



January 21, 2024

Third Sunday after Epiphany

**First Congregational
United Church of Christ**

1200 Clark Street, Rapid City SD 57701

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Scripture: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Mark 1:14-20

✝ Invites worshipers to rise in spirit or body as they are able.

NCH indicates the New Century Hymnal.

You may notice there are several elements included in our time of worship. We want you to know this is intentional, as each of us may come for differing reasons; each of us may connect to Spirit in different ways. At First Congregational UCC, we are exploring how LOVE inspires us to create space for one another.

Join Us Online!

You can view our worship streamed on our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/RCFirstUCC>. Copies of the video are available on our church web site's video tab **www.rcfirstucc.com**.

Gathering Music Selections for French horn alone
and for horn and organ

Centering as God's People

Greetings

One: *"There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right."* - Martin Luther King Jr

Many: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Prelude *The Good Shepherd* R.C. Wilson

Call to Worship

One: To know the warmth of love,

Many: To have the assurance that someone cares,

One: To be confident of our worth,

Many: To be bold to love in return,

One: To be washed over with grace,

Many: To be accepted as we are:

One: This is to know a bit of God.

Many: Then let us worship our God.

✝ Hymn *O Jesus, I Have Promised* **NCH 493**

Invocation

One: God of Many Seasons, we enter into your presence with joy and thanksgiving. We acknowledge all the ways that you meet

us as we gather in your name. May our songs and prayers be a sweet sound in your ears. May we demonstrate our trust in you through both praise and lament. May our hearts yearn, our spirits stir, and our souls wait in holy hope and expectation. Amen.

✠The Peace

Hearing God's Word

First Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Pew Bible, OT page 816

A Message for the Young at Heart

Mary Haan

Anthem

Hymn of Promise

M. McDonald

Second Lesson: Mark 1:14-20

Pew Bible, NT, page 33

Sermon

Follow Me

Pastor Erin Erickson

Special Music

On the Turning Away
Mike Lemay and Enya Wallace

D. Gilmour/A. Moore

Offerings

Invitation

Offertory

In the Bleak Midwinter

G. Holst /S. Jones

✠Doxology

H. Smith

Give thanks with a grateful heart,

Give thanks to the Holy One,

Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"

Let the poor say, "I am rich!"

Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks.

✠Prayer of Dedication

Community Announcements

Going Into God's World

✠Hymn

God of Change and Glory

NCH 177

✠Benediction

Postlude

Risoluta

H. Parker

Events

Sunday, January 21

8:45am: Coffee in the Parlor
9:30am: Worship Service/
Nursery available
9:45am: Sunday School
10:30am: Fellowship Hour/
Volunteer Celebration/
Wellness Wheel

10:45am: Dept. of Education

Monday, January 22

11:00am: Midday Meditation
11:30am: Lunch Recovery Group

Tuesday, January 23

11:00am: Midday Meditation
11:30am: Church Chat
12:30pm: Spiritual Practices
1:00pm: Craft Day
7:00pm: Game Board Fun

Wednesday, January 24

11:00am: Midday Meditation
2:00pm: Communion at
St. Martin's Village
7:00pm: Bell Choir Practice
7:00pm: Choir Practice

Thursday, January 25

11:00am: Midday Meditation
1:30pm: Memoir Writing Group

Friday, January 26

9:30am: Watercolor Painting
1:00pm: Stained Glass Group
5:30pm: Couples Workshop

Saturday, January 27

8:30am: Couples Workshop
9:00am: Breakfast Club Potluck
3:30pm: Birthday Celebration
for Carol Boyles

Sunday, January 28

8:45am: Coffee in the Parlor
9:30am: Worship Service/
Nursery available
9:45am: Sunday School
10:30am: Fellowship Hour/
Annual Meeting



Church News

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the Communion Table this morning are given by **Michael and Kathleen Batchelder.**

"The earth is the LORD's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and those that dwell therein."

-Psalm 24:1



Poinsettias

If you purchased a poinsettia and haven't taken it home yet, please take it with you today. Any remaining poinsettias will be removed from the Sanctuary after worship. Thank you.

Volunteer Celebration

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship **today** for a celebration in

honor of all the rummage sale volunteers throughout the years. Cake will be served!

The Wellness Wheel

Every Sunday during Coffee Hour, for eight weeks, we will enjoy a brief presentation from a member of our congregation about wellness!

Coffee in the Parlor

Join us each Sunday at **8:45am** for Coffee in the Parlor before church! Have a latte or a fancy coffee, socialize with friends, and make your way into the sanctuary to enjoy the Gathering Music!

Birthdays

January 23: **Harold Miller**

January 25: **Carol Boyles**

January 26: **Salina Petit**

Midday Meditation

Calling all contemplatives! Starting on **January 8**, each **Monday-Thursday** at **11:00am**, a midday meditation (20-minute-sit) will be offered in the hallway near the Sacristy. Please feel free to invite a friend and pop-in whenever your schedule permits. For more information, contact Pastor Erin.

Lunch Recovery Group

January 22 from **11:30am** to **12:30pm** in the Parlor, open to all those who are in recovery, curious about recovery, or affected by the addiction of a family member.

