

First Congregational Church of Georgetown



Our Church Mission Statement:

*“To nurture those in our own faith community and
to act on our faith by reaching out to others.”*

*We are an Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ.*



PRELUDE

“Gabriel’s Oboe”

Morricone

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

“Lord Jesus, Think On Me”

Band

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Kristen Arsenault

One: Hey friends, take a deep breath. You made it here, just as you are. And that’s exactly enough.

All: We’re here because love pulled us in. Christ’s love; big enough to hold us all.

One: In a world that divides and disconnects, God is still weaving us together; restoring, reconciling, renewing.

All: We’re in the middle of a holy makeover. Something new is growing in us, a deeper way of living, loving, and being.

One: So come, let’s be part of what God is doing. Let’s lean into connection, open our hearts, and worship.

All: We’re here for it. Let’s worship together.

***HYMN**

The Church is You and I

Samuel A. Wright

George J. Webb



A church is not a build - ing with col - ored win - dows
Where peo - ple join to - geth - er to con - quer hate and
A peo - ple's church is free - dom and as - pi - ra - tion's



glazed, where peo - ple gath - er week - ly, to sing: "O God be
wrong, there is the church of jus - tice to meet the chal - lenge
sight, which binds all in its build - ing the com - mon - wealth of



praised." A church is not of mar - ble with tow - ers in the
strong. Where du - ty speaks a mes - sage which love can - not de -
right. A church is where we gath - er to help each oth - er



sky, but fel - low - ship and striv - ing; the church is you and I.
ny; Where peo - ple stand to - geth - er; the church is you and I.
try to grow in love and vis - ion; the church is you and I.

Words ©1976 Samuel A. Wright - Music 1837

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Invitation to Share the Peace

UNISON PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

God of love and new beginnings, you draw us together not to erase our differences, but to weave us into something deeper. You remind us that we belong to one another, that grace is always bigger than what divides us, and that love is a calling we share. Make us people of reconciliation, in our homes, in our communities, and in our own hearts. Help us see one another through your eyes not as problems to solve, but as people to love. Make us part of your new creation where mercy mends what's been torn and hope is always possible.

Help us stay focused on your Word as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us,

Our Father/Mother/Creator, who art in Heaven, hallowed by 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE / PASTORAL PRAYER

Poem

“Wild Geese”

Mary Oliver

*HYMN

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Clara H. Scott

O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth you
O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth you
O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth
have for me place in my hands the won - der - ful key
send so clear; and while the mes - sage sounds in my ear,
ev' - ry - where; o - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare
that shall un - clasp and set me free. Si - lent - ly now I
ev' - ry - thing false will dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I
love with your chil - dren thus to share. Si - lent - ly now I
wait for thee, read - y, my God thy will to see;
wait for thee, read - y, my God thy will to see;
wait for thee, read - y, my God thy will to see;
o - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
o - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
o - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 5:14-20 – *from The Message*

14-15 Our firm decision is to work from this focused center: One man died for everyone. That puts everyone in the same boat. He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own.

16-20 Because of this decision we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life emerges! Look at it! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and Him and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. God put the world square with Himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what He is doing. We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ Himself now: Become friends with God; He's already a friend with you.

MESSAGE

"The Voice of Connection"

Rachel Angerhofer

MEDITATIVE MUSIC

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Each week, we're invited to show up not just with our presence, but with our hearts, our hopes, and our willingness to build something together. When we give, whether it's a dollar, a prayer, a kindness, or our time, we say: "I'm part of this. I believe in what love can do." So let your giving be a yes! Yes, to community, to renewal, to love that moves beyond words.

OFFERATORY

“Come With Rejoicing”

Band

***DOXOLOGY**



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all creat-ures here be - low;
Praise God for all that love has done; Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Spir - it, One. A - men.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Dear God,

Bless these gifts and all the ways we give, with open hands and open hearts.

May what we offer bring comfort where there is pain, connection where there is distance, and hope where it's needed most. Use these gifts and use us to keep the work of love going.

Amen.

*HYMN

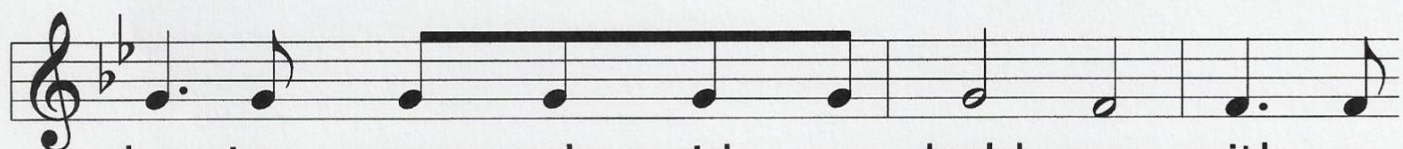
God Be With You Till We Meet Again

Jeremiah E. Rankin

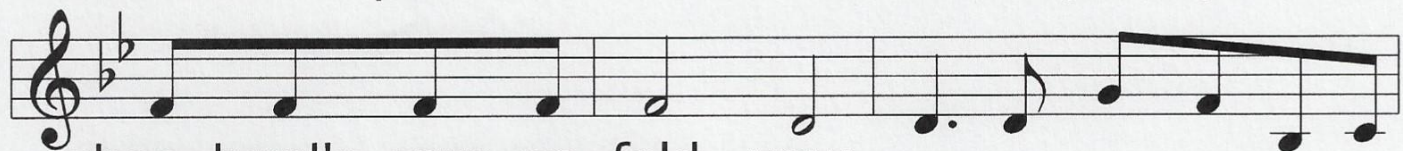
William G. Tomer



God be with you till we meet a - gain;



