



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



JANUARY 6TH, 2019

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Welcome

Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary.

Children in Worship

Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Bags for children are located at the back of the church: teal bags for 2-5 years, navy blue for 6-10 years. We offer childcare in our professionally staffed nursery in our downstairs nursery for children ages infancy through 6 years old.

Sunday School

Preschool through adult Sunday morning learning is offered during the 9 o'clock hour in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level.

Sunday Brunch

Please join us for fellowship after worship in the Son Cafe. Today's menu is: Waffle bar, various toppings, sausage and fruit.

Interested in Membership?

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

Wi-Fi Password

Welcome!

Resources

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

Open and Affirming

We are an ONA church, please visit fccmoline.org/ona for more information.

Getting connected

Please fill our pew pads to offer us a record of your attendance.

Today from the life of the church

It is not in vain that Scripture compares the Word of God, in its nature and effects, to light. The Sun's light shines down upon us pure and colorless; but it breaks forth from earthly objects only in a variety of colors, and all of them contribute to the beauty of our earth. Where these colors stand next to one another in their natural arrangement, and sparkle and play upon one another, there we see the rainbow -- the arch of peace -- resplendent in its perfect beauty. Only then we reunite the various broken rays, is pure and colorless light again restored. So it is with the Word of God. It has shone upon earth through the Son of God, pure in its heavenly splendor. But in every other person it becomes a unique light, breaking forth in an individual color. The beauty of Christ's church consists in the fact that, in the fellowship of believers, all these colors are harmoniously united, all the diverse human views and representations of the one salvation gently flow together. That is what it means to seek the truth in love.

*Servant of the Word:
Selected Sermons of
Friedrich Schleiermacher
(1768-1834)*

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

Here I Am To Worship - arr. Moss

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**

Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

Darkness has been banished!

God's light of hope floods the earth

God's light comes to us all.

Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

Prepare our hearts to receive this Light.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray: **Almighty God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice in our hearts and among the nations, and accept our lives as treasure offered in praise and service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

63, *As With Gladness Men of Old*

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 72:1-7, 10-14

In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;

let me never be put to shame.

In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;

incline your ear to me and save me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;

you are my crag and my stronghold.

Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.

For you are my hope, O Lord God,

my confidence since I was young.

I have been sustained by you ever since I was born;
from my mother's womb you have been my strength;

my praise shall be always of you.

I have become a portent to many;

but you are my refuge and my strength.

For my enemies are talking against me,

And those who lie in wait for my life take council together.

They say, "Pursue and seize that one whom God has forsaken;

Because there is none who will save."

O God, be not far from me; come quickly to help me,

O my God.

May my accusers be put to shame and waste away;

**Let those who seek my misfortune be engulfed
by scorn and reproach.**

But I shall always wait in patience,

And shall praise you more and more.

SCRIPTURE

EPHESIANS 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Song of the Manger - Lloyd Larson

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

***HYMN**

66, *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

To Follow The Star - David Paxton

*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. Amen.***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

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.

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

The bread is eaten when served; the wine is held to be taken together.

Grape juice is clear; wine is red.

COMMUNION MUSIC

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Let us pray, **We affirm the goodness of life and the openness of the future because our God is a God of life and love. As God comes to us in this act of communion with one another, let us go out to others in Jesus' name. May our every prayer be an action that brings healing, reconciliation and hope to a broken and hurting world. Amen**

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

411, *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Shine, Jesus, Shine - arr. Mark Hayes

SERVING TODAY

Ushers

Jack Reimers
Kathy Reimers
Josh Dyer
Tom Woodburn
Katy Harle
Dieter Harle
Carol Freeman
Lucy Manis

North Door Greeters:

Mary Cox

Lector

Maureen Holmes

Liturgist

Audra Bailey

Sound Tech

Bill Henning

Communion Prep

Jack & Kathy Reimers

Bus Driver

Pat Oberg

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon
Senior Pastor
craig@fccmoline.org

Rev. Michael Swartz
Associate Pastor
michael@fccmoline.org

Maureen Holmes
Chancel Choir Director
maureen@fccmoline.org

Mason Moss
Organist/Pianist
mason@fccmoline.org

Gail Glockhoff-Long
Campanella Ringers Director
gail@fccmoline.org

Becca Peterson
Director of Family Ministry
becca@fccmoline.org

Becky Baker
Financial Manager
becky@fccmoline.org

Jennifer Dailing
Office Assistant
jennifer@fccmoline.org

Amber Moore - Director of
Marketing & Communications
amber@fccmoline.org

Wes Llewellyn
Fellowship Coordinator
wes@fccmoline.org

Amanda Peterson
Red Wagon Preschool Director

Custodians
Mike DeToye
Ron Mahar

Harleigh Jones
Nursery Coordinator
nursery@fccmoline.org`



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