

# First Congregational Church of Pelham United Church of Christ

*An Open and Affirming Church - Sharing What God's Love Looks Like*

**January 18, 2026 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

*+Please rise in body or spirit.*

TOLLING THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME

INTROIT

"Light Dawns For The Righteous"

Hal Hopson

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. We live sustained by God's presence and love. **Thanks be to God.**

As we mourn the wounds of God's children, **God weeps with us.**

As we give thanks for brothers and sisters who have lived in faith, **God gives thanks with us.**

As we struggle for justice, **God struggles with us.**

As we strive for peace, **God strives with us.**

As we work to build the beloved community, **God works with us.**

As we offer our gifts to all, **God blesses us.**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. **Sustained by God's presence and love we worship God.**

+HYMN

"God Of All Love"

#492

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

~written by Eric Thomas, inspired by a quote from Dorothy Day

**God of justice, we confess that in the pursuit of our own dreams and desires, we have not always been civil, not always humane, not always right. Guided by your Spirit, what we would like to do is change the world – make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as You intended them to do. Help us to be your witnesses, by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute – the rights of the worthy and the unworthy poor, so that we can, with your help, change the world. Enlarge our hearts to love each other, to love our neighbor, and to love our enemy as our friend. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalms 40

pg 621

WHAT'S IN THE BAG

+SINGING PRAISES TO GOD

"Gloria Patri"

#558

***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***

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 49:1-7 and 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

CHORAL ANTHEM

"They Shall See God"

Paul B. Svenson

*"How blessed are the pure in heart, open and loving. They shall see God. Let the truth of God make you wiser, true believers, joyous followers. Let the truth locked deep inside rise and be free. Let the love within be a roadmap, light your journey, guide your footsteps. Then will our hearts be pure, and we shall see God. All the prophets and the sages- asking where does heaven start- heard the answer through the ages: Search no further than your heart. And Jesus walked among us to show us a new way, comfort the weary, give the blind sight, and bring on a brand new day. And didn't he say, 'These things I do, you shall do too.'? Living your life in love, you shall see God."*

REFLECTION

## REMEMBERING OUR COVENANT

**We covenant one with another to seek and respond to the Word and Will of God. It is our purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of this church to be witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in all the world, while worshiping God, and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our ancestors, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Realm of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.**

+HYMN "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" #434

## PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

SUNG CALL TO PRAYER "There's a Song in the Air" #134 vs 3

SILENCE

SHARING OUR PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*SUNG*) #412

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

+SUNG RESPONSE

"The Doxology"

#563

***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. Amen.***



**venmo**

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are, that we may praise you not with our words only, but with our whole lives. AMEN**

+HYMN "I Am The Light Of The World" insert

+BENEDICTION

+SUNG BENEDICTION "Go Tell It On The Mountain" #110, refrain

***"Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills, and everywhere.  
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born."***

## POSTLUDE

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Pastor: Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight

Director of Music: Tom Seniow

Bell Choir Director: Sharon Hone

Sexton: Lupe Nova

Seminarian: Heather Ivone Milliken

Organist: Carolyn (Sue) Howard

Administrator: Stephanie Noel

Deacons: Joe Calabro and Paula Fowlie