

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**United Church of Christ**  
**September 29, 2013**

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

Gathering Music: #456 and on screen “Find Us Faithful”

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Prayer *Ann Craxton*

Prelude and Ministry of the Acolyte

Call to Worship *Isaiah 43:18-21*

One: God, as we honor the former things you’ve done,  
and thank you for the love you showed of old,

**All: Help us celebrate the past and let it go—  
to make room for the new thing you are doing!**

One: Look! Like a refreshing spring, your Newness gushes forth!  
We feel its coolness on the desert wind.

**All: Look! A pathway opens where no pathway was before!  
A new road for your liberated people!**

One: Let all the wild things honor you!  
Let all creation praise you!

**All: You lead us on an unknown path  
by rivers in the desert!**

One: Come then, God’s beloved, thirsty people.  
Rise up! Sing your praise to God,  
who gives us water in the desert.

**All: Come then, God’s beloved, captive people.  
Rise up! Sing your praise to God,  
who comes with power to set us free!**

\*Hymn (*insert*) “They Did Not Build in Vain”

Anthem “Come and Journey with a Savior” *Haugen*

Children’s Time

Moments of Concern and Celebration

(Please fill out a blue card in the pew)

Pastoral Prayer with response:

**Help us to find your generous word  
on our lips and deep in our heart of hearts;  
and when we have found your loving will for us,  
give us the courage to do it.**

Savior’s Prayer (trespasses)

Worship of God with our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Music

\*Doxology #815

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Hymn: #686 “O God Our Help in Ages Past”

Scripture: Mark 1:14-22

Sermon: “Come and Journey”

\*Hymn: #589 “Here I Am, Lord”

\*Benediction

*We’ll continue our worship in another form as we go downstairs  
where we’ll remember and celebrate the story of our church, and  
open ourselves with joyful hearts to the new thing God is doing.*

\*Postlude and Ministry of the Acolyte