



Transfiguration
SUNDAY

Welcome

*Wherever you are on Life's journey, you are welcome here at
First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury, United Church of Christ!*

Name Tags - please greet new and old friends by wearing your name tag. Visitors are encouraged to write your own name tag, available in our **Book of Friendship**, a black folder in each pew. Inside the black folder, you may also sign up for our mailing list, and ask to have someone contact you.

For children during worship:

- Activity baskets are available in the far right corner of the Sanctuary.
- Children's bulletins are available from an usher.

Childcare is provided

For all children birth through three years old in our staffed Nursery. Ushers will show you the way.

Units for the hearing impaired

Available on the back table.

Large Print bulletins with hymns are available.

Blue Prayer Cards: Are available in each pew. Members pray during the week over your sorrows or joys. Please place the cards in the offering plate, or in the Prayer Request Box on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary.

A gentle reminder : Please silence your cell phone at the start of the service.

Please recycle your bulletin

There is a basket on the back table or in the basket by the name tag racks.

Please join us for **fellowship and refreshments** in Gifford Hall after the service.

- Deacon** Nancy Burnett
- Lay Reader** Jean Feldkamp
- Refreshments** Deacons
- Flowers this Week** The flowers today are given in memory of Howard, Margaret and Steven Gallece by Paul and Diane Sainsbury.



CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Lynne Dolan, Senior Pastor
ldolan@fccsm.org

Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo, Interim Pastor
jim@fccsm.org

Curtis Smith, Director of Music
musicdirector@fccsm.org

Lauren Morse, Financial Administrator
finance@fccsm.org

Ellen Jones, Office Administrator
office@fccsm.org

Brian Scott, Sexton

OUR CHURCH'S MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of this Church is to come together as Christians to serve God by studying and listening to the Word and living by Christ's teachings. We are committed to reaching out through prayer, caring, sharing and fellowship.

First Congregational Church
19 Church Road
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
Telephone: 508.845.7286
Fax: 508.845.6561

www.fccsm.org
Join us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/FCCShrewsbury

CALENDAR

*A: Adkins Room~C: Chapel~CH: Cushing Hall~DR: Drama Room~
GH: Gifford Hall~K: Kitchen~HMR: Halliday Music Room~O: Office~P: Parlor~
S: Sanctuary~ST: Storytelling Room~SR: Sumner Room~Y: Youth Room*

Sunday	02/23	9:30 am	Sunday Worship
		11:00 am	Training Choir-MR
		11:00 am	Occasional Choir-C
		4:00 pm	Arts on the Green: Women of Note-S, GH
		7:00 pm	H.S. Youth Group-Y
Monday	02/24	10:00 am	Hands for Hope-P
		12:30 pm	Parkinson's Chorus-C
		7:00 pm	Security Meeting-A
Tuesday	02/25	7:00 pm	Mission & Outreach-A
		7:00 pm	Youth Ministry-Sm.Conf.Rm.
Wednesday	02/26	10:00 am	Staff Meeting
		6:00 pm	Youth Ringers-S
		7:00 pm	<i>Ash Wednesday Service-S</i>
Thursday	02/27	7:15 pm	Senior Choir-MR
		7:15 pm	O & A Task Force-A
Friday	02/28	9:30 am	Playgroup-Preschool Rm
		4:00 pm	Youth Singers-MR
		5:30 pm	Middle School Youth Group-Y
Sunday	03/01	9:30 am	Sunday Worship
		11:00 am	Curtis & Rachel Wedding Celebration-GH
		11:00 am	Training Choir-MR

COG Deadline for April is March 9

The First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury

United Church of Christ
Sunday, February 23, 2020
9:30 a.m.

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

*Welcome to First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury. We are glad you are here!
Sunday School is available for children Preschool through Middle School. Preschool and
Kindergarten begin prior to worship at 9:15am on the third floor and 1st - 8th are released to their
classes following the 'Time with Children'.*

Prelude "All the Way My Savior Leads Me"

D. Hagerty

Welcome & Announcements

Gather

Call to Worship

Leader: The world is changing rapidly before us;

People: God's love endures forever.

Leader: Our ways of understanding have been challenged and stretched;

People: God's love endures forever.