Church Chat

The next meeting will be on **January 23** at **11:30am**. In **February** through **May**, the group will meet on the **first** and **third Tuesdays**. Contact **Becky Fisher** or **Kathleen Batchelder** to find out information about the book the group will be reading and discussing.

Spiritual Practices

Spiritual Practices is a group of delightful souls who meet to read scripture together and to engage in practices of prayer and meditation. The group is open to all who are interested. Beginning in **January**, Spiritual Practices will meet on **Tuesday** **each week** at **12:30-1:30pm** (come as often as you'd like). Please consider joining the group in the church library. For more information, contact Pastor Erin.

Board Game Night

Everyone **ages 12-25** are invited to come to the Fireside Room on **January 23** from **7:00 to 9:00pm** for games and fun!

Communion Services

Pastor Erin serves Communion at **St. Martin's Village** on the **fourth Wednesday** of each month at **2:00pm**. The next service will be on **January 24**.

All are welcome to join .

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Memoir Writing Group

The Memoir Writing Group will meet on **Thursday, January 25 at 1:30pm**. Anyone interested in sharing or hearing stories is welcome to join us. For more information, contact Mary Keithahn.

Stained Glass Group

Come learn how to create beautiful stained glass works of art. The group will meet on **Fridays from 1:00pm to 4:00pm** in the kitchen. Their next meeting will be on **Friday, January 19 at 1:00pm**. For more information, contact **Dave Ledford**.

Couples Workshop

A two-day Couples Workshop will be hosted in the Parlor on **January 26 and 27** by licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Lynell Rice Brinkworth. For more information and to register, email Lynnell@SPIRALCOUNSELING.com or call 605-381-5277.

Breakfast Club

January 27 at 9:00am. Potluck Breakfast for all ages in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite breakfast item or some fresh fruit to share!



Birthday Celebration

Carol Boyles will celebrate her 80th birthday on January 25! A reception will be held on **January 27** in the Fellowship Hall from **3:30pm-5:30pm**.



Annual Meeting

The Church Board has issued the call for the **145th Annual Meeting** of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Rapid City, South Dakota.

The meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 28, 2024** in the church Fellowship Hall following worship and will include the election of officers and department members, receiving reports of the ministries of 2023 and the adoption of the budget for 2024.

All members and friends of the congregation are encouraged to

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participate in this important meeting. Local church autonomy and lay control of decisions are hallmarks of our church's style of governing ourselves.

Mark your calendars now and plan to participate in this important meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report are available in the Narthex and on the church website.

Fellowship Hour Help

Coffee hosts and dishwashers are needed for the coffee hour following worship. Easy instructions are posted for each volunteer opportunity. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall on the sheets located next to the cookies if you can help. If you need assistance, indicate it on the sheet and someone will help you.

Thank you!

Prayer Concerns

Please hold the following members and friends in your prayers:



Lee Boyles has ongoing health concerns.

Kay Daugherty will be scheduled for a pacemaker on January 30.. Prayers and cards are encouraged. Her address is in the directory. Kay's brother-in-law, **Doug Reeves**, has heart issues.

Sheila Long's mother-in-law, **Ann Long**, is fighting cancer.

Sid Michaels is cancer free.

Jodie Thuringer's dad is in Hospice care. Continued prayers for the family are appreciated.

Deb Tompkins fell and has a broken knee which is improving.

Deb Tompkins has a young friend, 12-year-old **Max Green**, who lives in northern Kansas. Max was born with cerebral palsy and many other challenges. He was hospitalized with bacterial pneumonia but now is back home. He enjoyed Christmas!

We also pray for those members of our church family who are in care centers or isolated in their homes, including:

Evelyn Bradshaw, Vivian Dittmer, Wes Humke, Eunice Johnson, Merrie Miller, Marrelyce Seaman, Dorothy Slingsby, Helen Snyder and Elena Van Pelt

Leaders

Erin Erickson, pastor

Becky Fleming, licensed minister

Mary Haan, Christian education coordinator

Alan Glover, choir director, organist

Michael Bossen, bell choir director

Audrey Fenner, organist

John Fenner, French horn

The Adult Choir

The Bell Choir

Special Music, Mike Lemay and Enya Wallace

Patti Arneson and Laura Switzer, administrative colleagues

Chuck Rounds, moderator

Denise Webster, treasurer

Carol Boyles, Becky Fisher and Jenny Kozel, congregational representatives

Joyce Oster, greeters

Anders, Coen and Elsa Grauman, acolytes

Nick Strampe, reader

Rick and Carol Bell and Good Morning Circle, coffee hosts

Rick and Carol Bell, dishwashers

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder, pastor emerita

Credits:

The Good Shepherd - R.C. Wilson

Lorenz, 1972

In the Bleak Midwinter - G. Holst/S. Jones

Augsburg Fortress, 2016

Risoluta - H. Parker

G. Schirmer, 1908

Hymn of Promise - M. McDonald

Hope Publishing Co.

On the Turning Away - D. Gilmour/A. Moore

Pink Floyd Music, 1987

Give Thanks - H. Smith

Integrity Hosanna Music, 1978

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Pilgrim Press, 1995

God of Change and Glory

Pilgrim Press, 1995

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