



OUR VISION

We are called together  
to embrace God's transformation  
of our lives and our world  
by becoming and serving as Christ's disciples.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF STOUGHTON

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP THIS MORNING!

Please help foster an atmosphere of quiet, prayer and meditation.  
As a community striving to be inclusive of all, we encourage each of you to sing and pray  
using language which is most comfortable to you.

*We invite you to take a moment of silence and pray:*

Holy God, I come to honor you in worship today.

I ask that all the things of this week that can crowd you out of my heart be set aside by the  
power of your Holy Spirit.

Open my heart and mind to meet you and receive you today. Amen.

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE, CHIMES, THE LIGHT COMES TO US**

**WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Let us now join our hearts, minds and voices in worshipping God.*

**INTROIT/PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

❖ **HYMN OF PRAISE** (*standing*)

(*See Notes & Notices insert*)

## ENCOUNTERING

**INVITATION TO CONFESSION/PRAYER OF CONFESSION/SILENT CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

❖ **HYMN OF PREPARATION** (*standing*)

“One Bread, One Body”

#393 (v. 1)

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.*

*And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.*

*Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man, no more.*

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.*

*And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.*

❖ **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## COMMUNING

**COMMUNION MUSIC**

**THE INVITATION/PRAYER OF CONSECRATION/WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING THE ELEMENTS** (*Please hold each element until all have been served.*)

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/LORD’S PRAYER**

(*Please use the wording with which you are most comfortable*)

*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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

*(Children may leave for Sunday School during the following response.)*

**SUNG RESPONSE** *(seated)* "Give Thanks" #528, adapt.

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,*

*Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,*

*Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, His Son. Give thanks!*

### LISTENING

#### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

❖ **SCRIPTURE LESSON(S)** *(See Notes & Notices insert)*

❖ **THE GLORIA PATRI** *(standing)* #35

*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.*

**COMMUNION MEDITATION** *(See Notes & Notices insert)*

**HYMN OF REFLECTION** *(seated)* *(See Notes & Notices insert)*

### CARING

#### **LIFTING UP OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **LIGHTING OF VOTIVES**

*While the music plays, you are invited forward to light a votive candle as a wordless and tangible prayer for the people and concerns you are holding in your heart this morning.*

**SILENT PRAYER** *(We will spend one full minute in silence.)*

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

**SUNG RESPONSE** *(seated)* "Three-fold Amen" #312

### RESPONDING

#### **THE JOYFUL RETURNING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

#### **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

Chancel Choir

❖ **DOXOLOGY** *(standing)* *(Tune: Old Hundredth)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below;*

*Praise Holy Spirit, evermore; One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.*

❖ **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(standing)*

### DEPARTING

❖ **SENDING HYMN** *(standing)* *(See Notes & Notices insert)*

❖ **COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION**

❖ **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *(standing)*

#431, v. 3

*“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”*

*Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;*

*Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.*

*Here my Spirit's power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you;*

*Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.*

**POSTLUDE**

❖ *standing as you are able*

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**OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to form disciples of Christ and transform our lives, and the lives of others, through Christ. We do this by nurturing our relationship with God through the spiritual practices of daily prayer, weekly worship, daily bible reading, serving within and beyond our church, developing spiritual relationships, and giving generously.

**OUR WELCOME STATEMENT**

Here at the First Congregational Church of Stoughton, United Church of Christ, we celebrate the diversity of God's creation and affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God [Genesis 1:27].

Living in openness to the Voice of the Still Speaking God, and following the Greatest Commandment of Jesus Christ to love God and neighbor, we extend an extravagant welcome to all persons of every age, race, nationality, ethnicity, faith background, marital status, family structure, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, physical or mental disability, affirming that we are all members of the family of God.

We invite all into the full life and ministry of our church, including worship, sacraments, rites, covenants, fellowship, leadership, employment, commitments, blessings, and joys.

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

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**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

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