



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

**Last Sunday after Epiphany
February 11, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

In Person & Live Streamed



*I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.
Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way
to succeed is always to try just one more time. ~Thomas Edison*

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~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Please stand if able. **Bold denotes unison response.*

CHIMES

Karen Needham

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Those wishing to make a brief announcement are asked to be in the front pews at the start of the announcement period. Prayer request cards may be found on the tables at the back of the church.

PRELUDE

Here, O My Lord

David Paxton

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather today, not simply to hear words or to speak of what is good, but to live it.

**For words can be hollow, promises fleeting,
and intentions easily forgotten.**

We have all walked paths paved with good intentions,
oftentimes finding ourselves drifting or forgetting.

We yearn for something more than merely talk.

Today, let us step onto a different path. One where our feet tread the same
ground as our hearts. Where our actions echo the truths, we hold dear.

For it is in the doing that we truly find our faith. It is in the small acts of kindness,
the moments of courage, the outstretched hands that our words take root and blossom.

Let us step forward on this path less traveled.

**Let us be the change we wish to see,
the embodiment of the values we espouse.**

Let us walk the walk, not just talk the talk.

In this sacred space, in this shared silence, let us begin our journey.

***HYMN**

Rejoice, You Pure in Heart

Chalice (blue) #15

***GATHERING PRAYER & *THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Great Spirit of God, we come before You seeking guidance and strength
to put our thoughts and words into action. Our words are easier said
than done. Guide this church community on the path that promotes**

action and execution of our thoughts, ideas, and values. “Bridge the Gap” between words and deeds. Strengthen our resolve to embrace opportunities to demonstrate our beliefs through concrete actions. Fortify our lives to follow through on commitments pledged even when it is difficult. May our actions be a reflection of our deepest thoughts and truths. With the power and grace of our Lord Jesus, may it be so. Amen

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.

***Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end, Amen, Amen.*

OFFERING

As we reflect on the blessings in our lives today, let's take a moment to consider how we can share those blessings with others. Through our offering, we can support the important work of Canton Center Church so we in turn can serve our Lord by helping our community and wider missions. Let us now receive our Sunday morning offering.



OFFERTORY

God of all People
Senior Choir



David Haas arr. John Helgen

***Doxology**

*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. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(The youth are excused for Church school)

POEM

I'd Rather See a Sermon ~ Edgar A. Guest

SCRIPTURE



James 2:14-26 Pew Bible pg. 981

SERMON

Let Me Tell You...No, Let Me Show You

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH



*Joys & Concerns
Moment of Silence
Pastoral Prayer*

***HYMN**

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Chalice (blue) #254

***BENEDICTION**

The Lord will give strength unto his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace ~ Psalm 29:11

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

*The Lord Be with You
Senior Choir*

Charles Yannerella

***POSTLUDE**

I will Sing with the Spirit

John Rutter

The Worship Is Ended ~Our Service Now Begins~