Leader: What we once knew has passed away, and we do not know what lies before us.

People: God's love endures forever.

Leader: May we move forward as the body of Christ, assured of God's presence;

People: May we embrace the future with hope,

Leader: May we know God's love endures forever. Amen.

*Hymn #85, NCH "I Woke Up This Morning"

Prayer of Confession *(unison)*

Holy God, we confess that we have betrayed the Good News by turning inward, serving ourselves first. We have not taken up our cross and we have been too quick to build up worldly possessions for ourselves. Forgive us for not helping to reveal Christ to the world. Forgive us for not living into Christ's example and serving those in need before serving ourselves. Draw us back to the way of Christ, so that we might know the reign of God is drawing near. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear this Good News: the love of God is beyond measure, and you are included in that love. Know that you are forgiven and thus freed to love and serve. Alleluia! Amen.

Anthem “The Beatitudes”

R. Avery & D. Marsh

Time With Children

Word

Readings: Psalm 50: 1-6

Page 451, Pew Bible

Mark 8: 27 - 9:8

Page 820, Pew Bible

***Hymn #391, NCH “Be Thou My Vision”**

Sermon: “Lead, Follow or Get Out of the Way”

Rev. Lynne Dolan

Response

Joys and Concerns

The Lord’s Prayer (*unison*)

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory “When the Saints”

Parish Pealers

K. Mitchell

***Doxology** (*Sung to the tune “Old Hundredth”*)

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.

Tub of Toiletries Collection: The Mission and Outreach Ministry is holding their annual toiletries, etc. collection for St. Anne’s Church. For many years, First Congregational Church, in conjunction with the Boy Scouts, has helped provide certain items that are in high demand but difficult for St. Anne’s to obtain. With your help, we hope to continue this tradition. Please see the list below for items needed. We request that all items be brought to FCC & placed in the “tub” on the stage by Friday **March 20** as the Boy Scouts will be delivering the items donated to St. Anne’s on Saturday March 21. Thank you so much for your continued support! Items needed: **Bar Soap, Shampoo & Conditioner, Baby Shampoo, Laundry Detergent, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Dental Floss, Deodorant, Toilet Paper, Tissues, Paper Towels, Paper Napkins, Diapers, Sanitary Napkins, Shaving Razors, Shaving Cream, Dish Soap, Flour, Sugar, Sugar Substitute, Mayonnaise, Mustard, Ketchup, Relish, Cooking Oils, Coffee (regular & decaf), Crackers (including Goldfish)**

IHN Evening of Hope: Reserve your spot now for IHN's 3rd Annual Evening of Hope - Taste, Toast and Take Care to be held Saturday, **March 14** from 7 to 10 pm at Temple Emanuel Sinai at 661 Salisbury Street in Worcester. The celebration will include delicious food paired with wine and a Silent Auction of amazing items. This annual signature event helps raise needed funds so IHN (Interfaith Hospitality Network) can continue to provide housing and assistance for homeless families. Admission is \$75 per person (it's a fundraiser) if you make a reservation at the Outreach table after the Sunday service, or you can make a reservation for \$78 per person at www.ihnworchester.org. Please show your support for IHN. Let's see if we can have a table of people from our Church attend. (If you would like to donate something for the Silent Auction, the form is available at the Outreach table.)

IHN is seeking a dedicated part-time director for the program (20 - 25 hours/week). The IHN Program Director is responsible for the overall management of the program, community relations, grant writing, fundraising and program development. Bachelor’s required. If you know someone who might be interested, please direct them to apply through Indeed.

Save the Date! Due to popular demand, we will be having another "Ladies Night at Hanover Theater." This year, we'll be seeing Miss Saigon on Thursday, **May 28** at 7:30 pm. Details coming soon. Tickets will be \$61 and will be sold at coffee hour starting in late February.

Super Saturday, March 14: Super Saturday is a collaborative effort of the newly launched Southern New England Conference, UCC, with presenters and attendees from different states and denominations. A day of workshops, forums, networking, worship and marketplace is offered.

