

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We practice open communion: Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward down the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. (Wheat-free rice flour bread is available on the trays, cut into circles.) Cups with the purple ribbon around them are filled with wine.

* INVITATION Rev. Corzine

* SURSUM CORDA Plainsong

Leader: The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
 People: Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* COMMUNION PRAYER

* SANCTUS Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The congregation may be seated.

L: ...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

P: Christ has died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again.

(The Communion Prayer continues)

L: ...Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

P: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives for ever. Amen.

L: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

P: Our Father, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

ANTHEM Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring, BWV 147 J.S. Bach

Please remain seated for the Prayer of Thanksgiving

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Rev. Corzine

L: Let us pray.

All: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE Rev. Corzine

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN 69 O Morning Star, how fair and bright
Wie schön leuchtet

* BENEDICTION Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE *Wie schon leuchtet* Johann Pachelbel

Please be seated for the postlude

Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found peace and grace here and invite you to return often. If you would like more information or have any questions about First Church, please ask anyone wearing a name-tag. We'd be delighted to assist you. Please join us for a time of fellowship in the Parish Hall.

CRUCIFER: Erin Murray

ACOLYTES: Matty Provenzano & Mia Provenzano

MUSIC: The First Church Choir, Marti Rideout, guest organist and director.

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God by the Flower Fund of First Congregational Church.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY

Rev. Ahrens – Broad Street

Rev. Corzine – Christian Education wing

Marty Worth – Ninth Street

First Church is a faith community:

- Called together by God, the Creator and Sustainer of life, to worship, pray and serve;
- Led by Jesus Christ, our Teacher and Savior, to learn the faith and welcome all God's children;
- Empowered by the Holy Spirit to witness to God's love and justice between ourselves, and throughout the world.

Our Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, believe the following represents our commitment and desire to reach out and welcome all those in need of and searching for God's love: We believe that we are all created in God's image, female and male, and we are called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us on our common journey. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels and political and theological backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will "do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

(adopted September 8, 2002 by the congregation)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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