

February 2, 2020

*We must learn to regard people less in the light of what they do or omit to do,
and more in the light of what they suffer.*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Letters and Papers from Prison, 20th century

PRELUDE Selections from *The Liturgical Organist* A. Guilmant

*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

CALL TO ANNUAL MEETING David Morrell

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHORAL INTROIT *I Was Glad* Larry Schipull

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus, Teacher, your teaching surprises us!

People: Not the world's wisdom, but God's.

Leader: You move us with sorrow for the sorrow of the world

People: And make us strong through our tears.

Leader: You offer us humility to admit our failures

People: And plant seeds of hope in the ashes.

Leader: You make us hungry for justice

People: And give us food that lasts.

Leader: You support us in standing firm for truth, even when it costs,

People: And promise the truth will make us free.

***HYMN** *God of Change and Glory* black # 177

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)

The world's wisdom surrounds us: look after number one, get them before they get you, money makes the world go around, and revenge is sweet. May God forgive us when we, as Christ's own people, believe these words to be life-giving when Jesus has shown us a better way.

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

769

Hear our prayer, O God, Hear our prayer, O God;

Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

***HYMN** *Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit* black # 180

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES Matthew 5: 1-12

SERMON UPSIDE DOWN

OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory Anthem

Holy, Loving Father

Palestrina

*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** *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face* red #287

COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

It is our tradition to hold each of the elements until all are served so that we may partake together.

[Rice cake pieces are offered for those with allergies to gluten.]

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Gracious God, you have made us one in the body of Christ. Grant us strength to persevere for justice, peace and truth. Amen

***HYMN** *We are Marching in the Light of God* black #526

***BENEDICTION**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** *Threefold Amen*

812

POSTLUDE *Siyahamba*

R.B. Farlee

We invite you to remain quietly and celebrate the conclusion of worship in the postlude.

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\*Please stand if you are comfortable.  
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In our Service Today

Preacher: Rev. Lori J. Souder

Organist: Larry Schipull **Choir Director:** Cheryl Cobb

Greeter: Corinne Chartrand **Reader:** Corinne Chartrand

Head Deacon: Lynne Bertram **Head Usher:** Bill Giles

The Flower and Nominating Teams will host Coffee Hour in February.

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.*

THE MINISTRY AT CENTER CHURCH

Ministers: All Church Members

Senior Minister: Rev. Lori J. Souder

Christian Education Program

Children: Martha Guild, Simone Jacob and Chelsea Korzeniowski

Youth: Emma Martin and Maddie Migliorino

Adult: Randy Purinton, Team Chair

Music

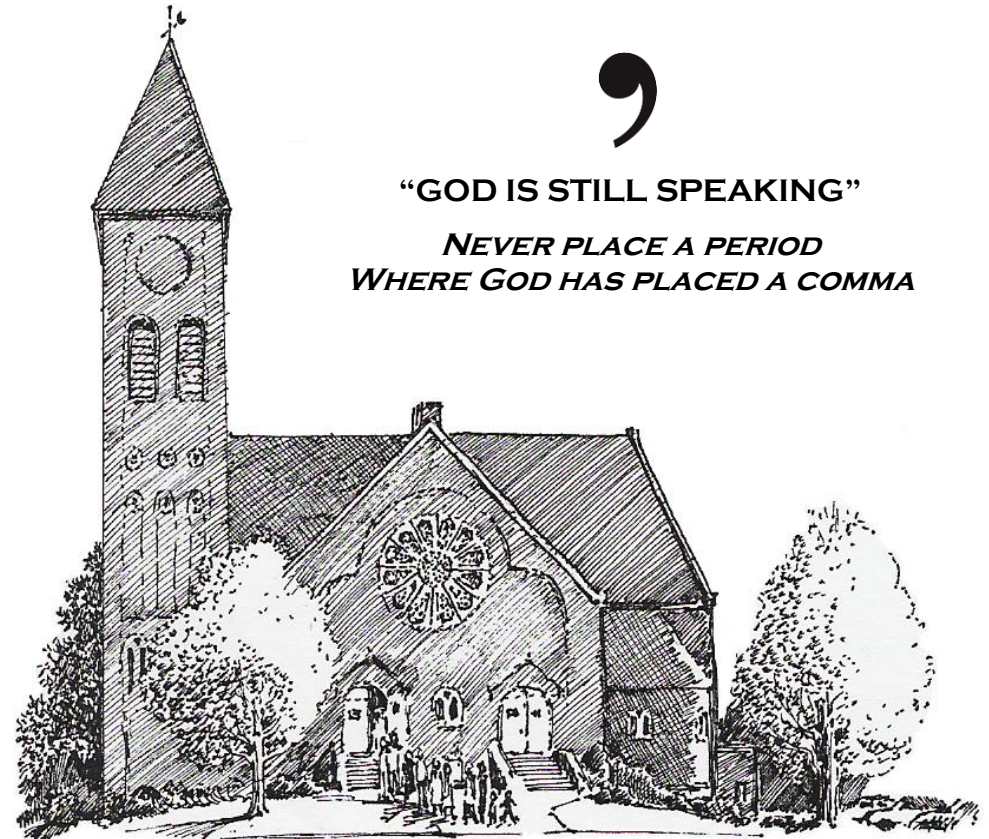
Organist: Larry Schipull

Choir Director: Cheryl Cobb

Associate in Music: Cynthia Morrell

Office Administrator: Cynthia Jubinville

Sexton: Robert Farman



“GOD IS STILL SPEAKING”

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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ - ONA

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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.