



January 31, 2016
Epiphany 4
Prophet on the Edge
First Congregational
United Church of Christ
1200 Clark Street, Rapid City, SD 57701
605-342-5787 uccoffice@rushmore.com www.rcfirstucc.com

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Prophet on the Edge

January 31, 2016

1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

✠ Invites worshipers to stand in spirit or body as they are able.

NCH - Indicates the New Century Hymnal.

Welcome and Greetings

One: We have gathered in this place of refuge where we can feel safe and secure in the love of God. It is also a place for us to share that love with others.

All: No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

Prelude

Allegretto

D. Scarlatti

Call to Worship:

One: We have come to worship God, living God,

All: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.

One: We have come to praise God, almighty God,

All: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.

One: We have come to worship God, all gracious God,

All: Who chooses even you and me to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. All glory to God!

Introit

Be Still and Know

Anonymous

Prayer of Invocation:

All: God of the prophets, who spoke to Jeremiah and to Jesus, speak to us as well. Help us to prepare to receive you. Help us believe in you. Come, Holy One! Fill us with the story of your people. Fill us with your loving word. Take us as we are and make us wholly yours. In Jesus' name, Amen.

✠**Procession:** *Let Me Enter God's Own Dwelling* **NCH 67**

✠**Passing the Peace**

The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 **Pew Bible, NT, p. 165**

Welcoming New Members:

One: In the season of Epiphany, we celebrate God's love made manifest in Jesus the Christ. We recall that Jesus

came into our midst, challenging us to open our hearts and to open our lives. In that spirit, we open our arms and welcome new members into our midst today.

With joy, we welcome new members into our family of faith. We now invite those who wish to affirm their baptism and become members of this church to come forward.

Those wishing to become members of First Congregational United Church of Christ come forward.

One: Friends in Christ, we are all received into the Church through the sacrament of baptism. We give thanks for the faith journeys that have brought you to this point. We rejoice that you have found a spiritual home in our midst. Now, you have come to affirm your membership in this congregation and to offer your gifts to the work of the Church.

The new members are introduced.

One: Let us greet our new members with a blessing of the words of our faith.

All: You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are equally citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus alone being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in Christ; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

One: We affirm our faith in many ways, in the way we live and the words we say. This statement is one way of stating together what we believe. Let us join together in our Statement of Faith.

**All: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify:
You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and
death.**

**You seek in holy love to save all people from
aimlessness and sin.**

You judge people and nations by your righteous

will declared through prophets and apostles.
In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified
and risen savior, you have come to us and
shared our common lot, conquering sin and
death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and
renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in
covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and
races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and
joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the
service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all
the world and resist the powers of evil, to share
in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join
him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of
sins and fullness of grace, courage in the
struggle for justice and peace, your presence in
trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your
realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.
Amen.

One: Friends, you have come here today to proclaim your
faith in God and to join with this congregation in
carrying out God's mission in the world. Do you
desire to become a member of this family of faith?

Candidates: I do.

One: Do you promise to participate in the life and mission
of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the
worship of God and enlisting in the mission of this
local church as it serves the community and the
world?

Candidates: I promise with the help of God.

One: Let us the members of First Congregational United
Church of Christ express our welcome and affirm our
mutual ministry in Christ:

All: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this
church. We promise you our friendship and pray-
ers as we share the hopes and labors of the church
of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit
may we continue to grow together in God's
knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen

Savior.

The Candidates are greeted, presented with certificates of membership and invited to sign the church register.

Prayer of Welcome

Sharing with Children

Rev. Susan Huffman

Anthem: *The Gift of Love*

Arr. H. Hopson

The Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

Pew Bible, NT, p. 58

Pastoral Reflection: *Prophet on the Edge*
man

Rev. Ted Huffman

Hymn: *Amen, Amen!*

NCH 161

Prayers of the Community

Community Concerns

Quiet Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (We use "debts" and "debtors.")

Prayer Response *Sing Amen*

Arr. D. Dargie

Offerings:

Invitation

Offertory

The Water is Wide

Arr. H. Hopson

†Doxology

NCH 780

Prayer of Dedication

†**Hymn:** *In Christ There is No East or West*

NCH 395

†Benediction

†**Benediction Response:** *Servant, Go Forth*

M. Patterson

Postlude

Toccata in F

D. Buxtehude

Worshippers are invited to be seated for the postlude.

† Invites worshippers to stand in spirit or body as they are able.

Today we welcome the following new members to our midst.

Ingrid Arlton and Larry Putnam

Ingrid has degrees in art and psychology. She is a retired teacher who has taught students from ages 5-72. Larry is a retired hydrologist, a groundwater specialist who worked for the U.S. Geological Survey. Their hobbies include music and bird-watching.

Ingrid Arlton and Larry Putnam

4507 Buckhorn

Rapid City, SD 57702

605-391-3369

Laura Hughes

Laura is a psychologist with the Rapid City Regional Rehabilitation Institute. She has three daughters: Anna, a freshman at Gustavus Adolphus, Natalie, a ninth-grader and Maya, a fifth-grader. Family hobbies include hiking and kayaking.

Laura Hughes, Anna, Natalie and Maya

22881 Forest Road

Rapid City, SD 57702

605-877-5000

Karen and Dave Johnson

Dave is the owner of Johnson Tree Service. Over the years, he has been involved with our church, helping to replace downed trees and donating wood to the Woodchuck project. Karen is the Administrative Secretary at the Roosevelt Swim Center. They have three daughters: Krissa, 27, Kara, 26 and Kaci, 19.

Dave and Karen Johnson

10265 Heritage Lane

Rapid City, SD 57702

605-209-0555

Jo Ann Leonard

Jo Ann, a retired R.N., is joining as an Associate Member,

continuing to maintain her ties with the UCC congregation in Keystone UCC. Her hobbies include reading and sewing.

Jo Ann Leonard

910 Saint James Street

Rapid City, SD 57701

605-341-2879

Michael Myers

Mike wandered into the church last spring and soon jumped in, getting involved the Tuesday Craft Group, the Woodchuck Society, the rummage sale and Church Chat, along with being a regular in worship. The only man in the Craft Group, he claims to now have nine mothers from that group looking after him! He is also being nominated to serve on the Department of Building, Equipment and Grounds.

Mike Myers

2205 7th Street, #174

Rapid City, SD 57701

Lacey and Cory Vrooman

Lacey, Cory and their family recently moved back to Rapid City from Wyoming. Cory and Lacey have started their own business, JDSD Contracting. The three older children, sons Jay-que and Destin, and daughter Stormy, attend Valley View Elementary School. Their youngest child, daughter, Dakota, is three years old. The Vroomans describe themselves as an “outdoor family.” They enjoy hiking, fishing and other outdoor activities.

Lacey and Cory Vrooman

Jay-que, Destin, Stormy and Dakota

411 Reservoir Road

Rapid City, SD 57703

605-430-6997

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*

ANNUAL MEETING

The Church Board has issued the call for the 137th Annual Meeting of First Congregational United Church of Christ to be held **today** in the Fellowship Hall following worship. All members and friends are encouraged to participate.



Cinnamon rolls will be provided by the Department of Hospitality prior to the meeting.

The **Annual Report** is available on the church website or for pick up in the Narthex.



FAMILY FIRST NIGHT "A GIFT OF LOVE"

Wednesday, February 3 at 6:00pm

Take a night off from cooking and join us for dinner, a story from the Bible and family activities.

There will be time to make valentines for shut-ins and others needing a little TLC. It's a great way to share God's care with others.

Friends are welcome, too!

Take time to put your family first.



This Week's Events

Today: Sunday, January 31

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice

9:30am: Worship; Sunday

School

10:30am: Cinnamon Rolls,
Coffee and The 137th Annual
Meeting of First Congregational
United Church of Christ

3:30pm: Jail Ministry

5:00pm: The Well Service

Monday, February 1

6:00pm: Evening Rotary Group

Tuesday, February 2

12:00pm: Church Chat

1:00pm: Craft Day

1:15pm: Spiritual Practices

11:30am: WF Executive Board

6:00pm: Bell Choir Practice

6:00pm: Family First Night

6:30pm: Dept. of Hospitality

7:00pm: Adult Choir Practice

Friday, February 5

1:00pm: Rescue Stained Glass

1:00pm: BH Watercolor Group

Sunday, February 7

8:30am: Adult Choir Practice

9:30am: Worship for All Ages

10:30am: Fellowship

11:00am: Celebration of
Motherhood

5:00pm: The Well Service

Wednesday, February 3

News and Events

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the Communion Table today are given by **Patsy Parkin-Valandra** and family in memory of **Ray Valandra**.

“Those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.”

Isaiah 40:31

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our sympathy and prayers go out to **Lorraine Slocum**, her daughter-in-law, **Monica Slocum**, and family following the death of Lorraine’s son, **Ed Slocum**, on January 18.

Our sympathy and prayers also go out to the family of **Gordon Magnusson**, following his death on January 19.

Please hold those battling cancer in your prayers: **Laura Boyd’s** brother, **John Winder**; **Carol Boyles’** brother, **Terry Hammon**; **Jill Kundtz’s** sister-in-law, **Mindy**; and **Sheila Long’s** mother, **Debbie Torrey**.

Shut-in church members are in our prayers including: **John Ameson**, **Hazel Heil**, **Mavis Iverson**, **Shirley Triggs**, and **Ida Muree St. Pierre**.

Our prayers are with the following members, families and friends: **Marvin Bitterman**, **Carol Boyles’** brother, **Rex Hammon**; **Vivian Dittmer**; **Al Dymock**; **Rev. Ray Schatz**; **Jane Seaton’s** daughter, **Gail Johnson**; **Rev. Don Stoebner** and his wife and care-

giver, **Rosie**; **Deb Tompkins’** nephew; brothers, **Bob** and **Joe Hills**; and friend, **Barb Reynolds**; and **Tish Wilkinson**.

