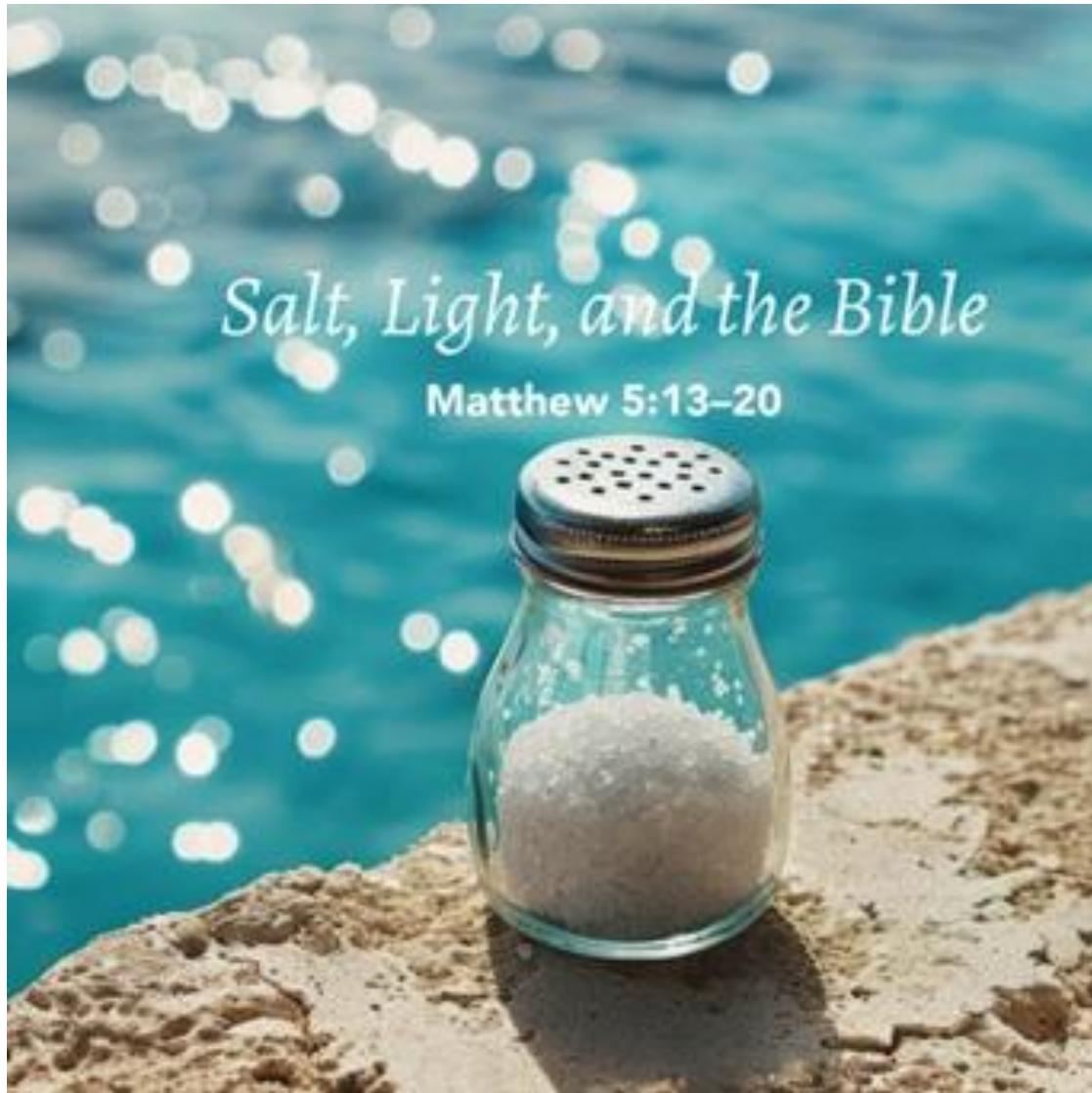


First Congregational Church of Georgetown



February 1, 2026
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

7 Andover Street
Georgetown, MA 01833
978.352.8443
www.fccgeorgetownma.org
churchoffice@fccgeorgetownma.org
Office Hours: 9am-noon on T, W, Th

Gathering

Gathering Music/Prelude “One Little Candle”

Newton

Welcome & Announcements

Introit/Centering Music “Before the Cross”

Maker

* Call to Worship

One: Make ready a pathway for our God.

Many: Clean out the debris in our hearts and our closets.

One: Clear out a space in our calendars.

Many: Put aside any sense of unworthiness

One: And focus on the One who came to love us.

Many: Prepare a place in our homes and hearts as we worship you.

