away. The next \$360 will get us over the border into New Jersey. Each \$5 helps us go the distance to our work week with the Appalachia Service Project, March 17-24. Cash donations may be placed in the specially marked envelopes are in the pews, or checks can be made out to First Church Cheshire, with "AMT" in memo line, then placed in the offering plate. Thank you!

### **Scripture by Heart: Are You Ready to Give It a Try?**

A new opportunity for "Scripture by Heart" awaits as we work on scripture texts for Holy Week worship, beginning with Palm Sunday. An information gathering will be held on Monday, February 6 at 7:15 P.M. in the sanctuary. Come and learn more about this opportunity and try it out. Our regular meetings will be on Monday evenings, starting February 19 at 7:15 P.M. in the sanctuary. Please see Alison with questions. A sign-up sheet is on the lobby table.

### **Save the Date: February 21 Mardi Gras Family Fun!**

Join us for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper from 5- 7:30 P.M. in the Parish Hall. Proceeds support the Adult Mission Trip, March 17-24.

### **Noah's Ark Nursery Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed for the first weeks and third weeks of each month during the 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. services. Contact Emilee Ziolkowski to volunteer at 860-426-9741 or ms\_ross@yahoo.com. Also, it is never too early to think about volunteering in the Nursery over the summer!

### **Bereavement Series: Begins February 23**

Our Bereavement Series will begin on Thursday, February 23, from 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. It will be held over the course of 6 weeks, concluding in a special remembrance service. We invite anyone in the congregation who has suffered a loss and is still struggling with grief to join us. The group will be facilitated by trained and experienced Stephen Minister leaders. We use the series from the founder of Stephen Ministries, Kenneth C. Haugk, titled :Journeying through Grief: as a guideline for conversation. We hope to offer a quiet, safe, and comforting place to share your feelings, challenges, and hopes.

Whether the loss is recent or not, the grieving can be just as significant. There is no time frame to be done with your grief, and there is no right way to grieve. If you think that this may be helpful, please join us. Feel free to call the church office to register (203) 272-5323 or call either Jan Garthwait (203) 272-5915 or Jan Cowles (203) 272-8441. Blessings.

### **Christian Education Announcements**

Christian Education has been sending out weekly emails to parents, teachers/shepherds. If you are not receiving these emails, contact the church office with your email address so we can keep in touch with you.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Bible Potluck Dinner**

Christian Education will be holding its Annual Bible Potluck Dinner on February 12 from 4:00-6:00 P.M. in Parish Hall. Invitations have gone out please RSVP as soon as possible. Bibles will be given out on Sunday February 26.

### **Vacation Bible School**

C.E. is looking for its VBS staff. Preparations are underway. If you had fun last year and would like to help or you heard about what a great time everyone had last year and how easy it was to volunteer and want to be part of this year's event please see Caroll Cyr.

### **Juice and Crackers**

Our Sunday school is looking for donations of apple juice and Goldfish crackers. Any donations would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be left in the C.E. office or very well marked in the church kitchen. Thank you!

## Call to the Annual Meeting

A meeting of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is called by the Executive Board for Sunday, January 29, 2012, in the Parish Hall immediately following a 5:00 P.M. potluck dinner. The meeting will commence at approximately 6:00 P.M. for the purposes of:

1. Electing Officers, Board, and Committee members;
2. Accepting the Annual Report for 2011;
3. Initial presentation of the Proposed Revisions to the Church By-Laws, to include:
  - a. Change Article VI.A.5 to read "April" rather than the present "February";  
*(Present Bylaws) Each board and committee shall hold an organizational meeting not later than the end of February. The Church Administrator shall be immediately notified of the names of the chairperson and secretary. The Deacons' Treasurer shall also be identified.*
  - b. Change Article VI.O.2.d and 2.f to read "March" instead of the present "January";  
*(Present Bylaws) To meet this responsibility, the Nominating Committee shall:  
d. Generate a list of nominees that shall be read to the church at the December meeting and voted upon at the annual meeting in January.  
f. At the January meeting additional nominations may be accepted from the floor with the nominee's consent.*
  - c. Change Article VII.B.1 to read "by the end of March" instead of the present "by the end of January."  
*(Present Bylaws) The Annual Meeting shall be held by the end of January at the call of the Church Clerk to elect officers, board and committee members; to hear annual reports; and transact any other proper business.*
4. Accepting the Budget for 2012; and
5. Conducting any other business that may properly be brought before the Church.

Signed, Jacqueline M. Cole, Clerk

Child care will be provided during the meeting time with sign-up. Please sign up in the Connector.

## 1st Church Preschool Accepting Applications for Fall

1st Church Preschool (located in the lower level of the church) is now accepting applications for the 2012-13 school year. Two to five day morning and extended day programs are available for 3, 4, and 5 year old children. We also offer a half day before or after Darcey School kindergarten program with bus transportation to and from Darcey School. Please visit our website at [www.1stchurchpreschool.org](http://www.1stchurchpreschool.org) or call 203-699-1169 to schedule a visit.