

## 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**

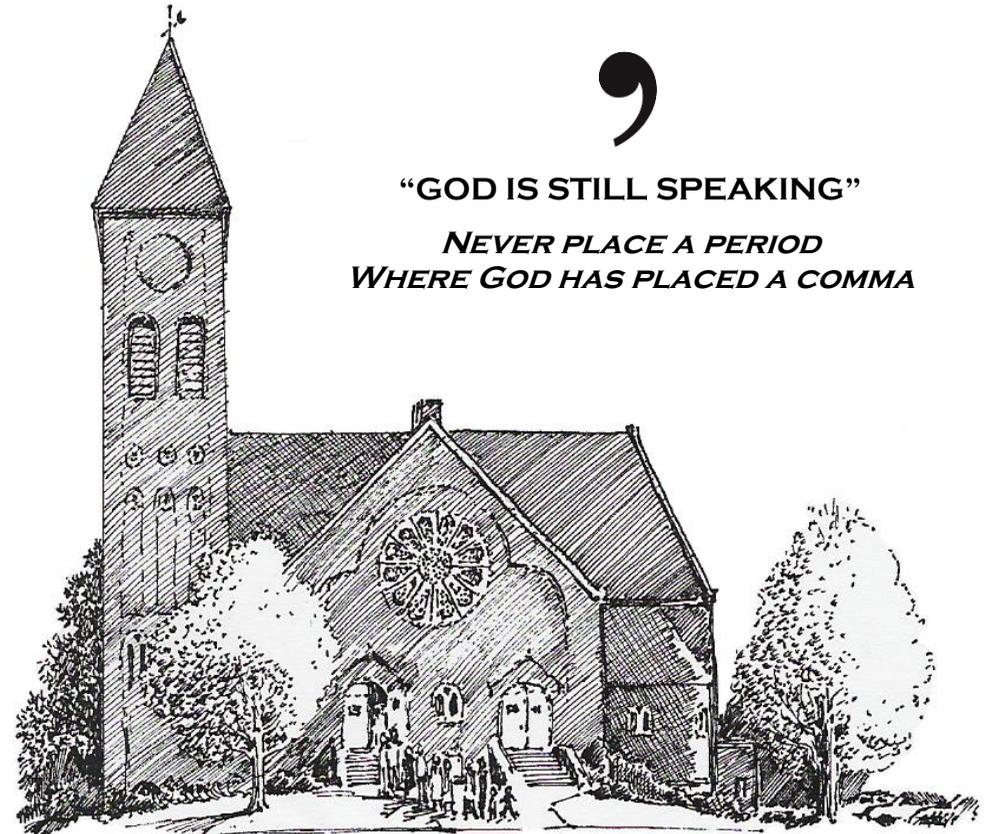
**Organist:** Larry Schipull

**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

One Church Street

South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075

(413) 532-2262

email: [centerchurch@verizon.net](mailto:centerchurch@verizon.net)

website: [www.centerchurchsouthhadley.org](http://www.centerchurchsouthhadley.org)

Facebook: Center Church of South Hadley MA

Instagram: @centerchurchsouthhadley



*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.*