

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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[www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/](https://www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/)

March 15, 2026

10:00 AM

*"We are a community in Christ, called to act with love toward our neighbors."*

## ***FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT***

*(As we prepare for worship, we invite quiet contemplation of the Living God.)*

*\*For those who are able, please stand.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT #285 (UCC-Red) "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN #279 (UCC-Red) "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 23)

1 The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul:  
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you have promised to receive us when we come to you. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have disobeyed your law. We have not loved you or our neighbours as we should. Forgive us, O God, and grant that we may live and serve you in newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

### \*SONG OF PRAISE #338 (UCC-red) (Gloria Patri)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen. Amen.

## GOD MOMENT

### GROWING IN OUR FAITH

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 9:1-41

**A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES** (Teachers and classes leave for Church School)

### SERMON

"I Do Declare"

### PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

\*HYMN # 248 (NCH-Black) "Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows"

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - CONCERNS

## PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**ACKNOWLEDGING OUR GIFTS** (Please send pledges & donations to the church via mail or use online giving through our website. Loose offerings go into the general church fund.)

## MUSICAL OFFERING

\*SONG OF PRAISE HYMN #780 Doxology (NCH – Black)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, O heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Glorious God, as we offer our lives to you with thanks, may we share the best of ourselves with the world. Through our Great Hour of Sharing, may we begin to see through your eyes, and help others to see your love and be fed with both earthly food and the everlasting food and water offered by your son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen

\*HYMN #157 (UCC-Red) "Christ, Thou Art the Sure Foundation"

## BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "One In Love"

One in love, one in friendship true,  
One in hope, one in spirit, too,  
One in faith that God will care for you  
Till we meet together again.

## POSTLUDE

**WE EXTEND THE HAND** of Christian fellowship to all who have come to worship in this Welcoming, Open and Affirming congregation. May our prayers and the hearing of God's Word make our burdens lighter, our hearts encouraged, and our souls refreshed.

If you are visiting for the first time, we welcome you.

**OUR THANKS** to Kyle Washburn and all who participated in our service this morning.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given by Wes Marshall in memory of Kathy's Birthday

**ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED!** Please sign up on the flower sign-up list on the table in the entrance or call Cynthia King 802-885-5831.

**CHECK OUT** our church web site: [firstchurchspringfield.org](http://firstchurchspringfield.org) and our YouTube channel First Church Springfield 4738 (@firstchurchspringfield4738)

**TO JOIN OUR ONLINE LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE EACH SUNDAY AT 10 AM, CLICK ON THE LINK FOR OUR NEW WEBSITE:**

[www.firstchurchspringfield.org](http://www.firstchurchspringfield.org)

Note that a copy of the bulletin and hymns are available midway on the homepage.

Click on Worship on the homepage and it will take you to our Facebook page and a live video. Click on the video.

Glad you can worship with us!

**CHOIR** meets to raise our voices on the final Sunday of each month, rehearsing at 9 AM just before worship. All are welcome to join.

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE:

Those words can mean most anything. Would you or someone you know benefit from prayers, home visits, help with shopping, rides to appointments, prepared meals, food to help you over a hard time? If you have such a need, or know someone who does, please contact Congregational Care chair, Claire Trask at 886-7377.

<b>PRAYER LIST</b>	Jaz	Jocelyn	Sheila	Helen
	Jeff	Amie and Nicole	Wesley	Ted
	Elmer	Dan	Ellen	All others in need

**COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!**

Mar	15	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
Mar	19	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	9:30 AM
Mar	22	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING:**

“We give because our hearts are touched as we witness God at work in ourselves, in one another and throughout the world. Our response to God’s love for us is to love others, near and far. We are agents of grace when we choose to give, trusting that God’s Kingdom/Kindom is being built through us and among us. We cannot be in all of the places where our love offering will eventually go, but our gifts will bless the world far beyond what we can imagine. OGHS is your, our, love offering to and for the world. Let us share generously and cheerfully.” THANK YOU!

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS  
PASTOR’S HOURS**

Tues. & Wed. 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.  
Wed. 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

**STAFF**

Pastor: Michael Mario  
Administrative Assistant: Sheila Turner  
Sexton: Todd Murray

~ *NOTES* ~