

Welcome

Deacon

Prelude*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*
Sebastian Temple

Laura Murach

Call to Worship (*unison*)

Deacon

Creator,
The world you have made is powerful and dangerous,
diverse and beautiful.
By praising your goodness in all creation,
We creatures learn our place and know our strength.
Open us here to recognize the One you sent
into this complicated world,
Jesus--Holy One, Human One, Vulnerable Child—
At home wherever there is rejoicing, or struggle, or anguish, or hope.
Teach us to follow Jesus along the paths of praise and service
which lead to You.

Gathering HymnLet There Be Light, O God of Hosts*

NCH 589

*(Deacons will collect Joy/Concern cards at this time.)***Scripture**

Deacon

As we hear the words of scripture.

Let us listen in the words for the Word of God.

Amos 5: 14-16

Pew Bible, p. 793

Luke 19: 41-44

Pew Bible p. 913

The grass withers and the flower fades,

But the Word of God shall stand forever.**Sermon Message**

"HATE EVIL, LOVE GOOD"

Rev. Randall Hyvonen

Hymn*This is My Song*

Laura Murach

Prayers of the People for the World (*unison*)

Gentle and holy God, we acknowledge to you, to one another, and to ourselves that we are not what you have called us to be. We have stifled our gifts and wasted our time. We have avoided opportunities to offer kindness, but have been quick to take offense. We have pretended that we could make no contribution to peace and justice in our world and have excused ourselves from risktaking in our own community. Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and help us to live our lives differently.

Minister: Lord in your mercy

All: hear our prayers.

Lord's Prayer

Rev. Hyvonen

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, now and forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

Before Your Cross, O Jesus

NCH 191

*Benediction

Rev. Hyvonen

**Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;
Be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good;
Render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted;
Support the weak; help the afflicted;
Honor all people; love and serve God;
Rejoicing through the power of the Holy Spirit.
The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God,
And the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen**

*Parting Song

God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again

(modified)

**God be with You till we meet again.
By God's counsels guide, uphold you.
God will place arms all around you.
God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude

Let There Be Peace on Earth

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPH4LRASWbo>

Our guest preacher for today is Rev Randy Hyvonen. Born and raised in Montana, Randy is a graduate of Stanford University and Vanderbilt Divinity School. He served several churches in Ohio prior to becoming part of the conference ministry teams, first in Ohio, then in the Pacific Northwest Conference and finally in the Montana-Northern Wyoming Conference. His retirement in 2011 did not last long as he served as Interim Conference Minister for seven months in the Southeast Conference in 2013-2014 and he continues to do interim/bridge ministry in local churches, most recently in Southwick and Westfield Massachusetts. Randy and his wife Karen moved to South Hadley Mass in 2015. Welcome to FCCG Randy!

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We affirm the dignity and worth of every person, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, mental or physical ability or sexual orientation. We offer sacraments and rites to all who enter our circle of faith. We celebrate the gifts that each person brings to First Congregational Church and invite them to share in all areas of its service, leadership, activities, responsibilities and privileges.