

MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 11, 2021

The Second Sunday of Easter

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 168 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.*

The liturgy of Morning Prayer is a form of daily worship adapted through the ages that has its earliest roots in our Jewish heritage. Its premise is one of praying to God at the beginning of the day—giving thanks for another day ahead. The service falls roughly into three main parts: Opening sentences and singing/reading of the Psalms; readings from Holy Scripture - usually one from the Hebrew texts, and one from the Gospels - interspersed with ancient songs of the church; and prayers. To this we add Holy Communion, bringing further meaning to the totality of the prayers we have already offered. The liturgy presupposes full and hearty congregational involvement in the spoken and sung responses, preparing us to be sent forth from this house of worship into the wider world to live out the Great Commission.

PRELUDE We Live by Faith Dunlap's Creek, arr. John Carter

WELCOME The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

OPENING SENTENCES Rev. Corzine

Leader: This is the day which God has made. Alleluia!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

** Please stand as you are able*

* THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

L: O God, open our lips.

P: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

L: Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

P: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

* OPENING SONG - PSALM 95 Come let us sing to God on high Tallis' Canon



1. Come, let us sing to God on high, The Rock of our sal - va - tion praise; Come
 2. For God is high a - bove all gods, The heights and depths are in God's hand; God
 3. Bow down and let us wor - ship God Who is our Ma - ker and our Lord; We



with thanks - giv - ing to God's courts And raise our joy - ful psalms in praise.
 made the sea and all there - in, God's hands have mold - ed the dry land.
 are God's peo - ple and God's sheep; To - day, then, heark - en to God's Word.

L: Oh, how good and pleasant it is, when kindred live together in unity!

P: It is like fine oil upon the head that runs down upon the beard,

L: Upon the beard of Aaron, and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

P: It is like the dew of Hermon that falls upon the hills of Zion.

L: For there has God ordained the blessing:

P: life for evermore.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Mr. Williams

L: The peace of God be always with you.

P: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mr. Williams

THE FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

Kevin Jones

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 4.

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CANTICLE: THIS JOYFUL EASTERTIDE

Vruchten



1 This joy-ful Eas-ter - tide, a - way with sin and sor - - row!
 2 My be-ing shall re - jice se - cure with - in God's keep - - ing,
 3 Death's wa-ters lost their chill when Je - sus crossed the ri - - - ver.

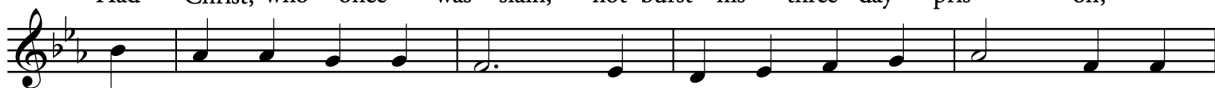


My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has sprung to life this mor - - row.
 un - til the trum-pet voice shall wake us from our sleep - - ing.
 His love shall reach me still; his mer - cy is for - ev - - er.

Refrain



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three - day pris - on,



our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - - - - en!

A reading from the Gospel according to John, chapter 20.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

* CANTICLE: A SONG OF CREATION

Whitehead

1. Let all cre - a - tion bless the Lord, till heav'n with praise is ring - ing.
 2. All liv - ing things up - on the earth, green fer - tile hills and moun - tains,
 3. O all you peo - ple ev - ery - where, lift up a hymn of glo - ry;

Sun, moon, and stars, peal out a chord, stir up the an - gels' sing - ing.
 sing to the God who gave you birth; be joy - ful, springs and foun - tains.
 let all who know God's stead - fast care tell our sal - va - tion's sto - ry.

Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make mu - sic, day, night, cold and heat:
 Lithe wa - ter life, bright air - borne birds, wild rov - ing beasts, tame flocks and herds:
 No tongue be si - lent; sing your part, you hum - ble souls and meek of heart:

ex - alt the God who made you.
 ex - alt the God who made you.
 ex - alt the God who made you.

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

Quietly and Slowly

Be still, be still. Be still and know that I am God._____

repeat ad. lib.

Be still, be still. Be still and know that I am God._____

L: We give you thanks eternal God for the hope we have in Jesus Christ, who died but is risen. We give you thanks for his presence among us. Because he lives we look to you for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present or yet to come can separate us from your great love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. This day we offer prayers on behalf of this church, the community and world.

