



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN  
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 2, 2020 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany/Youth Sunday

**WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!**

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 167 years our Covenant has been: We covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another, and bind ourselves in the presence of God to live together in all God's ways as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit and holy scripture. The church acknowledges that all members have the right of individual interpretation of the principles of the Christian faith and respects them in their honest convictions. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord, the church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.*

Please silence all electronic devices.

Assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins with hymns of the day are available at the Sanctuary doors. Deacons wearing white roses and Ushers wearing red roses can assist you.

Cards requesting prayer are in the Welcome Notebooks and should be placed in the offering plate.

(\* Indicates the congregation should stand as they are able.

*Enter to Worship – Depart to Serve. Please use this time for quiet preparation for worship.  
 'We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, in the midst of your temple.'  
 (Psalm 48:8)*

PRELUDE Blessed Jesus, We Are Here, BWV 730, 731 J.S. Bach

ENTER TO WORSHIP Chutney Anderson

Leader: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

*\* Then all stand.*

L: People of God, who do you come to worship?

**P: We come to worship the one true God.**

L: How will you worship?

**P: Not with words alone, but by living lives of justice and love.**

L: Come, you who belong to God. Come, you who are foolish in the eyes of the world.

**P: Come and abide in God's tent and in God's heart, now and forever.**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 386 O For A World Azmon

\* INVOCATION Henry Wade

L: God be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE Aran Cunningham  
*Please find the attendance pad in the Welcome Notebook at the end of each pew, sign it, and pass it on to your neighbor.*

L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

BLESSING OF THE KEYS Mark S. Williams

CHILDREN'S TIME Nina Zimmerman and Erin Murray

*After children's time, the children are invited to return to sit with their families. A fully-staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age four. This ministry is located in the nursery and toddler rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.*

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Micah 6:1–8 (O.T. p. 866) Maddie Helmer

L: May Light break forth on God's Holy Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 1:18–31 (N.T. p. 166) Finnegan Miller

L: May Light break forth on God's Holy Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 233 Blest are the Uncorrupt in Heart Richmond

THE GOSPEL Matthew 5:1–12 (N.T. p. 4) Miriam Myers, Sophia Polo, Mia Provenzano, and Maya Haslett

L: May Light break forth on God's Holy Word.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION "Blessed" Peter Spofforth

*A time of reflection follows.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Sammy Myers

*(Today, the Lord's Prayer will be prayed as part of the Communion liturgy.)*

THE OFFERTORY

*Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve leaflet for more information and a QR link.*

MISSION INVITATION Ethan Murray

Cash and designated checks go to **Star House**, a welcoming drop-in center for transitional youth, ages 14 to 24, experiencing homelessness. Star House serves as a safe and accepting place where they can connect with a concerned community. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM Inherit the Kingdom Lee Hoiby  
 Harris Ipock, *soloist*

*The text to this anthem is taken from Matthew 25:31–40, a translation of which may be found in the pew bibles, New Testament, p. 29.*

\* PRESENTATION HYMN Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
 sung to *Lasst uns erfreuen*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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 Hannah Brooks and Peter Spofforth

\* 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.**

L: ... Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**P: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

MOTET *Ave verum Corpus* W. A. Mozart  
*Ave verum corpus, natum de Maria virgine, vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine. Cujus latus perforatum unda fluxit et sanguine, esto nobis praegustatum in mortis examine.*

Hail true body, born of the Virgin Mary, who truly suffered and sacrificed on the cross for humankind. Whose pierced side flowed with a stream of blood, is the foretaste of our testing unto death.

*Please remain seated for the Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Notices.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Sebby Kulwicki  
 L: Let us pray.  
**All: We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have brought us from darkness to light, from slavery to freedom, from death to rebirth. Transform our lives with this heavenly food, that we may shine with your love and take to the world the risen life of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.**

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE Nick Boriin  
 L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.  
**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* CLOSING HYMN What Does the Lord Require? Micah



1. What does the Lord re-quire For praise and of - fering? What  
 2. Rul - ers of earth, give ear! Should you not jus - tice know? Will  
 3. How shall our life ful - fill God's law so hard and high? Let



sac - ri - fice de - sire, Or trib - ute bid you bring? Do  
 God your plead - ing hear, While crime and cruel - ty grow? Do  
 Christ en - due our will With grace to for - ti - fy. Then



just - ly; love mer - cy; Walk hum - bly with your God.  
 just - ly; love mer - cy; Walk hum - bly with your God.  
 just - ly; in mer - cy, We'll hum - bly walk with God.

\* BENEDICTION Matty Provenzano

POSTLUDE Prelude in B Major, Op. 7, No. 1 Dupré

*Please be seated for the Postlude.*

*Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found welcome, 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 nametag. We'd be delighted to assist you. Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.*

† CRUCIFER: Hannah Brooks

† ACOLYTES: Maya Haslett and Carmen Axt

† MUSIC: The First Church Choir, Kevin Jones, *director and organist*; The Exultate Choir, Jamie Blair, *co-director*

† YOUTH LEADERS: Chutney Anderson, Henry Wade, Kylie Cooks, Alexi Cooks, Sebby Kulwicki, Jake Haslett, Maya Haslett, Aran Cunningham, Hannah Brooks, Sofia Polo, Maddie Helmer, Sammy Myers, Maggie Myers, Miriam Myers, Mia Provenzano, Matty Provenzano, Nina Zimmerman, Peter Spofforth, Erin Murray, Ethan Murray, Finnegan Miller, Nick Boriin — Mark S. Williams, *leader*

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in celebration of all of the youth of First Church by the Wagner Family.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY  
 Rev. Ahrens – Broad Street  
 Rev. Corzine – Ninth Street  
 Mark Williams – Education Wing

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome Statement

You are welcomed, affirmed, and loved here; our faith informs us that you are a child of a loving God. Your characteristics and gifts will enrich our congregation. In this community, you will be celebrated, embraced, and honored, no matter how you identify or how your identity may evolve. Wherever you are on your faith journey, we invite you to join us in our diverse yet united experience.

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.

Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, welcome and affirm all. We believe we are all created in God's image and called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, called to unite all people in God's love. We are a community seeking God's presence and love in our lives. We seek to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, sexes, gender identities and expressions, family structures, mental, intellectual and physical conditions, economic circumstances, political, theological and faith 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  
 Revisions adopted January 27, 2019 by the congregation



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