* Hymn V1,3,4,5

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

George Croly

Frederick Atkinson

Spir - it of God, de - scand up - on my heart;
 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 Hast thou not bid us love thee, our true Light?
 Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;
 Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,

warm it with hope, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 All, all thine own; soul, heart, and strength, and mind;
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear;
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,
 no an - gel vis - it - ant, no o - pening skies,
 I see thy cross, my bea - con in the night;
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
 the bad - tism of the heaven - de - scand - ed Dove.

and make me love thee as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find!
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 My heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

Words 1867 Music 1870

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

"Smile & Brighten Your Corner"

Chaplin/Gabriel

* Doxology

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.

* Prayer of Dedication

The gifts we offer the world are a sign of our love for you, O God. We pray that our money be used to feed the hungry. We pray that our lives be used for the benefit of your people that in our sharing, they may come to know you all the more. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament

Psalm 15

Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

Message

"Peer Pressure"

Holy Communion

Prayer of Confession

Holy and gracious God, in Christ all things are made new, including us. Yet, we confess that the "old self" often has more sway than the "new

self" your life offers. We are plagued by fear, worry and doubt despite our new identity as your beloved children. Anger, resentment, and hatred wreak havoc in our relationships, even though you are the Prince of Peace. We are consumed with regrets, shame, and guilt despite the forgiveness you freely give us. We want it to be otherwise, Lord! We want to live fully in the joy of your salvation. Through your forgiving love reconcile us to you and to one another, that we may trust in your goodness, and rest in your grace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

One: Jesus taught us to love our neighbor and when we fall short, he allows us always to begin again. By the grace of God, we are forgiven to walk in the newness of life.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution & Consecration

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of light and love, we are grateful for the gracious invitation to your table. As we have been filled with the bread of life and the cup of forgiveness, we ask that you also fill us with your Spirit. Empower us to share the good news of the gospel through our words and actions so those who don't know you will learn that you are the bread of life and the living water. We look forward to the day your kingdom is fulfilled so no one suffers from hunger or thirst. We pray this in the name of the One who reminded us that we are salt and light...

The Lord's Prayer

Sending

*Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

American Spiritual

This little light of mine,
This great joy I have,
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine;
All through the night,
This little light of mine,

This little light of mine,
This great joy I have,
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine,
All through the night,
This little light of mine,

This little light of mine;
This great joy I have,
Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon - na let it shine,
All through the night,
This little light of mine,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Circa 1920

*Benediction

* Postlude/Sending Music "I Am the Light of the World" Thurman

Steeple Lighting

*The steeple will be lit during the month of February
in memory of Dr. Philip Rosene
by the Rosene family.*

Today's Worship Team

Minister	Rev. Debra Adams
Director of Music	Robert Knapp
Organist	Emily Knapp
Musicians	FCC Band
Lay Worship Leader	Janice Murphy

Meetings & Events

Sunday, Feb 1	12 noon	Bells Rehearsal
Tuesday, Feb 3	7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal
Sunday, Feb 8	9:30 am	Bells Rehearsal
	11:30 am	Pick Up Super Bowl Subs
	12:00 noon	Bells Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Diaconate Meeting
Sunday, Feb 15	11:30 am	Church Growth Workshop
Tuesday, Feb 17	6:30 pm	Shrove Tues / Ash Wednesday

Electronic Donations

You can make an electronic donation using this QR code.



SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Delicious subs made fresh by your
church family – support us
while enjoying the big game!



Order yours electronically by February 7
Pick up or local delivery, 11:30 AM on February 8
<https://fccgeorgetownma.org/superbowl-subs/>

THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPPING WITH US!

First Congregational Church is an engaging congregation rooted in Christian tradition, but open to new expressions. With openness of heart and responding to God's compassionate grace, we reach out in service to the community and the world! If you would like to learn more about our congregation and its ministries or would like a call or visit from our pastor, please complete the visitor card found in the pews and place it in the offering basket.

EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME

First Congregational Church is an **"Open and Affirming"** congregation of the **United Church of Christ**, which means that wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Because we believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are blessed and loved equally by God, we welcome persons of every age, gender, race, national origin and ethnicity, marital status, family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical health and abilities, economic and social status, political affiliation, education, and faith background. We also welcome and encourage all people to participate and share their talents and energy in worship and sacraments, leadership positions, ordained ministry, lay ministry, learning, service, mission, and fellowship.

A COMMUNITY THAT AIMS FOR HOSPITALITY

We have large-print programs, hearing assistance devices, wheelchair and elevator accessibility, and all-gender restrooms. We also serve gluten-free bread and grape juice during our communion services. For those wishing to worship with us virtually, we live stream our services at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84545128875>. While we strive to anticipate needs, please share any ideas you have for ways to expand our hospitality for all.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We encourage children to actively participate in our worship service; this is where they learn the most about the Christian family — by experiencing it! Children are encouraged to sing, clap, wiggle, fidget, offer prayer requests, share a sign of peace, and receive communion.