

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

February 2, 2014

Fourth Sunday in the Season of Epiphany

Those who are able may stand where marked (*).

Gathering Music #548

“As the Deer”

Welcome and Announcements

Mary Menzies

Calling the 211th Annual Meeting to Order

Moderator—Tina Peabody

Opening Prayer

Prelude and Ministry of the Acolyte

Responsive Reading:

Matthew 5:1-12

One: Are you empty, unable to care for yourself?

All: God will bless you with heaven’s own wealth.

One: Are you mourning the loss of a life you once lived?

All: God will bless you and comfort you.

One: Are you meek, unwilling to insist on your due?

All: God will bless you and give you the world.

One: Are you hungry and thirsty for God’s loving will to be done on earth as in heaven?

All: God will bless you and fill you and quench your thirst with gifts of right living and love.

One: Are you kind, open-hearted, a maker of peace?

All: God will bless you with intimate friendship and joy.

One: Are you facing reproach, exclusion, resistance, false accusations, poverty and pain, because you cry out for fairness to all, especially the powerless poor?

All: God will bless you! Rejoice and be glad! You will live in God’s loving presence forever!

*Hymn: #805 “If My People’s Hearts Are Humbled”

*Confession: *(1 Corinthians 1:27, 28)* **God of abundant life, you chose the weak and the foolish of this world to put to shame the strong and the wise. You chose what was low and despised so that we would exult in your presence and not in ourselves. Today, we approach you, struggling under the burden of our wisdom and strength, and we ask you to humble our hearts so that we may receive your blessings and know your presence. Grant us the grace to let go of the things that blind us your Reign that is already here; and show us how we can dedicate ourselves to your Reign that is to come. We pray in the humble grace of Jesus. AMEN**

* Assurance of Pardon

* Gloria Patri #813

* Statement of Faith *(inner cover of hymnal)*

Special Music

“Lord Jesus, Gentle Savior”

Gockel/Pelz

Moments of Concern and Celebration (please fill out a blue card)

Pastoral Prayer and Savior’s Prayer (“trespasses”)

Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Offertory”

Beck

*Doxology #815 with Offertory Prayer

Scripture:

Micah 6:1-8

Sermon:

“This Simple, Peaceful Calling”

*Hymn *(insert)* “As We Gather at Your Table”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(see insert)

*Hymn *(insert)* “Christ, You Call Us All to Service”

*Benediction

*Response: #713 “Seek Ye First”

*Ministry of the Acolyte and Postlude