BIRTHDAYS

February 1: Stephanie Nielsen

February 2: Henry Bradshaw

February 4: Clara Crutcher

February 5: Emilee Nickel

February 7: Kathleen Grigg

CHURCH CHAT

Tuesday, February 2, noon to 1:00pm in the Fireside Room.

We will discuss chapters 13-20 of Kent Nerburn’s book, *Neither Wolf Nor Dog*.

CELEBRATION OF MOTHERHOOD

The women and friends of First Congregational Church are invited to a Celebration of Motherhood for **Jenny Diedtrich and Courtney Strampe** on **Sunday, Feb. 7** in the Fellowship Hall following the coffee hour. Your presence is the greatest gift of all. If you choose to bring a gift, please remember that we wish to honor both of these mothers equally. A basket will be available for monetary donations. A light lunch will be served.

COFFEE HOUR HELP

Coffee hosts and dishwashers are needed for **February**. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

PANCAKE SUPPER AND WORSHIP SERVICE

United Church Youth will serve the Ash Wednesday pancake supper beginning at **6:00pm** on **Wednesday, February 10**.

The Ash Wednesday service of worship will follow at **7:00pm**. Everyone is invited to join in as we begin the journey of Lent.

ALL CHURCH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The Department of Hospitality invites everyone to our church-wide birthday celebration following worship on **Sunday, Feb. 14**. We will have a birthday table with decorations and a cake for each month of the year. Come celebrate your birthday with others who share “your month.” Questions? Contact any member of the Department of Hospitality.

LIBRARY NEWS

Men: Adventure with author Hector Tobar in his book, *Deep Down Dark*, far down into the mine in Chile where 33 men were trapped in 2010. Visualize their lives during the 69 days before the miracle of freedom.

GREETING CARDS

The craft group has new cards available for sale every week in the Fellowship Hall. Selections include baby cards, Valentine’s Day cards, 100th birthday cards and cards for upcoming special occasions.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers extended to me and my family after the death of my son, Ed Slocum.

Lorraine Slocum and family

HEALTH SEMINAR

My name is Jenna Cruz and I'm a member of First Congregational Church. I'm a beach body coach and wellness enthusiast! On **Saturday, February 13 at 2:00pm**, I am putting on an informational health and wellness seminar in the **Fireside Room**. I encourage all members and friends to come have fun, and gain lots of insight on true health of the body, mind, and soul. There will be finger foods and incredible knowledge! Cost is free; bring yourself and a guest! Thank you!



No matter which football team is your favorite, you can help support the **Souper Bowl of Caring**.

You may drop off non-perishable food items at the food table or monetary donations in the soup pot located in the Narthex any time between now and **February 7**. All food and funds will be donated to Church Response. **Thank you for caring!**



January 31, 2016
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Luke 4:21-30

RISK

Now Jesus has really done it. He's gotten everybody angry and they will throw him out of town . . . literally. He's in his hometown of Nazareth and they are so disrespectful that he can't perform miracles or persuade them of anything. We live in a time when eating local and thinking local is important to us. It therefore may be hard for us to think that a homegrown boy returning to his community after success in the world wouldn't be welcome. But Jesus was not. They walked him right to the edge of town, right to the boundary between what they knew and what they feared. If not being welcomed by his childhood community was a test and a risk for him then Jesus failed . . . big time.

In Rev. John C. Dorhauer's speech to General Synod last summer, one of the charges he made to our denomination as he was being elected our General Minister and President was this:

"I want you to prepare to fail. I want you to give yourself permission to take risks and then be there to receive the risk-takers with grace when they fail, and to learn from those failures and pass on what we learn to others."

Jesus took great risks and was willing to pay for them. The crucifixion could be considered a symbol of failure, yet God reached into the tomb and opened it, shining the light of resurrection on the kind of reception that risk-taking for the sake of the Realm of God gets you. So far this year, what risks has your congregation taken for the sake of the Gospel? What risks have your committees taken? What risks are you prepared to take?



Thanks to:

Our Church Family and Friends

Cam Miller, guestbook and nametags

Sharon and Kevin Sandmeier, greeters

Usher Team 5

Andy Knight, reader

Emily Eckholm and Abby Thompson, acolytes

The Adult Choir

The Department of Hospitality, coffee hosts

Lorna and Dwight Schnabel, dishes

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Ted E. Huffman

Pastor and Teacher

Rev. Susan R. Huffman

Pastor and Teacher

Rev. Kathleen Batchelder

Pastor and Teacher

Julie Burton, Laura Switzer,

Pam Van Curen

Administrative Colleagues

Michael Bossen

Bell Choir Director

Dr. Stephen Branch

Adult Choir Director

Michael Ross

Organist

Gerry Boehrs

Moderator

Denise Webster

Treasurer

Rev. Dr. Henry Bradshaw

Pastor Emeritus

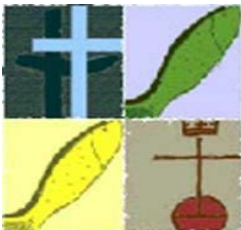
Jack Humke,

Doris Marie Strom

Choir Directors Emeriti

Lynnell Parrott

Organist Emerita



First Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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