

Our Worship of God

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2010

Gathering for Praise & Celebration...

PRELUDE Vincent Luebeck

Now We Praise God Almighty
NUN LASST UNS GOTT DEM HERREN

*CALL TO WORSHIP (*signifies throughout, *please stand, if able*)

We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole hearts! Before all, we will sing your praise!

We bow before you, O Exalted One, and give you thanks for your many gifts!

People, O people, let us sing the glory of God's name and never cease in giving God our praise!

For though the Lord is high, our God regards the lowly and offers strength to the oppressed!

WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O LORD, WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS! BEFORE THE PEOPLES, WE WILL RECOUNT ALL YOUR RIGHTEOUS DEEDS AND HOW YOU HAVE SAVED US. ALLELUIA! AMEN!

-based on Psalm 138

*GATHERING HYMN NCH 277

Holy, Holy, Holy
NICAEA

CIRCLE SONG (sung as our children come forward)

Come and join the circle, come and take my hand/Come and join the circle, come and be my friend/Gather round and see what the world can be/Come and join the circle, come and share God's word with me.

Come and join the circle, come and take my hand/Come and join the circle, come and be my friend/Gather round and see what the world can be/Come and join the circle, come and share God's light with me.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP TIME

(A special moment tailored for our youngest disciples—of whatever age!)

From the Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-8 [OT 597-98]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (offered seated, *in unison*)

Creator God, you have drawn us from deep within ourselves into your loving net of grace. Strengthen us to cast such a net of justice and mercy into the depths of this community and world, that all might feel enfolded by your realm. Amen.

SILENCE

A COLLECT FOR THE DAY

*PRAISE RESPONSE

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings/bear you on the breath of dawn/make you to shine like the sun/and hold you in the palm of God's hand [repeat].

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

(With joy, you are invited to offer the peace of Christ to those about you!)

Listening for the "Still-Speaking" God...

From the Gospels: Luke 5:1-11 [NT 58]

ANTHEM Austin Lovelace

I Come with Joy
Chancel Choir

THE SERMON

Fishing Deep, Fishing Shallow
The Rev. James D. Herron

*SERMON HYMN NCH 173

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore
PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

Responding to God's Incredible Generosity...

A CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS

Community Announcements & Opportunities for Ministry

(A full listing can be found on the back of your bulletin)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silence & Centering

Petitions end with: "God, in your mercy..."

The people respond with: "Lord, hear our prayer."

PRAYER OF THE SAVIOR (traditional, using "debts/debtors")

THE OFFERTORY

Called to Stewardship

Music at the Offertory

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
NETTLETON

Cathleen Kuras, harpist

Presentation of Gifts

*The Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow/Praise God all creatures here below/Alleluia! Alleluia!/Praise God above, ye heav'nly host/Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost/Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Mic Dawson

(Please remain standing for the closing hymn)

OUR CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Setting for Holy Communion

Breaking Bread, Pouring Wine

Prayer of Blessing

Receiving the Sacrament

(Please retain bread and cup until prompted)

*COMMISSIONING HYMN NCH 497

Guide My Feet
GUIDE MY FEET

*BENEDICTORY BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Piet Post

Finale and Chorale: Holy, Holy, Holy
NICAEA

This Week at First!!!

- Sun, Feb 7 **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany/Souper Bowl Sunday/ Communion Sunday** (White or Gold)
Worship I, with Holy Communion (Chapel), 8:45 a.m.
Chancel Choir rehearsal (Sanctuary), 9:00 a.m.
Adult Education featuring our long-running *Church & Society Forum* which gathers in the Parlor for "Touring Our Church's Artistic Treasures," with Wayne Gustafson; *Your Faith and You* with Randy Foreman meeting in the Pastor's Study; and Teresa Kennedy's *Primetimer's* (55+) *Study-Time* meeting in Teresa's office—all three at 10:00 a.m.
Melody Choir gathers for rehearsal (Children's Choir Room), 10:00 a.m.
Worship II, with choirs (Sanctuary), 11:00 a.m.
"Journey to Starbucks" for Youth, grades 7-12 (meet Kimmie in the Narthex), 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School for grades Pre-K thru 6th, following Children's Worship Time, 11:10 a.m.
Nursery available for infants & toddlers (ask usher for location).
Coffee & Conversation before and after every service
- Billings Humanist Association** meets (Library), 1:00 p.m.
Gamblers Anonymous meets (Library), 8:00 p.m.
- Mon, Feb 8 COMMUNITY DAY CARE (open daily), 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Nimble Thimble Quilters meet (Fellowship Hall), 9:00 a.m.
Grief Group led by Teresa Kennedy meets (Parlor), 1:00 p.m.
Boy Scout Troop #2 meets (Fellowship Hall), 7:00 p.m.
- Tue, Feb 9 **Cultural Criticism Book** group meets (Library), 7:00 a.m.
1st Church Staff meets (Pastor's Study), 12:30-3:00 p.m.
Diaconate meets (Library), 7:00 p.m.
Outreach Committee meets (Pastor's Study), 7:00 p.m.
- Wed, Feb 10 **Lectionary Lunch Bunch** meets (Library), 12:00 noon
Youth/Children's dinner and programming (Fellowship Hall), 6:00 p.m.
Chancel Choir rehearsal (Choir Room), 7:30 p.m.
Gamblers Anonymous meets (Library), 8:00 p.m.
- Sun, Feb. 14 **Birthday Cake Sunday**—Come downstairs with others to celebrate your birthday—no matter when it is!

HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS

Those we are remembering to hold up this week: Jessica Stickney, Jim Duffy, Carol Lokken, Terisa Hawk, Betty Blanke, Evelyn Lile, Laura Brown, Earlene Davis, Alice Griffiths, Randy Foreman, Bob Zent, Ken White, Sally Spooner, and Matt Jaeger. If you'd like to add a name to the prayer list, please call Jim, Charlie, or Teresa at 245-6477 or email us at firstchurch@firstchurchbillings.org.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Appreciation is expressed for those assisting in our worship today—our *Greeters*: Mark and Carol Lubbers, and Kim Woeste; our *Ushers*: Jim and Helen Fergus, Kay Doll, and Donna Degner; our *Liturgist*: Mic Dawson; and Cathleen Kuras for playing during Holy Communion.

PLEASE HELP!!!

We are again asking anyone who has access to the internet at home or at work, and who *can* receive the Congregationalist electronically to supply us with an updated email address. Every issue printed and mailed via the Post Office costs us more than a dollar apiece—yet costs NOTHING when sent and viewed electronically! Additionally, you can enlarge the print to any size you wish with email. If you can only receive it by mail, however, please make sure we have your current home or business address, then help us make sure we are only sending you one. In this economy, as we try to be better stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us, it's important we save wherever possible, while continuing to keep our folks informed. Thank you.

Open & Affirming Statement

As a church committed to inclusion, we affirm Christ's call to love God with all that we are and love our neighbors as ourselves; to invite, receive, and value all people regardless of gender, race, age, culture, ethnic background, sexual orientation, economic circumstance, family configuration, and difference in ability.

All who seek to affirm the love of Christ in their lives are welcomed to participate in this community and share fully in its life and ministry. In response to the grace which Christ has given us, we glorify God, we commit ourselves to growth in the Spirit, and we rejoice in the worth, gifts, and dignity of every person as a child of God.

We're now on facebook!

Become a friend of "Billings First"
and get important information online and updated daily!



First Congregational United Church of Christ

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The Rev. James D. Herron, Senior Minister John Crist, Moderator
The Rev. Kim Woeste, Assoc. Min./Christian Education & Mission
Teresa Kennedy, Associate/Pastoral Care & Older Adult Ministry
Laura Blodgett, Chancel Choir Barbara Dobesh, Organ/Piano
Steve Plagemeyer, Asst. Organ/Piano Jo Lokken, Melody Choir
Kimmie Harris, Youth, Children & Young Adult Ministry
Susan Ogden, Parish Nurse Jan Duffy, Bookkeeper
Charlie Beck, Senior Administrative Assistant/Office Manager

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY February 7, 2010

Winter Worship Schedule

Worship I, with Holy Communion, 8:45 a.m.
Adult Education/Melody Choir, 10:00 a.m.
Worship II, with choirs, 11:00 a.m.
"Journey to Starbucks" for Youth, 11:00 a.m.
Activities for Children (Pre-K thru 4th), 11:10 a.m.
Nursery provided

Coffee & Conversation before and after each service

Welcome! If this is your first time participating in worship at First Church, we hope you will indeed find God's presence among us. Thank you for making today's worship and celebration a part of your own spiritual journey! For your convenience, large print copies of the hymns are available. Printed sermons, brochures, the *Congregationalist*, and other information about the church can be found near the white board in the Narthex. If you have further questions, please just ask! Every member of this church is a minister. They can help. *Rejoice!*