



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 3, 2019

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 166 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 *Allegro* (Sonata in G Major) Benedetto Marcello
 Alyssia Palmer, *viola*

ENTER TO WORSHIP Chutney Anderson
 Leader: Blessed be God, Light of the world, bright Morning Star, and Spirit of love.

* *Then all stand.*

L: God has called each one of to serve, using the gifts we have been given.

P: I don't know where to start.

L: Place your trust in God's guidance.

P: What if I fail?

L: God is with you - place your trust in God's presence.

P: Help me, O God, to trust in you and in your gracious gifts to me.

Help me to serve others in your name. Amen

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 353 Great God, Your Love Has Called Us Here
Das neugeborne Kindelein

* INVOCATION Jack Patterson

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 Matty Provenzano
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 Hannah Brooks

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 Jeremiah 1:4–10 (O.T. p. 698)
 Matty Provenzano, Sammy Myers, Nick Boriin

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

P: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 13:1–13 (N.T. p. 175) Eddie Anderson

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

P: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL HYMN 335 Though I May Speak *O Waly, Waly*

THE GOSPEL Luke 4:21–30 (N.T. p. 61) Mia Provenzano

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

P: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION MEDITATION "Power of the Word" Erin Murray

A time of reflection follows.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Finnegan Miller
(Today, the Lord's Prayer will be prayed as part of the Communion liturgy.)

THE OFFERTORY

MISSION INVITATION Ethan Murray/Lamar Peoples
 Cash and designated checks go to **StarHouse**, a welcoming drop-in center for transitional youth, ages 14-24, experiencing homelessness. StarHouse serves as a safe and accepting place where they can connect with a concerned community. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM An Endless Alleluia Jack Burnham

Sing Alleluia forth in duteous praise, ye citizens of heav'n, O sweetly raise an endless Alleluia.

Ye who have fought and joined the starry throng, Ye victors, now take up the eternal song, an endless Alleluia.

Almighty Christ, to thee our voices sing glory for evermore; to thee we bring an endless Alleluia.

—Latin, 5th–8th century, ver. Hymnal 1940

* PRESENTATION HYMN 591 *Old Hundredth*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

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 Erin Murray, Nina Zimmerman
 The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, the Rev. Emily Krause 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

SPIRITUAL There is a Balm in Gilead arr. Marie Pooler

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole, There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sinner's soul.

Some times I feel discouraged, And think my work in vain, But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *Refrain.*

Don't ever feel discouraged, Our Father is our friend; And if you lack the knowledge, He'll not refuse to lend. *Refrain.*

You may not preach like Peter, You may not pray like Paul, But you can tell the story of him who died for all. *Refrain.*

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sammy Myers

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

Peter Spofforth

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN 419 How clear is our vocation, Lord

Repton

* BENECTION

Mae Hubbard

POSTLUDE

Recessional

William Mathias

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 Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.

ACOLYTES: Jack Patterson and Sebbi Kulwicki

CRUCIFER: Erin Murray

MUSIC: Alyssia Palmer, *violinist*; The Exultate Choir; The First Church Choir, Kevin Jones, *organist and director*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given by Allison Lowery Palmer to the glory of God, and in honor of Janet Newcity, as well as the past and current First Congregational Church UCC Deacons.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street – Rev. Ahrens

Ninth Street – Rev. Corzine

Education Wing – Mr. Williams

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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