



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
United Church of Christ  
Order of Worship

*\*All who are able please stand*

April 26, 2015

10 AM

**Meditation**

*“The solution to the problems of the day is the awakening of the consciousness of humanity to the divinity within.”*

*~Hazart Inayat Khan~*

*Please join us in a period of meditative silence before the Service.*

**PRELUDE**      *“The Savior is Waiting”*      Jay Chandler  
Ralph Carmichael

**GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS\*\*\***      Pastor Frank  
\*\*\**If you have an announcement to share, please come to the front of the church.*

**\*INVOCATION** (*responsively*)      Pastor Frank  
In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us praise the name of the Lord

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN#15(Red)**  
*“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**      Katie Smith  
Leader: Once the cosmos was empty. There was a void. But then, God  
Created! In the beginning there was Light.

**People: The Light that shines forever!**

Leader: In the beginning was the Word.

**People: The Word of hope and delight!**

Leader: In the beginning there was Love.

**People: Love took a body and lived with us!**

Leader: In the beginning there was Blessing.

**People: Blessing unending, feeding the heart!**

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God has done everything well.

It's almost time for us to begin. Let's call the Spirit to help!

**Let Us Pray:**

**Come Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and lives. Kindle in us the fire of your love and we will be recreated. Renew us and the face of the earth.**

**Let us sing:**

**\*Hymn #492 (blue) “Spirit of the Living God” (sing through twice)**

**ANTHEM:**      *“What Brings Us Together”*      Choir  
Jay Althouse

**A TIME FOR THE CHILDREN IN ALL OF US**      Pastor Frank

**“JESUS LOVES ME”**      Jay Chandler  
(*Children are dismissed during “Jesus Loves Me” for Sunday School.*)

**SCRIPTURES**      David Smith

**EPISTLE:**      Acts 9: 1-19

**GOSPEL:**      John 10: 11-18

*Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Praise be to God.*

**\*GLORIA PATRI #734 (blue)**

**SERMON: “When the Wrong Road Becomes the Highway to Heaven”**  
Pastor Frank

**\*HYMN: #348 (Blue) “Softly and Tenderly”**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**CHORAL RESPONSE**      Choir

**OFFERTORY**      *“Oh How He Loves You and Me”*      Jay Chandler  
Kurt Kaiser

**\*DOXOLOGY #34 (blue) #514 (Red)**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN #496(Blue)**

*“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”*

**BENEDICTION**

**RESPONSE**      Choir

**POSTLUDE**      *“He’s Everything to Me”*      Jay Chandler  
Ralph Carmichael

**ANNOINTING OF THE SICK FOLLOWING SERVICE**

**GO** and Make Disciples



### Our Vision

An Active, Welcoming and  
Growing Community of Faith

*We always **welcome visitors** to join us at worship. We are glad that you are here. We encourage you to sign a visitor card, found in the pew, or to sign a guest book at the entry doors. If you leave a visitor card in the Offering Plate or your mailing address in the guest book, we can mail you our newsletter, the Tower Times, to let you get to know us better. Please join us for hospitality in the Fellowship Hall following Worship so that we may meet you and greet you personally. The Lord Bless your time here with his overflowing grace.*

**The First Congregational Church**  
**978-632-2142**

**Email: [fccgardner@gmail.com](mailto:fccgardner@gmail.com)**

**Pastor: Frank McKenzie**

**Christian Education Director: Sue Rader**

**Organist: Jay Chandler**

**Administrative Assistant: Marion McCann**

**Custodian: Dale Rader**

**Deacon: Joan Mellanson**

**Trustee: Dale Rader**

**Fellowship: Sue Menard and Lee Wilkins**

**Ushers**

**Nursery: is available for parents use**

## THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ  
28 Green Street  
Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

April 26, 2015



*As the First Congregational Church of Gardner, our Mission together through Jesus Christ is to nurture, inspire and support ourselves and each other in our daily lives through worship, fellowship, education and service so that we may reflect God's love and grace in our homes, our community and the world.*