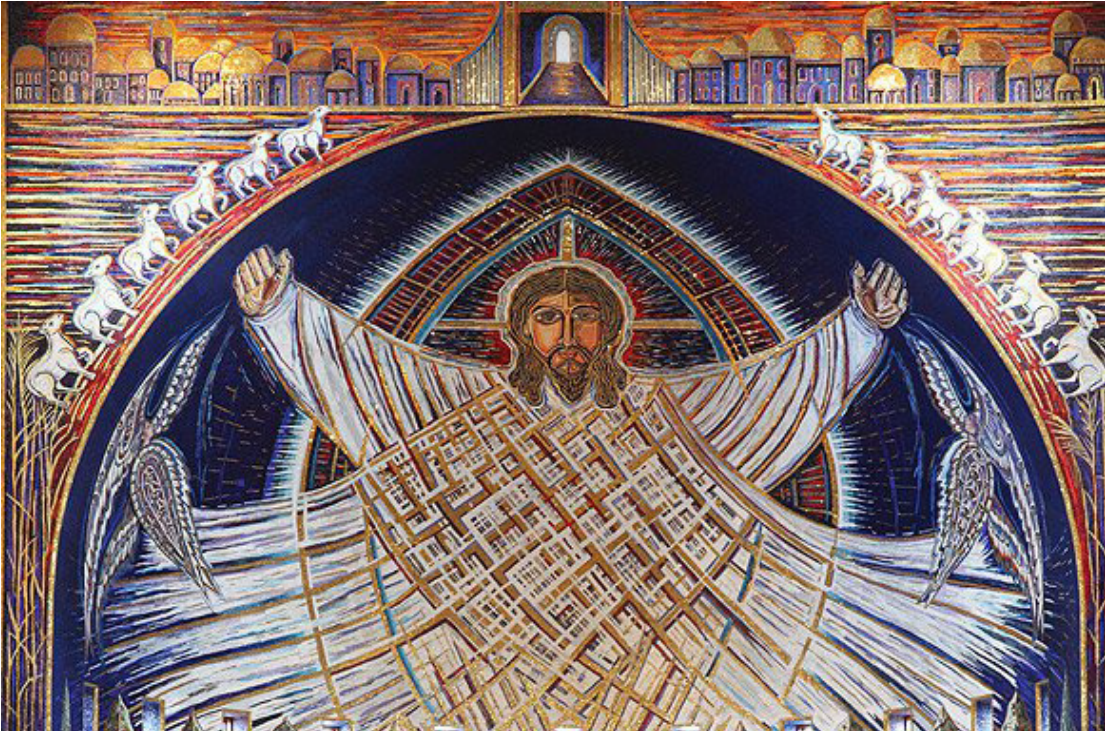




FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE LEADER



MAY 10TH, 2020

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome

Wi-Fi Password Welcome!

Please silence your cell phones, but please check-in with our Church App and via social media.

For Parents and Children

Children and youth activities are currently cancelled. Contact Becca@fccmoline.org for how families are staying connected!

FCC Live

Sunday worship is live streamed on Facebook Live and YouTube Live! Search for FCCMoline to connect with us, click like and subscribe to stay up to date!

Sunday Brunch

Sunday Brunch is currently cancelled.

Interested in Membership?

Contact Pastor Craig, call (309)-762-0787 or email craig@fccmoline.org.

Cover Art

Christ in Glory -- Church of the Transfiguration, Community of Jesus, Orleans, MA

Open and Affirming: fccmoline.org/ona

We are an ONA church, covenanting with all people regardless of sexual orientation, gender expression or identity. All people are welcome to participate fully in the life of the church, including the rites, sacraments, and leadership of the congregation.

Today
from the life
of the church

Do you then, my son, diligently apply yourself to the reading of sacred Scriptures. Apply yourself, I say. For we who read the things of God need much application, lest we should say or think anything too rashly about them. And applying yourself thus to the study of the things of God, with faithful prejudgments such as are well pleasing to God, knock at its locked door, and it will be opened to you by the porter of whom Jesus says, "To him the porter opens." And applying yourself thus to the diving study, seek aright, and with unwavering trust in God, the meaning of the holy scriptures, which so many have missed. Be not satisfied with knowing and seeking; for prayer is of all things indispensable to the knowledge of the things of God. For to this the Saviour exhorted, and said not only, "Knock, and it shall be opened to you; and seek, and ye shall find," but also, "Ask, and it shall be given unto you."

