

Christ Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

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Web site: www.christcongregationalucc.org

The Rev. Candace Thomas, Interim Minister

Jay Harragin, Director of Music

***Our Vision:** A church that listens, praises God, inspires, and serves others.*

March 15, 2020 – 10:30 A.M.

Third Sunday in Lent

Amistad Sunday

Preparation for Worship

“The water itself, that dances, and sings, and slakes the wonderful thirst—symbol and picture of that draught for which the woman of Samaria made her prayer to Jesus—this lovely thing itself, whose very wetness is a delight to every inch of the human body in its embrace—this live thing which, if I might, I would have running through my room, yea babbling along my table—this water is its own self its own truth, and therein a truth of God.”

George MacDonald, 19th century



*Please stand, if it is comfortable for you to do so, where the * indicates.*

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE CANDLES WE REMEMBER GOD IS WITH US

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Based on John 4:5-42)*

Leader: Are you thirsty?

All: Sing: "Fill My Cup, Lord" (Insert)

Leader: What are you thirsting for this day?

All: Sing "Fill My Cup, Lord"

Leader: Come into God's presence and never thirst again.

People: We are parched, and this journey is long.

Leader: Come, let us journey toward the spring of living water.

All: Sing: "Fill My Cup, Lord"

***THE COMMANDMENT OF JESUS (John 15:5, 12)**

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Yo soy la vid, ustedes son las ramas. Los que permanecen en mí y yo en ellos dan mucho fruto, porque aparte de mí no puedes hacer nada. "este es mi mandamiento, que se amen unos a otros como yo los he amado.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Creating, Redeeming, Sustaining God, you are our wellspring from whom joy and purpose gush into our lives. You free us from dry places where life withers. You gently broaden the narrow, rocky riverbeds of our faith, then send the waters of your restoring and sustaining Spirit gushing through them. We come in adoration and lift up our praises to you who quenches our craving with the living water that banishes our thirst. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

John 4:5-42

NRSV

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews.

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.” Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, “Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” They left the city and were on their way to him. Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest’? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

INSTALLATION OF LAY LEADERS

INTRODUCTION-Pastor

People: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

L: There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

P: The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way to each person for the good of all.

L: Christ is like a single body which has many parts.

P: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

L: If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

P: All of us are Christ’s body, and each one is a part of it.

PRESENTATION OF THOSE BEING INSTALLED

COVENANT

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT

All: We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Jesus Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership, and assist you, that together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER

DECLARATION

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG: “Nothing Can Trouble” (NCH, No. 772)

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten, Those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten, God alone fills us.

PRAYER OF QUIET (*Open your heart to the movement of God’s Holy Spirit*)

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*all together*) *We join our hearts together as we pray:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen**

DEDICATION OF OUR LIVES AS GRATEFUL STEWARDS - Pastor Candy

Through Christ we are called to be sowers of God’s truth and reapers of God’s blessings.
Therefore, let us joyfully share a portion of what we have received from God

MUSICAL OFFERING: “You’ll Never Walk Alone” Rodgers & Hammerstein

*Presentation of our Gifts with Praise (NCH, No. 780)

**Praise God, who gives us all we have.
Praise Christ, whose life calls us to give.
Praise Holy Spirit, power for good.
These gifts we bring to thank our God. Amen**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

**Great Provider, bless these offerings and multiply them according to your will.
May they restore hope and wholeness to those who benefit from them.
In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.**

HYMN: “Crashing Waters at Creation” (NCH, No. 326)

MESSAGE: “Thirsty” Pastor Candy Thomas

***GOING FORTH SONG:** “Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer” (NCH, No. 18)

***SENDING FORTH WITH GOD’S BLESSING**

***THE POSTLUDE**



Liturgist: Lorrie LeGrand

Next Week’s Liturgist: Judy Carlson

Today’s Ushers: Jon & Barbara Beisenherz

Next Week’s Ushers: Margarita & Hermes Morell

Sunday School Teacher: Judy Carlson

Nursery Attendant: Anita Smith

*The lovely flowers gracing the altar this morning
are given by Cindy & Jim Ketzle celebrating the birthdays of
Jeff, Lyra & Alexander Ketzle!*

Welcome to Everyone!

*Whoever or whatever brought you to worship this morning, we believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in your coming. We hope that you feel the Holy Spirit in our service of prayer and praise. At Christ Congregational Church we strive to love one another as God has loved us and welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us. Therefore, we are an **Open and Affirming** church, loving and welcoming all people in all of God’s variety; including racial, ethnic, and economic diversity, gender diversity and expression, sexual orientation, and physical and mental abilities. Please introduce yourself after worship and join us for refreshments in the Kelsey Building.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The refreshments today are provided by Lorrie LeGrand in gratitude to all of the board and committee members who serve our church selflessly.

We thank **Outreach** for providing the refreshments next Sunday.