At the Spring Super Saturday, the keynote speaker will be Rabbi Elan Babchuck, Founding Director of GLEAN Network, an incubator and network for faith leaders who seek to reimagine the role of religion in an ever-changing world yearning for meaning, belonging, and justice. He serves as the Director of Innovation at CLAL, a think-tank focused on the future of faith in America.

You will have the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of workshops. The list of workshops and descriptions can be found on the SNEUCC website.

<https://www.sneucc.org>. You may also find brochures and registration forms in the church office. **Registration closes February 29.**

LOOKING AHEAD

February 23	AED Training Arts on the Green: Women of Note
February 26	Ash Wednesday
March 2	Bible Study Begins
March 4	Lenten Series Begins

AED Training: The security committee is pleased to announce that an AED has been installed in Gifford Hall. Training on how to use the AED will take place for anyone interested on **February 23** right after the church service in the Chapel. The training is estimated to take about 10-15 minutes and will be conducted by Tonya Hautala, a certified American Heart Association instructor. Tonya has also offered to conduct an American Heart CPR training at a later date for those interested in more extensive training and certification. If interested in the CPR certification, please contact Ellen at office@fccsm.org.

Arts on the Green presents: Women of Note: A Capella Chorus

Join us Sunday **February 23** at 4:00pm for a concert featuring music from the 1930's, the rock and roll era and the new millennium. Women of Note is an award winning barbershop style chorus based in Hudson, Massachusetts.

Bible Study: A Lenten Monday afternoon bible study on the Book of Job will begin on Monday, **March 2** at 1:00pm in the Adkins Room with a BYO brown bag at 12:30 pm. Contact Rev. Jim Matarazzo if interested at jim@fccsm.org.

Lenten Series: "Behold, I set before Thee an Open Door" (Rev. 3:8)

What does it mean to welcome the stranger? Wednesdays, 7:00pm* March 4, 18, 25 & April 1 in the Youth Room. Join Rev. Lynne Dolan and Rev. James Matarazzo as we explore specific needs and questions regarding a variety of seekers including LGB, transgender, racial minorities, refugees, asylees, homeless, the disabled...*Join us at 6:30 for a light soup and bread supper.

Youth Group:

Tonight - Youth Group Meeting at 7:00pm...bring your favorite board game (non-electronic)

February 26 - (Wed.) Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm

March 1 - Youth Group Meeting at 7:00pm

New Youth Group: We are starting a middle school youth group in February. All youth and their friends in grades 5-8 are welcome to join us on Friday, **February 28** from 5:30 to 7:00. We will share dinner, discussion and fun together. We plan to meet the 4th Friday of the month through May. In June we will plan a special end of the year celebration. Please let Rev. Lynne Dolan ldolan@fccsm.org or Jenn Shaw jiffer2@townisp.com know if you have any questions.

Occasional Kids Choir for Easter starting March 8! All children Kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome to be part of an Occasional Kids choir that will sing with the children's choirs on Easter. You are invited to join the Training choir for rehearsals beginning on **Sunday, March 8**, at 11:00am in the choir room. For more information or to indicate your interest, contact Jennifer Shaw, jiffer2@townisp.com

Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

You have promised us, O Lord, that if we give up our lives to you, we will know the abundance you offer. Accept these gifts of our treasure and our deeds, given for the sake of those who need it more than we do. Bless our giving and guide our actions, for the sake of the one we follow, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Hymn #494, NCH "We Who Would Valiant Be"**

Benediction

Postlude "Trumpet Tune"

J. Aubert

**Those who are able, please stand.*

PLEASE PRAY WITH US

Lord of light, as you were transfigured on the mountain, your followers were given a glimpse of your glory. Shine your light in our lives so that we will know how truly marvelous you are. Amen.

Nolan Schloemer, Bonnie & Bill Gibbs, Donald & Trudy Desfosse, Jay Dev Chandra, Joie Hodge, Anna M. Kane, Linda Mitrano, Charles Monroe, Phyllis Rich, Chris Laurson, Gary & Barb Sampson, Nedra Billouris, Sandy Wilson, Bill Siegmann, Richie & Diane Pelletier as well as his sister Anne and his medical team, Helen Stuart, Donna and Beau Meyer and family.

... also all military personnel, first responders, and all who protect and care for us.