A letter to Gregory
Origen of Alexandria (185-254)

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

GREETING AND WELCOME

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

In you, Lord, I have taken refuge.

**Let me never be put to shame.
Deliver me in your righteousness.**

Turn your ear to me.
Come quickly to my rescue.

**Be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me.**

Since you are my rock and my fortress,

**lead and guide me,
for the sake of your name.**

Let your face shine upon your servant.

Save me with your unfailing love!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray: **We gather to worship in the name of Jesus Christ,
our living cornerstone,
who, though rejected by the world,
was chosen and precious in God's sight.
And like living cornerstones,
let us be built up into a spiritual house for God,
offering sacrifices of worship and praise that are pleasing in his sight.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

*My Hope Is Built
(Music on the next page)*

** Indicates when to stand in body or spirit*

My Hope Is Built

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and
2 When dark - ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un -
3 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

4
right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
him be found, dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

7 *Refrain*
whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand; all
less to stand be - fore the throne.

11
oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood
you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel
from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.
...To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, as we listen to your holy Word, open our hearts to the power of your Spirit, call us out of darkness, and lead us into your marvelous light. Amen.

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

ACTS 7:55-60

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:1-5, 15-16

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;

deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me;

make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe,
for you are my crag and my stronghold;

for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,

for you are my tower of strength.

Into your hands I commend my spirit,

for you have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

My times are in your hand;

**rescue me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.**

Let your face shine upon your servant;

save me in your steadfast love.”

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God’s sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner”,
and “A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people,
but now you are God’s people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

His Eye Is On The Sparrow

***GOSPEL**

John 14:1-14

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

***HYMN**

The Church’s One Foundation
(Music on the next page)

The Church's One Foundation



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
4 Yet she on earth has un-ion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
By schisms rent a-sun-der, By her-e-sies dis-tressed,
And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
Yet saints their watch are keep-ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
And soon the night of weep-ing Shall be the morn of song.
That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray, **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.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

As people of God, let us offer ourselves and the fruit of our labor for God's work in the world.

OFFERTORY

Ave Maria

***DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Almighty God, receive the gifts we bring in gratitude for your astounding goodness. Make our lives to be an acceptable offering in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever.

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

*How Firm a Foundation
(Music on the next page)*

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

- by Alan Guss

Let Him be the good you come to, let this be the time and place.
When you need Him, He will be here; take shelter, take shelter.

*Let Him be the calm and peaceful, let Him be the balm of days.
Spirit in us, Spirit of us, take shelter, take shelter.

Daily we face all the world's disarray,
and forget we have peace for the asking.
Hatred stirs up strife, love covers all offenses; seek shelter.

**repeat text for final refrain*

***BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

*The altar flowers are given to
the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. & Mrs Julius Staack and Marian Staack.*

Given by: John Staack

How Firm a Foundation



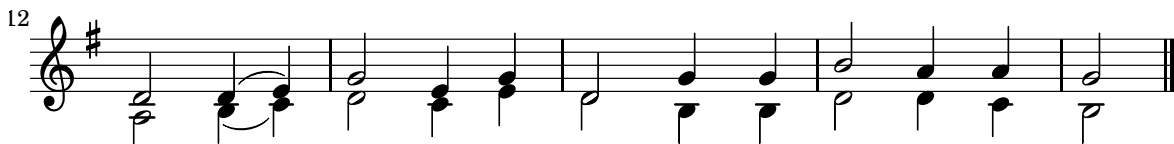
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the
 2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis -
 3 "When through fier - y tri - als thy path - way shall
 4 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re -



Lord, is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent
 mayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee
 lie, my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup -
 pose, I will not, I will not de - sert to its



Word! What more can be said than to you God hath
 aid; I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to
 ply; the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de -
 foes; that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to



said, to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 stand, up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 sign thy dross to con - sume, and thy gold to re - fine.
 shake, I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake."

SERVING TODAY

Musicians

Ben Holmes
Maureen Holmes
Mason Moss

Lector /Liturgist
Waletzko Family

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Gathered to Share God's Love