Prime Time Adult Discussion Group meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. The study is on the book, “**How the Bible Actually Works**” by Peter Enns.

NURSERY CARE is available **for infants and toddlers** during worship. All children are welcome in worship, parents should feel free to use the nursery any time your child becomes uncomfortable. An usher can help you find the nursery.

Faith Education classes are normally offered for all children during the **10:30 a.m.** worship hour. Children are encouraged to begin worship with their parents. There is a special time for all children with the pastor on the front steps. After that the children may go to a class held in the Kelsey Building.

TODAY, we will install all of our board and committee board members into their roles during the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

JUSTICE LUNCHEON TODAY after late worship. Sylvia Heller, Co-Chair, Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention Committee, Women's Club of Coconut Grove will be our speaker. She will share information to raise awareness about the scourge of human trafficking in our community. Modern day slavery, or human trafficking, crosses all lines of race, religion, gender and social divides. Victims are crushed mentally, physically and spiritually. The faith-based community can offer a powerful path to healing and recovery.

The One Great Hour of Sharing Special Mission Offering will be received next Sunday.

Win two free passes to the zoo! ONLY \$2.00 for two FREE passes or Twelve Raffle Tickets for \$10.00 Raffle Tickets are on sale - March 17 TO 31, 2020 DRAWING SUNDAY APRIL 5th. The Miami Zoo is giving us four free tickets The Proceeds will go for Christ Congregational Church's Mission Outreach projects. Thank You!

Let's fill the Sanctuary with lilies for Easter! Lilies will go on sale March 22!

The CCC Women are celebrating our CCC sisters in Christ by sending cards, texts, and calls to those who are celebrating, recuperating, mourning, or struggling. If you would like us to send a card or message to a lady in your life who is celebrating an occasion, mourning a loved one, or needs an uplift, send an email to: **Joan Chandler at bingo123@bellsouth.net** and let us know the occasion.

The CCC Women will have a book discussion on the book *Educated* by Tara Westover at our April meeting, April 18th at 10:30 AM.

Prayer List: Suzanne Wood, The family of Lucas Alvarez, Westminster Christian School staff and students, Jim Ketzle, Mark Harrison, Philip Thompson, Natalie Thompson, Javier Pantoja, Kathy Radkiewicz, Shai & Cedric Murphy, Jennifer Best Vickers, Bennie Wiley, The family of Mark Krumich, The family of Dr. Carey Green, Caleb Elkins, Anita Smith, Travis Smith, Bill & Maggie McDowell, Gloria Fuller, Amelia Canali, Wendy Olson, Georgina Mori, Deena and Herbert Chamberlin, Sarah Miller, Connor Thomas, Bradley Everhardt.

Please let Michelle, our Administrative Assistant, know if there are names, you'd like to have added to the Prayer List. She may be e-mailed at or call her at 305-235-9381.

Thanks be to God for prayers answered and for comfort given!

For **Pastoral Care Needs**, such as entering the hospital, suffering a crisis, or just want to speak to someone about a personal, spiritual or emotional matter:

Call **Pastor Candy** at **925-640-9289** or you may call or leave a message at the **Church Office, 305-235-9381, Monday-Friday, from 9:30 a.m –2:30 p.m.** and our Office Administrative Assistant, **Michelle Simone**, will assist you in reaching

Pastor Candy. When the office is closed you may call the **Board of Deacons** Chairperson, **Jim Ketzle**, at **305-495-4452** and he will be able to help you. For **Use of Property Needs** or if you identify a Maintenance Concern call the **Board of Trustees** Chairperson, **Julio Balcells**, **305-282-7882**. For **Other General Questions** or Needs call the Church President/Moderator, **Lorrie LeGrand**, **305-978-3801**.

CALENDAR March 15, 2020 to March 22, 2020

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| Sun. 15 | 8:45 a.m. | Garden Chapel Worship with <i>Holy Communion</i> |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Prime time Adult Discussion Group, Kelsey Library |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Worship in the Sanctuary (Faith classes for children)
Installation of Board and Committee Members |
| | 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. | (Child Care for children under 6 years old) |
| | 11:45 a.m. | Justice Luncheon, Kelsey Hall |
| Mon. 16 | 6:00 p.m. | Bible Study, Sanctuary |
| | 7:00 p.m. | SSOM and CCC Trustees meet in Whitney Hall |
| Fri. 20 | 7:00 p.m. | UCC Youth Service Weekend begins |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Ocean Waves Dance Group, Kelsey Hall |
| Sat. 21 | 10:30 a.m. | CCC Women's Meeting, Kelsey Hall |
| Sun. 22 | 8:45 a.m. | Garden Chapel Worship with <i>Holy Communion</i> |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Prime time Adult Discussion Group, Kelsey Library |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Worship in the Sanctuary (Faith classes for children) |
| | 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. | (Child Care for children under 6 years old) |

