

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*  
*March 11, 2018*

10:00 A.M.

White



Prelude

*(You are invited to a time of quiet preparation for worship during the Prelude.)*

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome and Informal Moments

Choral Introit

\*Call to Worship

L: On this fourth Sunday of Lent, we continue our journey to the cross.

**P: We follow Jesus, no matter where we are led.**

L: We come to this moment to rejoice in the gifts of Jesus.

**P: We give thanks for grace that heals and love which never lets us go.**

L: Gathered in the presence of that great love today, we come to this time of worship, as we cherish the abiding place found in our Great God.

**P: We rejoice in the power of God's love. Come, let us and worship!**

\*Opening Hymn

*How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely*

No. 252

**Unison Prayer of Confession and Lord's Prayer**

**Gracious God, touch our hearts with your love once more. Forgive us for the times when our thoughts, words, and deeds wander away from you and your righteous path. By your grace, pardon us, and welcome us back into your everlasting embrace. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray saying, "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."**

Words of Assurance

Anthem *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Scripture 1 Corinthians 13:4-8a Libby Mooney, reader  
Luke 15:11-24

Time for Children  
*(The children are dismissed to Church School until 11:00 am.)*

\*Hymn *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer* No. 70

Joys and Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer and Silent Prayer  
Choral Prayer Response

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

**\*Doxology**

**No. 44**

*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*

*(As our morning offerings are brought forward, so too are the non-perishable food offerings from the basket in the Narthex for St. Philip's Food Pantry.)*

**\*Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**Good and Gracious God, bless the gifts that we place before you. May the ministries they support forever proclaim your greatness and your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

“LENTEN SERMON SERIES – Love Never Ends”

Sermon                      *“Love Rejoices”*                      Rev. Madelyn Hennessey

\*Closing Hymn              *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*              No. 333

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Benediction              *Go Now In Peace (in the back of the hymnal)*

Postlude



\*All who are able may stand.

All are invited to join us after worship for coffee in Fellowship Hall

Minister: *Rev. Josh Fitterling*

Organist: *Mr. Roger Whitney*

Church School Teacher & Coordinator: *Ms. Colleen Crowley*

Office Administrator: *Ms. Janet Leonard*

Sexton: *Ms. Mary McKinney*

Church Office Email – [fccw@myfairpoint.net](mailto:fccw@myfairpoint.net)

Church Office Phone – 207-882-7544

Those Serving You Today

Bell Ringer: Dan Bigley

Ushers: Phil & Virginia Withee

Flowers: Jan & Steve Whitfield

Coffee Hour Servers: Diaconate

# First Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Wiscasset, Maine 04578

(207) 882-7544

[www.uccwiscasset.org](http://www.uccwiscasset.org)



We welcome you to the First Congregational Church of Wiscasset.  
We are an open and affirming congregation and are open theologically,  
growing spiritually, and concerned socially.



# Announcements

If you have a **prayer request**, please enter it in the book at the rear of the sanctuary. The book will be brought forward during the first hymn.

If you have **Bulletin Announcements**, please send them to the office by Wednesday of each week to be included the following Sunday.

Today: Worship and Church School 10 am  
**One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering**  
Christian Education AW  
Summerfest Planning AW  
No Lenten Bible Study

March 12: **Easter flower orders due today!**  
Game Night 6 pm

March 13: Healthy Kids Play Group 10-12  
Sheepscot Chorus 7 pm  
“Heaven is Beautiful” books available in office

March 14: Organ Society 9:30 am  
Communications 10:30 am  
Lenten Bible Study 11:30 am  
CIS 4:00 pm

March 15: Choir Rehearsal 4 pm

March 17: Boiled Dinner

March 18: Worship and Church School 10 am  
Lenten Bible Study 6 pm

**Easter Flower Order Deadline: March 12!**

**“Heaven is Beautiful” books ready for pickup on March 13!**

## **Guest Pastor**

We are grateful for the presence today of our guest Pastor, Madelyn Hennessey. After serving churches in Maine, Oregon, South Dakota, Maryland and Massachusetts, and after teaching English in the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Reservation in South Dakota, she recently returned to the family farmhouse in West Bath where she has a small flock of hens, and is restoring the house. She is on the West Bath Select Board, and is the "self appointed liaison" to the Marine Resources Committee. Madelyn has also just joined the Morris Farm Board of Directors.

## **Pastor Vacation**

Rev. Josh will be back in the office from vacation on Tuesday, March 13. In the event of an urgent pastoral care need, please contact Rev. Susie Craig at 207-563-7385 or 207-504-0803.

## **One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering Sunday, March 11**

This special offering allows us to pool our resources with the broader church (and even beyond UCC) in order to make a bigger impact to assist the needy and hurting in our world. We appreciate your support!

## **St. Patrick's Day Boiled Dinner – Saturday, March 17**

Please sign up in Fellowship Hall if you plan to come to this festive celebration of traditional St. Patrick's Day fare on March 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. And if you are bringing guests, please indicate how many. We look forward to seeing you there! (There is also a sign-up sheet to offer your help if you wish.)

## **Healthy Kids Spaghetti Dinner – March 14, 5:30-7:00**

Healthy Kids is offering a *free* spaghetti dinner on Wednesday, March 14, for the Wiscasset community. Join them at the Wiscasset Community Center from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm for spaghetti, salad, break, drink, and dessert. And spread the word!