

We remember in our prayers: Virginia Chubbuck, Amy Poole, Joe Dee, Kathleen Grigg, George & Pat Greene, Jeff & Jeanne Sewall, Dottie, a family member of the Boudin family and friend, Suzanne, Greg Foster and his son, Joel, a neighbor of Susan Greene, Ginny Kroitzch, The family of Joe Evans, Carol & Eric Johnsen, the Betancourt family, and our neighbors at the Edgecomb Green.

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Edgecomb Community Church, UCC

"God is still speaking"

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Edgecomb Community Church, UCC

"To bring together our communities in spirituality and loving service to humankind."

Service of Word

Second Sunday after Epiphany, January 15, 2023

WELCOME

Rev. Kate Pinkham

SOUNDING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE

Give Thanks

*LIGHTING THE CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsive*)

Elizabeth Dilly, UCC

God is our light and our salvation; whom shall we fear?

**God is our shelter and refuge on the days of trouble,
and our hope and joy on the days of celebration!**

Day after day, we seek God's face and the assurance of God's holy love:

**O God, do not turn from us or hide your face from us!
Be our guide and our light instead!**

One thing we ask of God:

**That we may live in God's dwelling place all the days of our life,
and never cease to behold the beauty of God's home.**

Beloved of God, enter this worship in thanksgiving,
for God is among and within us!

Thanks be to God!

*HYMN

Great is thy Faithfulness

vs. 1-2

*THE OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

**Gracious Light-Bearer, into the shadows of our isolation
you speak words of life and community.**

**Challenger of our lives, you call us from places we call home
to lead us more deeply into the world you love.**

**With your gentle, healing touch
you redeem the broken places of our lives
and you heal the wounded places of the earth.
Inspire our worship here this day,
so that we may receive liberation in your word,
and be filled to overflowing
to share your reconciling love throughout the earth.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

*Prayer response – 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.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*) Stephen Fearing

**God, our Light and Salvation,
forgive us for those moments when we have walked in darkness,
stumbling in the wilderness of quarrels, division, and bickering.
You have called us to follow you and to fish for people
but too often we think that *our* way is the *only* way to do your
will. Forgive us, Lord, for the brokenness that we bring upon
ourselves.**

(silence)

**God, the Stronghold of our Life,
hear our cry as we come to you for unity.
Send your Spirit to gather us as you desire us.
Remind us that unity does not mean uniformity.
Teach us that the “same mind” you call us to have
is not ours, but the mind of your Son, Jesus Christ,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:29-42

SERMON “What are you looking for?”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH & The Lord's Prayer

THE MORNING OFFERING

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God for all that love has done,
Creator, Christ and Spirit one.*

*The Prayer of Dedication (*in unison*) Psalm 40:1-11

**O God, we recognize that we have been blessed with great
abundance. In offering these gifts, may we be strengthened to
proclaim your faithfulness and your salvation this day and
always. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*HYMN *Sent Forth by God's Blessing* vs. 1-2

BENEDICTION (*responsive*)

What are you seeking?

What are you looking for?

Deep down, what do you need?

Deep down, what do we need

This seeking is the blessing.

This looking is the calling.

This needing is the epiphany.

So let us go forth to continue to discover together.

Amen.