

*Epiphany Sunday*  
January 7, 2018  
11:00 a.m.

# Welcome to Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*

*Hearing-assistance receivers, large-print hymnals, and bulletins are available  
for your use. Please ask an usher for these items.*

*If you need a place to calm your infant during worship, please feel free to go  
to the Saegmuller Room on the lower level where the service is live-streamed.  
The nursery is open all morning in Room 104 of the Hunter Building.*

## **Rock Spring is a progressive Christian community—**

welcoming, compassionate, and joyful. We love and care for one another. We strive to discern God's still-speaking voice through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We work for peace and social, economic, and ecological justice. We seek a greater understanding of others, and thus ourselves, recognizing that all persons are members of our one human family. Our community prepares and sustains us as we work together to bring about the world that we believe God intends.

## **Sunday School Classes meet in the Hunter Building**

- 10:00 a.m.      Adult Ed Video Class – Room 207  
                         Faith + Life – Room 205
- 11:00 a.m.      Preschool – Room 103  
                         K-1st Grade – Room 105/107  
                         2nd-3rd Grade – Room 206  
                         4th-5th Grade – Room 204  
                         6th-8th Grades – Room 207\*  
                         \*Grades 6–8 remain in worship  
                         on the 1st Sunday of each month

Professional nursery care is available all morning in Room 104.

# Order of Worship

*An asterisk (\*) indicates an invitation to stand.*

*This is not  
any map you know.  
Forget longitude.  
Forget latitude.  
Do not think  
of distances  
or of plotting  
the most direct route...*

*You cannot see it all,  
cannot divine the way  
it will turn and spiral,  
cannot perceive how  
the road you walk  
will lead you finally inside,  
through the labyrinth  
of your own heart  
and belly  
and lungs.*

*But step out  
and you will know  
what the wise who traveled  
this path before you  
knew:  
the treasure in this map  
is buried  
not at journey's end  
but at its beginning.  
~Jan Richardson*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **\* PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*The ringing of the bell is an indication that the Introit is about to begin.*

**CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT** ----- (More Music #6 refrain)

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church*

*Gathered today.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather:

**All: a community of faith in God's subversive world.**

We gather to celebrate

**that no darkness can extinguish light,**

to remember

**that love will always be more powerful than death,**

and to trust that

**peace will always be stronger than violence.**

We gather,

**people of faith in the light of God's world.**

Welcome to worship.

**\* HYMN #173** ----- Dix

*As With Gladness*

**WITNESS OF SCRIPTURE** ----- Isaiah 60:1-6

**WORSHIP THROUGH MUSIC**-----Kings of Orient

*We Three Kings*

*Leah Kane, Abby Martinage, and Sofia Sanz-Kimura*

*(The Congregation is invited to sing Verses 1 and 5 with refrain; the*

*Magi will sing verses 2-4.)*

**FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US**

**\* SENDING SONG** -----We Send You On Your Way

*As the congregation sings the Sending Song, children through 5th grade will exit through the Transept door near the piano for Sunday School.*

Now with loving hearts, we send you on your way.

Open up your minds, to grow and learn each day.

Make a better world with what you do and say.

Take these blessings with you each day. *(Repeat as needed.)*

**WITNESS OF SCRIPTURE** -----Matthew 2:1-12

**SERMON** ----- Kathy Dwyer

\* **HYMN #**-----Christ, Be Our Light  
*Christ, Be Our Light*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)**

Holy One\*, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our  
trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever.  
Amen.

*\*May use Creator, Father, Parent, Abba*

### **GATHERING OF THE OFFERING**

Jesus said, "I was hungry and you gave me food.

**I was thirsty and you gave me drink.**

I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

**I was naked and you clothed me.**

I was sick and you visited me.

**I was in prison and you came to me."**

When did we see you in need and minister to you?

**"Inasmuch as you did it to the least of these,  
my brothers and sisters, you did it to me."**

Let all you do be done in love.

## **OFFERTORY**

\* **PRESENTATION**----- Tallis' Canon

Praise life that makes us change and grow

Praise love that makes compassion flow

Praise peace that ends all strife and fear

Praise hands that work for justice here. Amen.

## **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**HYMN**----- *Come to the Table of Grace*  
*As we sing, children who have been participating in Sunday School will*  
*rejoin their families for communion.*  
Come to the table of grace (peace, love, joy)  
Come to the table of grace  
This is Christ's table not just yours or mine  
Come to the table of grace.

## **INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

## **COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

## **SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

*All are welcome at Christ's table. You will take the bread from one*  
*server and dip it in the chalice held by the other server. Anyone who*  
*is unable to come forward should indicate this to an usher and*  
*communion will be brought to them. Grape juice is served, and gluten-*  
*free bread is available.*

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

\* **HYMN #442**----- *Siyahamba*  
*We Are Walking*

## **\* BENEDICTION**

## **VOLUNTARY**

**SERVICE CREDITS:** The cover image is An Ancient Light by Jan Richardson, [www.janrichardsonimages.com](http://www.janrichardsonimages.com). The Call to Worship was written by Cheryl Lawrie and posted on [hold this space], <http://holdthisspace.org.au/>.

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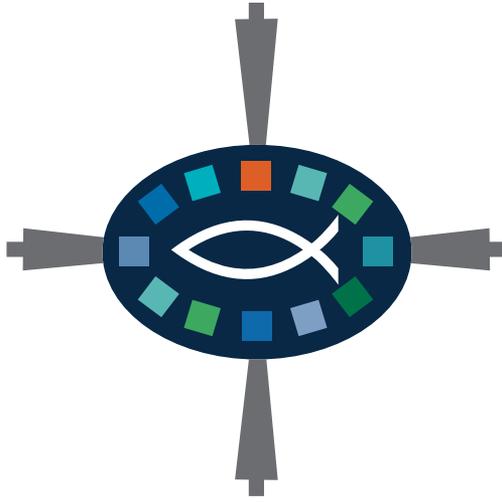
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# Rock Spring

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Learning  
Justice-Seeking Caring  
Faith-Filled  
Joyful Generous  
Inclusive

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