



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

April 15, 2018

The Third Sunday of Easter

**WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!**

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 165 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 can assist you.

Cards requesting prayer are in the pew racks and 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 *Christ ist erstanden*, BWV 627 J.S. Bach

ENTER TO WORSHIP Lynn Wallich

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*\* Then all stand.*

L: How joyful it is to celebrate the good news of God's love!

**P: We are called to be Easter people!**

L: Darkness cannot claim us!

**P: Fear cannot bind us!**

L: Christ is risen!

**P: Christ is risen, indeed! Amen!**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 119 The strife is o'er *Victory*

\* INVOCATION The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P. And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: O God, whose blessed One was made known to the disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold the redeeming work of Christ; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

\* SONG OF PRAISE Good Christians all, rejoice and sing *Gelobet sei Gott*

Good Chris-tians all, re - joice and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
 of our King! To all the world glad news we bring:  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

\* WELCOME & INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMAND TRENTON HELMER  
 The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE Mr. Helmer

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.

*Please find the attendance pad at the end of the pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor.*

CHILDREN'S TIME Mark S. Williams

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Acts 3:12–19 (N.T., p. 120) Dr. Wallich

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM Rise up, my love, my fair one Healey Willan

Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear upon the earth. The time of singing of birds is come. Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.

—Song of Songs 2:10

THE EPISTLE 1 John 3:1–7 (N.T., p. 240) Dr. Wallich

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 108 Lift up your heads *Truro*

*During the hymn, children, Kindergarten through second grade, are invited to Worship Connections in the Children's Library on the second floor of the Education Wing. They will return after the sermon. 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 GOSPEL Luke 24:36b–48 (N.T., p. 91) Rev. Ahrens

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Taxed by Disbelief" Rev. Ahrens

*A time of reflection follows.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Corzine

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.**

THE OFFERTORY

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

MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Corzine

Cash and designated checks go to **Church World Service**. CWS was formed in response to an emergency—when churches helped to provide food, clothing and medical supplies to war-torn Europe and Asia following World War II. This many years later, churches are still responding to emergencies. First Congregational Church has responded quickly to disasters by helping to provide Emergency Cleanup Buckets and Blankets. Your cash donations today will allow Church World Service to respond quickly by providing food, temporary shelter, and clean water following the next disaster. Please give generously and help Church World Service be ready to help others quickly after disaster strikes. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

*Gloria (Missa Brevis in F, KV 192)*

W.A. Mozart

Elizabeth Festi, Brad Findell, Justin Meyer, Christopher Humbert, *soloists*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
 Et in terra pax  
 hominibus bonæ voluntatis.*

Glory to God in the highest,  
 and on earth peace  
 to God's people.

*Laudamus te; benedicimus te;  
 adoramus te; glorificamus te.  
 Gratias agimus tibi  
 propter magnam gloriam tuam.*

We praise you; we bless you;  
 we adore you, we glorify you.  
 We give thanks to you  
 for your great glory.

*Domine Deus, Rex coelestis,  
 Deus Pater omnipotens.  
 Domine Fili unigenite Jesu Christe.  
 Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,  
 Filius Patris.*

Lord God, heavenly Sovereign,  
 God the Father almighty.  
 God's only begotten one, Jesus Christ.  
 Lord God, Lamb of God,  
 Son of the Father.

*Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
 miserere nobis.  
 Qui tollis peccata mundi,  
 suscipe deprecationem nostram.  
 Qui sedes ad dextram Patris,  
 Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,  
 tu solus Dominus,  
 tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe.  
 Cum Sancto Spiritu  
 in gloria Dei Patris.*

You take away the sin of the world;  
 have mercy on us;  
 You take away the sin of the world;  
 receive our prayer.  
 You are seated at God's right hand;  
 For you alone are the Holy One,  
 you alone are the Sovereign,  
 you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ,  
 With the Holy Spirit  
 in the glory of the triune God.

*Amen.*

Amen.

\* PRESENTATION HYMN Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
*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.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Corzine

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

\* CLOSING HYMN 372 Lord I want to be a Christian  
*Lord I want to be a Christian*

\* BENECTION Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE Fugue in A Minor, BWV 543 Bach  
*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. You are invited to remain in the Sanctuary for the safety presentation and severe weather drill. Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall will be held following the drill.*

ACOLYTES: Cassidy Hopcraft and Mae Hubbard

CRUCIFER: Eddie Anderson IV

MUSIC: The First Church Choir, Kevin Jones, *director and organist*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in memory of Paul Navin by Dana Navin.

GREETING AT THE EXIT TODAY  
Rev. Ahrens – Broad 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)



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