(We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, the members, family and friends who are listed in the Depart to Serve and whom we hold in our heart in prayer. As directed, you are invited to pray silently or aloud for those needs and concerns you have.)

L: Almighty God, in Christ you have embraced all of life through the one who is the way, the truth, and the life. Pour out your grace upon us that we may love all of life as you have loved us. **Amen.**

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, you create us by your power and redeem us by your love. Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves in love and service to one another and to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE OFFERTORY

Want to give online? Please scan this QR code link, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve leaflet:



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Corzine

Designated gifts go to **Crossroad Family and Child Services**. Crossroad, a residential program offered for children and youth, ages six to 21, with severe emotional and behavioral challenges. Community-based programs and a Mental Health Emergency Shelter are also provided. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN

We live by faith and not by sight

Dunlap's Creek



1. We live by faith and not by sight; no gra-cious words we hear
 2. We may not touch his hands and side, nor fol-low where he trod,
 3. Help then, O Lord, our un-be-lief; and may our faith a-bound
 4. That when our life of faith is done, in realms of clear-er light



from one who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we be-lieve him near.
 but in his prom-ise we re-joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
 to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:
 may we be-hold you as you are in full and end-less sight.

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Corzine

MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Eat This Bread

Jacques Berthier

**Eat this bread. Drink this cup. Come to me and never be hungry.
 Eat this bread. Drink this cup. Trust in me and you will not thirst.**

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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

Mr. Williams

L: Let us sing the closing hymn as we depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today

Easter Hymn

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!
 Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
 Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
 Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Easter Hymn

*Please join us on ZOOM for a virtual coffee hour immediately following
this service.*

[Click HERE to be taken to this meeting.](#)

ZOOM meeting ID: 865 2790 7526

Password: 601438

Enter to Worship Depart to Serve

April 11, 2021

This Week at First Church

- 4/11
9 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour
11 a.m. Worship
12 Noon Virtual Coffee Hour
12:30 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Youth Connections
- 4/12
12 Noon Congregational Care Mtg
7 p.m. BREAD Rally
Trustees Mtg
- 4/13
6 p.m. Music Committee Mtg
7 p.m. Executive Committee Mtg
Justice & Mercy Mtg
- 4/14
5:45 p.m. Personnel Committee Mtg
7 p.m. Book Club
- 4/15
7:30 p.m. First Church Choir Rehearsal

First Church Book Club

Everyone is invited to join the First Church Book Club. The club meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. to engage in member-led discussions about that month's book selection. The next meeting is **Wednesday, April 14** and the book is *The Daughters of Erietown* by Connie Schultz. If you would like more information or the link to the zoom meeting email Elaine Warren at melainewarren@aol.com.



First Congregational Church
Youth Flower Sale
BENEFITS YOUTH MISSION TRIP

**HUGE VARIETY OF BEDDING,
POTTED FLOWERS, HANGING BASKETS,
AND VEGETABLES!**

*Order Now
through
April 13th!*

**PICK UP
MAY 8
9-NOON**

Last Day to Order is Tuesday April 13!

Download the order form at <https://files.constant-contact.com/5728e215501/50f6fb13-db93-4a78-a2a6-e1249519ee07.pdf>

Coffee Hour

Immediately following each Worship Livestream, grab a cup of coffee and a cookie, and head to the Virtual Parish Hall for Zoom Coffee Hour! Click the link below to join in.

9 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L014R-1dIdmE4UzlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09>

Meeting ID: 865 2790 7526

Password: 601438

11 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88494216574?pwd=cDN-VS0dKaEdvTGhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574

Password: 693317

Emergency Pastoral Care Line

If you need to be in touch with Rev. Ahrens or Rev. Corzine, for emergency pastoral care or name a prayer request, please call **614-733-4547** and leave a message. Someone will return your call as needed.

Should you need to reach either pastor directly for a time to chat, discuss pastoral concerns or have prayer, Rev. Tim can be reached by church voicemail at (614) 228-1741 ext. 13, or email at tahrens@first-church.org.

Rev. Emily has virtual office hours at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. These are 20 minute blocks beginning at 10 a.m. Contact Rev. Emily for a time slot at ecorzine@first-church.org.

