

March 19, 2017

Sometimes being listened to is so much like being loved, it is impossible to tell the difference.
Barbara Pine, 20th century

PRELUDE

Variations on *St. Denio*

E. Broughton, G. Peterson, C. Schnabl

*Before the candles are lit, please greet your neighbors with God's hospitality.
Once they are glowing, please celebrate your prayers with God.
When they are extinguished, carry God's light into the world.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION MOMENT One Great Hour of Sharing

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL INTROIT *I Bring My Heart to Thee* David H. Williams

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Like the woman at the well, we all are thirsty.

People: Like the woman at the well,
many have assumed false things about us.

Leader: Like the woman at the well, we have more to offer.

ALL: Like the woman at the well,
may we turn toward Jesus who empowers us.

***HYMN** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* red #7

JOYS AND CONCERNS

*At the conclusion of Joys and Concerns the children will leave to go to "The Promised Land
" as the congregation sings the first verse of On River Jordan's Banks I Stand.*

*On River Jordan's banks I stand, and cast a wishful eye
Upon the fair and happy land where my possessions lie
I am bound for the promised land, I am bound for the promised land
Oh, who will come and go with me? I am bound for the promised land*

MORNING PRAYERS

Prayer of Confession (unison)

*God of all time and space, we like yesterday. It is familiar
and comfortable, and we know it well. When we want to go backward
instead of forward, forgive us. When we discourage those who want to
expand our thinking to include tomorrow, forgive us. Do not give up on
us, even when we want to give up on our own dreams.*

Assurance of Forgiveness

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

*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*

Congregational Response

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Let all adore and praise that sacred name.*

CHORAL ANTHEM *We Adore You Oh Christ* Dubois arr. Hoekstra

SCRIPTURE READING John 4:5-30 The Message

SERMON **WE'RE MORE THAN A SINGLE STORY**

***HYMN** *When, Like the Woman at the Well* black # 196

OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory Anthem *Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross* F. Crosby

***Doxology (unison)**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore,
One God triune whom we adore. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***HYMN** *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say* black # 489

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Threefold Amen* # 812

POSTLUDE *St. Denio* R. Bonighton
We invite you to remain quietly and celebrate the conclusion of worship in the postlude.

*Please stand if you are comfortable.

We hope that you find your worship experience meaningful.
If you are new to the community, we invite you to make this your church home.

*Please stay after worship for refreshments and fellowship
downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.*

In our Service Today

Preacher: Rev. Lori J. Souder
Organist/Choir Director: Cynthia J. Morrell
Greeters: The Smith family
Reader: Bobbie Ayers
Head Deacon: Bob Judge
Head Usher: Randy Hyvonen

The **Trustees** will host Coffee Hour during March.

*"I wish I could show you, when you are lonely or in darkness,
the astonishing Light of your own Being."* Hafiz, 14th century

THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH

Ministers: All Church Members
Senior Minister: Rev. Lori J. Souder
Minister Emeritus: Rev. Charles P. Blakney

Christian Education Program

Children: Martha Guild
Youth: Claire Houston
Adult: Randy Purinton and
Betsy Bergen, Team Chairs

Music Program

Organist: Larry Schipull
Choir Director: Cheryl Cobb
Associate in Music: Cynthia Morrell

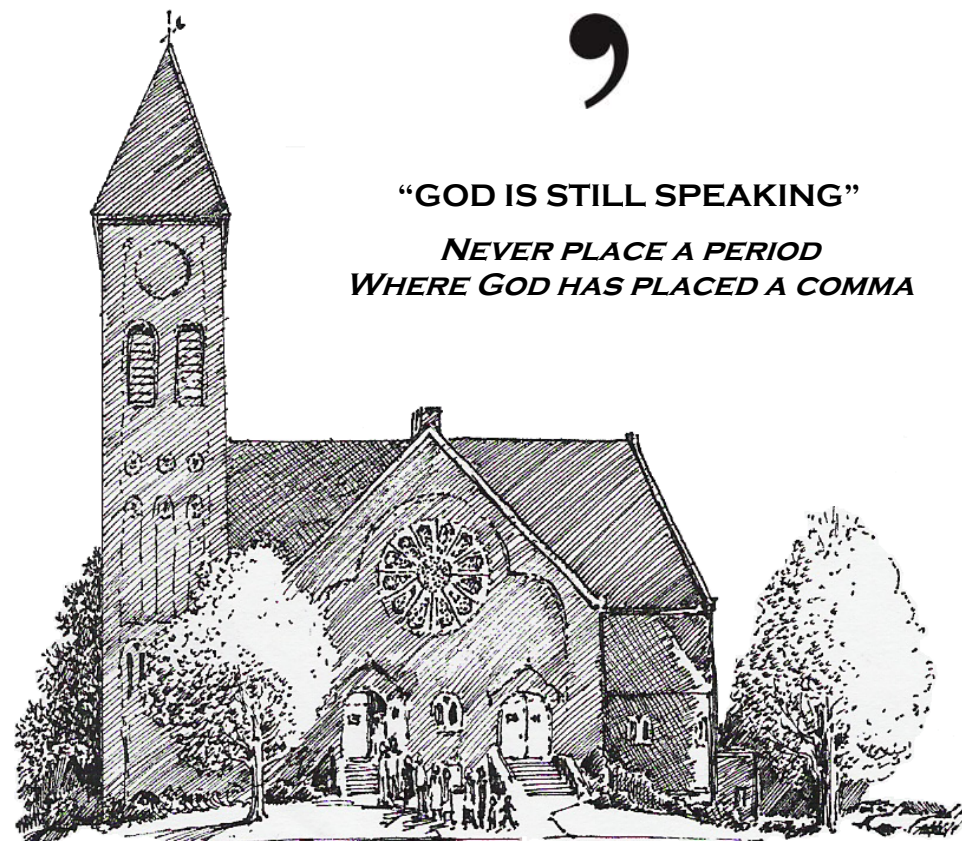
Office Administrator: Cynthia Jubinville
Sexton: Robert Farman

Make Center Church Your Sacred Home

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“GOD IS STILL SPEAKING”

***NEVER PLACE A PERIOD
WHERE GOD HAS PLACED A COMMA***



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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The two center sections of the sanctuary are equipped with a hearing loop. Turn on the T-coil in your hearing aid and sit in one of these sections for better hearing.