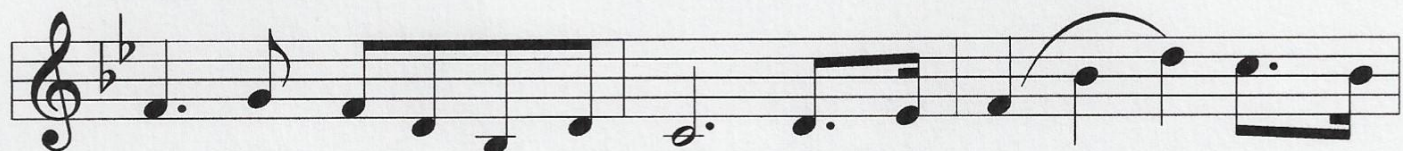
lov - ing coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a
un - der wings, pro - tect - ing, hide you, dai - ly
when life's per - ils thick con - found you, put un -



shep - herd's care en - fold you;
man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we
fail - ing arms a - round you;



meet a - gain. Till we meet, _ till we meet, _ till we



meet at Je - sus' feet; Till we meet, _ till we



meet, _ God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Words & Music 1880

***BLESSING**

So...let's go now compelled by grace and called to be part of something bigger than ourselves.

Where there's division, let's be a bridge.

Where there's hurt, let's be a healing presence.

Where there's distance, let's lean into connection.

Let us go with courage and hope, knowing we are never alone.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

“Ev'ry Time I Feel The Spirit”

*The steeple is lit in March in
remembrance of **Gloria Webster**
By Jo Anne Kelly*

MEETINGS

Tuesday 4/1

12PM Women's Guild

Wednesday 4/2

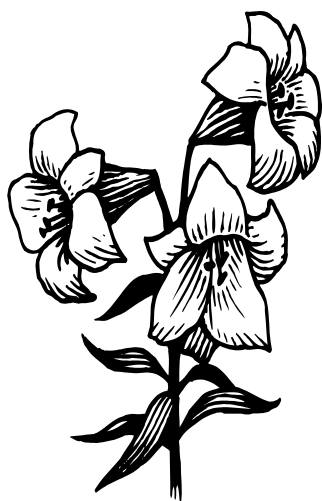
6:30PM Bells

7:30PM Band

Sunday 4/6

9:30AM Bells

Easter Flowers



Our sanctuary will be filled with beautiful flowers on Easter Sunday. The Diaconate welcomes your contributions in memory/honor of beloved friends and family.

Make donations payable to First Congregational Church and place in the offering plate or mail to 7 Andover St. Georgetown, MA 01833. Or order on-line using the QR code below or visit our website fccgeorgetownma.org
The deadline will be **April 13th**

A listing of those remembered and those who have contributed will be printed in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Flowers will be delivered to folks who are homebound or who have recently lost a family member.

My donation (in any amount) \$_____

IN MEMORY or IN HONOR OF (please print)

FROM: _____



CHURCH STAFF

Ministers The Congregation
Pastor
Director of Music..... Robert Knapp
Organist.....Emily Knapp
Sexton Kimberlee Knapp
Office Administrator Julie Bernier
Moderator Rich Brock
Clerk Toni Cassidy
Finance Robert Knapp
DiaconateRachel Angerhofer
PropertyJoAnne Kelly and Tom Johnson
MissionsRachel Angerhofer
Collector Robert Knapp
Bookkeeper Rich Brock
Member-at-Large Alecia Balduf

*Anyone wishing to support the church by lighting the steeple
is invited to make a donation.*

Church Office Hours: Wednesday - Friday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Office Phone: (978) 352-8443

Office Email: churchoffice@fccgeorgetownma.org**Website:**

www.fccgeorgetownma.org

WELCOME

If you are a visitor from “near or far” and would like to learn more about our congregation and its ministries, please speak with an usher and/or greeter. You may also sign the visitors card found in the pews and place it in the offering plate. Please indicate whether you would like a call or visit from the pastor.

A COMMUNITY THAT AIMS FOR HOSPITALITY

We are delighted you have come to join us on this Sunday. First Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ, which means that wherever you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here. We have large print bulletins, hearing assistance devices, wheelchair and elevator accessibility, and all-gender restrooms. Please let us know if you still have difficulties hearing. While we hope to anticipate needs, please share any ideas you have for ways to expand our accessibility for all.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We believe that children help complete our worship experience. We encourage children to be an active part of worship; this is where they learn the most about the Christian family—by experiencing it! Encourage your child to sing along, clap, wiggle, offer prayer requests, and join in communion.

LIGHT THE CHURCH FUND

Contributions for lighting the church steeple can be made in memory of loved ones or in honor of someone special. If you would like to contribute or need more information, please contact Robert Knapp at 978-352-7489.

MEMORIAL FUND

This is a wonderful and meaningful way to pay tribute to family or friends who have gone before us. A gift to the Church's Memorial Fund is always timely and names of those we love live on with all of us as we remember them over the years. Gifts can be mailed or placed in the offering, be sure to note who is being honored with this gift.

FLOWER CONTRIBUTIONS

If you would like to contribute flowers or make a monetary donation for the Communion Table for an anniversary, birthday, or special occasion please contact Nancy Aberman at 978-457-5924.