Keep in Prayer

In celebration of the birth of identical twins, Elsie Meyer Farquhar and Leslie Alice Farquhar, born March 24 to parents Rachel Howard and Robert Farquhar. Congratulations to grandparents Tom and Christine Farquhar.

Members John and Kaye Martin; Kathy Brownfield; Lindy Miller; Julie Devenish; the Curren-Smith family; Barbara Knox; Betsy Zahn; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz.

Family and friends Kosby Carrico's father, Ladd Winne; Susan Sitler and Rev. Tim Ahren's friend, Destiny Stadie; Helen Spears and niece, Sandra Hall; and Sarah Lange's sister, Rev. Amy Smith.

Those who mourn loved ones Wendy Kirkland on the death of her great aunt, Margaret Para.

Please note that individuals will remain on the prayer list for three weeks, unless specified to clergy or staff.

Give

At First Church, our financial resources enable us to “Enter to worship, depart to serve.” You can support the mission and ministry of First Church now by scanning the QR Code presented below, using either EasyTithe or PayPal, by visiting www.first-church.org/give.aspx, or by sending your offering directly to First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For more information, please contact Annette McCormick at amccormick@first-church.org.



Designated gifts go to **Crossroad Family and Child Services**. Crossroad, a residential program offered for children and youth, ages six to 21, with severe emotional and behavioral challenges. Community-based programs and a Mental Health Emergency Shelter are also provided. Thank you for your generosity.

To learn more, visit <https://www.crossroad-fwch.org>

Upcoming Mission Offerings

April 18	Weinland Park Community Civic Association
April 25	Faith in Public Life
May 2	Good Samaritan
May 9	BREAD

Church Leadership

Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, D. Min., M.Div.

Associate Minister Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, M.Div.

Minister of Music Kevin Jones, M.M., M.S.E.

Director of Christian Education Mark S. Williams, M.Ed.

Administrative Manager Amy Wagner

Office Assistant Pat Patterson

Communications Consultant Melissa Kulwicki

Business Administrator Annette McCormick

Building and Grounds Superintendent Mark Dahnke

Building and Grounds Assistant Darrell Cross

Custodian Jimmy Sibrian

Wedding Coordinators Amy Wagner, Janet Newcity,

Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani, Katie Wagner

Nursery Staff Miranda Brooks, Norma Secor, Blessing Weekly,

Miranda Gumbita

Senior Deacon Al Waddell

Deacons Carol Ernst-King, Sarah Giffen, Scott Graham,

Greg Halbe, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen,

Nancy Kreimer, James Lowe, Allison Lowery Palmer,

Mark Sholl, Andrew Smith-VerHage, Hank Wilson,

Martha Wilson, Donice Wooster, Marty Worth

Church Council Leadership

Moderator Alec Deitz

Moderator-elect Christine Farquhar

Treasurer Dennis Secor

Treasurer-elect Andy Bensing

Secretary Peter Murray

Secretary-elect Nicole Moss

Board of Trustees

Chairperson Brian Cave

Trustees Allen Baker, Alec Deitz, Sue Cook, Cindy Conn

(Treasurer), Kevin Cubick (Secretary), Beth Iannarino, Jim Kyle,

Elaine Warren, Christopher Washington

Commissioners

Administration Brad West

Administration-elect Dayna McCrary

Church Growth Elisha Hardekopf

Church Growth-elect Geoff Smith-VerHage

Church Vitality Lee Kiesel

Church Vitality-elect Kosby Carrico

Education Margaret Graham

Education-elect Linda Slocum

House & Grounds Eric Klintworth

House & Grounds-elect Mark Brown

Justice & Mercy Lauren Muscott

Justice & Mercy-elect Kris Brant

Music, Arts & Heritage Scott Jones

Music, Arts & Heritage-elect Sandy Mathias

Members-at-Large Jonathan Miller and Finn Miller

Nominating Committee Chair Lynn Wallich

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



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
God is still speaking,

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Bulletins and audio podcasts of services are available on the website for each week:
www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx
Scripture readings are the New Revised Standard Version. The Psalter reading is taken from the St. Helena Psalter. © Order of Saint Helena, used by permission.



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885
PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741

WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG

