



**January 28, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**First Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**1200 Clark Street, Rapid City SD 57701**

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**January 28, 2024**

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Scripture: Mark 1:21-28 Psalm 111

✠ 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](http://www.rcfirstucc.com)**.

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

**Centering as God's People**

**Greetings**

One: *"Occasionally in life there are those moments of unutterable fulfillment which cannot be completely explained by those symbols called words. Their meanings can only be articulated by the inaudible language of the heart."* - Martin Luther King, Jr

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

**Prelude** *But the Lord is Mindful of His Own (St. Paul)*

Mendelssohn, arr. E. Dicks

**Call to Worship** —from Psalm 111 and Deuteronomy 18:15-20

One: We come to worship...

**Many: Giving thanks with whole hearts...**

One: In the company of this congregation.

**Many: We worship the One who is gracious and merciful...**

One: Holy and awesome is God's name!

**Many: Let us worship God together!**

✠Hymn

*Many Are the Lightbeams*

**NCH 163**

## Invocation

**Many:** Holy God, holy, gracious, and merciful we gather mindful of your covenant with us and all creation. We gather mindful of your wonderful deeds and your powerful work among us. Grant that we may be joined with all your creation in praising you in the name of the One who was, and is, and is to come. Amen

## ✠The Peace

### Hearing God's Word

**First Lesson: Mark 1:21-28**

**Pew Bible, NT page 33**

**A Message for the Young at Heart**

Mary Haan

**Children Sing**

*I Have the Joy*

arr. H.D. Loes

*Jesus Loves the Little Children*

arr. G.F. Root

*Zaccheus*

arr. N.R. Schaper

Bonnie Edwards, piano

### Readers' Club Book Awards

**Anthem**

*To Thee My Heart I Offer*

E. Hagenberg

**Second Lesson: Psalm 111**

**Pew Bible, OT, page 539**

**Sermon**

*Amazed, with My Whole Heart*

Pastor Erin Erickson

### Prayers of Community

**Invitation to Prayer**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### Offerings

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

R. DeBruyn

✠Doxology

**NCH 778**

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.

✠Prayer of Dedication

Going Into God's World

Community Announcements

✠Hymn

*Forward through the Ages*

**NCH 377**

✠Benediction

Postlude

*Marche pour Orgue*

P. Wachs

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

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



## Events

### **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

### **Monday, January 29**

- 11:00am: Midday Meditation

### **Tuesday, January 30**

- 11:00am: Midday Meditation
- 12:30pm: Spiritual Practices
- 1:00pm: Craft Day

### **Wednesday, January 31**

- 11:00am: Midday Meditation
- 6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice
- 7:00pm: Choir Practice

### **Thursday, February 2**

- 11:00am: Midday Meditation

### **Friday, February 3**

- 9:30am: Watercolor Painting
- 1:00pm: Stained Glass Group

### **Sunday, February 5**

- 8:45am: Coffee in the Parlor
- 9:30am: Worship Service/  
Nursery available
- 9:45am: Sunday School
- 10:30am: Fellowship Hour/  
Wellness Wheel
- 10:45am: Dept. of Hospitality

# Church News

## Altar Flowers

The flowers on the Communion Table this morning are given in memory of our sweetheart, **Al Pitts'** birthday. Hope it was a 'heavenly' one, Dad!  
Love always, your girls:  
*Susan, Becky, Julie and Nancy*



## 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 31: **Kim Nearhood**  
February 1: **Stephanie Nielsen-Medeck**  
February 3: **Robert Jonas**  
February 4: **Clara Crutcher**

## Midday Meditation

Calling all contemplatives! 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.

## 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.

Spiritual Practices meets 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.

## Stained Glass Group

Come learn how to create beautiful stained glass works of art. The group meets on **Fridays from 1:00pm to 4:00pm** in the kitchen. For more information, contact **Dave Ledford**.

## Church Chat

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.

# Church News

## **The February CALL Newsletter**

Due to the election of new department members and officers at today's annual meeting, the February CALL newsletter will be published on February 8, which is one week later than usual. This delay gives the department members time to meet and determine who will be contributing information for the CALL. Thank you.

## **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:

**Virginia Humke** had hip replacement surgery on January 24 and is doing well.

**Lee Boyles** has ongoing health concerns.

**Kay Daugherty** is scheduled for a pacemaker on January 30. Cards

may be mailed to her address listed in the church directory. Kay's brother-in-law, **Doug Reeves**, has heart issues.

**Jill Kundtz's** back surgery on January 19 went well and she is doing better. Cards may be mailed to her address listed in the church directory.

**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.

**Nadine Zeller** continues to battle a multitude of health issues. Cards are welcome and may be mailed to her address listed in the church directory.

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, 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

Patti Arneson and Laura Switzer, administrative colleagues

Chuck Rounds, moderator

Denise Webster, treasurer

Carol Boyles, Becky Fisher and Jenny Kozel, congregational representatives

Dowell and Becky Caselli-Smith greeters

Ben, Brady and Ellie Tipton, acolytes

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder and Elsa Grauman, readers

Harold and Cam Miller, coffee hosts

Harold and Cam Miller, dishwashers

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder, pastor emerita

Lynnell Parrott, organist emerita

## Credits:

<i>Come, Christians, Join to Sing</i> - R. DeBruyn	OCP, 1990
<i>To Thee My Heart I Offer</i> - E. Hagenberg	Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
<i>I Have the Joy</i> - arr. H.D. Loes	Singspiration, Inc. 1944, 1972
<i>Jesus Loves the Little Children</i> - arr. G.F. Root	Singspiration, Inc. 1944, 1972
<i>Zaccheus</i> - arr. N.R. Schaper	Singspiration, Inc. 1944, 1972
<i>Doxology</i>	Pilgrim Press, 1995
<i>Marche pour Orgue</i> - P. Wachs	E. Hamelle Fils, 1917
<i>Many Are the Lightbeams</i>	Pilgrim Press, 1995
<i>Forward through the Ages</i>	Pilgrim Press, 1995
<i>But the Lord is Mindful of His Own (St. Paul)</i> - Mendelssohn - arr. E. Dicks	
	Bayley & Ferguson, 1913

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