



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 19, 2020

The Second Sunday of Easter

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.*

*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

Partita on *O filii et filiae*

Wilbur Held

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

ENTER TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

** Then all stand.*

L: The joy of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ is with us.

P: We rejoice in the blessing God has poured into our lives.

L: Even though we hear words of doubt, we are called to believe.

P: Even though the world would draw us back again into darkness, we focus on the Light.

L: Thanks be to Christ who gives us the victory.

P: Alleluia! Amen.



* OPENING HYMN

O Sons and Daughters

O filii et filiae

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1. O sons and daughters, let us sing! The King of heaven, the glo - rious
2. That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them came their Lord most
3. When Thom - as first the ti - dings heard, How they had seen the ris - en
4. "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as see; My hands, my feet, I show to
5. No long - er Thom - as then de - nied, He saw the feet, the hands, the
6. How blest are they who have not seen, And yet whose faith hath con - stant

King, O'er death and hell rose tri - umph - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
dear, And said, "My peace be with you here." Al - le - lu - ia!
Lord, He doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!
thee; Not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!
side; "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!
been, For they e - ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia!

Final ending

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

* INVOCATION

Rev. Ahrens

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the community of Christ's body, may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Corzine

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

P: And also with you.

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

Mark S. Williams

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

2:14a, 22–32

Rev. Ahrens

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 2.

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.' "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.' This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE

1 Peter 1:3–9

Mark S. Williams

A reading from the first book of Peter, chapter 1.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

MOTET

Regina cœli
(pre-recorded)

Cristóbal de Morales

Regina cœli, letare, Alleluia.
Quia quem meruisti portare, Alleluia.
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, Alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum. Alleluia.

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as He said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

THE GOSPEL

John 20:19–31

Rev. Corzine

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 Jews, 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.

SERMON

“It Was Supposed to Be ...”

Rev. Corzine

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Ahrens

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 scan this QR code link, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve leaflet:



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Ahrens

Cash and designated checks go to the **Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio**, a Methodist Mission, which provides appropriate and patient-centered pharmacy services for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured individuals in Franklin County. It serves more than 1,750 patients each year. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

Joy to the Heart

K. Lee Scott

(pre-recorded)

Look there! the Christ, our Brother, comes
resplendent from the gallows tree
and what he brings in his hurt hands
is life on life for you and me.
Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!

Good Jesus Christ inside his pain
looked down Golgotha's stony slope
and let the blood flow from his flesh
to fill the springs of living hope.
Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!

Good Jesus Christ, our Brother, died
in darkest hurt upon the tree
to offer us the worlds of light
that live inside the Trinity.
Joy! Joy! Joy to the heart all in this good day's dawning!
—John Bennett (1920–1991)

* 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!**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Ahrens

Please be seated for the Notices.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN

The Day of Resurrection

Lancashire

1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, That we may see a - right
3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful, Let earth the song be - gin,

The Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, The Pass - o - ver of God.
The Lord in rays e - ter - nal Of res - ur - rec - tion light;
Let the round world keep tri - umph, And all that is there - in;

From death to life e - ter - nal, From this world to the sky,
And, lis - tening to His ac - cents, May hear, so calm and plain,
Let all things seen and un - seen Their notes of glad - ness blend,

Our Christ hath brought us o - ver With hymns of vic - to - ry.
His own "All hail!" and, hear - ing, May raise the vic - tor strain.
For Christ the Lord is ris - en, Our joy that hath no end.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens



April 19, 2020



Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

This Week at First Church

Sunday, 4/19

11 a.m. Worship, YouTube and Facebook

12:30 p.m. Confirmation, Virtual

Monday, 4/20

8 p.m. Comfort Bible Study, Virtual

Wednesday, 4/22

10:30 a.m. Book Study, Virtual

Friday, 4/24

1 p.m. "Christianity 101," Virtual

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 this number 614-733-4547 and leave a message. Someone will return your call as needed.

"Christianity 101" Online Class

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston will teach online each Friday afternoon on the curriculum "Christianity 101." The sessions will be at 1 p.m. with the first one starting on March 20. The intent is these will run each Friday through May 1.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/967443994?pwd=K3pvTEpTL2YycGV0VGpmWVBBVmFHdz09>

Meeting ID: 967 443 994

Password: 167654

"Comfort" Online Bible Study

You are invited to join Rev. Tim for an online Bible study on "Comfort" All meetings will be held through Zoom. The next session is on Monday, April 20, at 8 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/860851195?pwd=VVFLdU-8waGlaaTRrNmo4ZjB5OHFnZz09>

Meeting ID: 860 851 195

Password: 262739

Keep in Prayer

Joan Lebold; Dr. Karl Danneberger, Sallie, Marc and Kyle Danneberger; Paul Flocken; Wendy and Ryan Kirkland; Austin Akey, grandson of Melva Fisher; Richard Brant; Mike Bittle, brother-in-law of Melva Fisher; Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz; Amy Smith, sister of Sarah Lange; Arlene Reynolds; Julie Archual, friend of Melissa Kulwicki, and those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including; Amanda Butler and family, on the loss of cousin Rachi; Mariner Taft, on the loss of his service dog, Taco; Dayna McCrary and family, on the loss of her sister; Dene Barnard, on the loss of his brother; Rabbi Rick Keller, whose mother is in hospice; all medical professionals in our congregation who are on the front lines; and all those affected by illness, especially the Coronavirus, locally, nationally and globally.

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, 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 Pam Mantor at pmantor@first-church.org or Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org.

Cash and designated checks go to **Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio**, on behalf of the Sacred Earth Commission. A Methodist Mission, the Charitable Pharmacy of Central Ohio provides appropriate and patient centered pharmacy services for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured individuals in Franklin County. It serves more than 1,750 patients each year. Thank you for your generosity.

Upcoming Missions:

4/26 – Knight-Perry Fund

5/3 – BREAD

5/10 – Good Samaritan Fund



Church Leadership

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

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

Financial Assistant Pam Mantor

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 James Velo

Deacons Carol Ernst-King, Shelly Gies, Sarah Giffen, Scott Graham, Greg Halbe, Lanier Holt, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen, James Lowe, Dayna McCrary, Allison Lowery Palmer, Mark Sholl, Andrew Smith-Verhage, Al Waddell, Marty Worth

Church Council Leadership

Moderator Lynn Wallich; **Moderator-elect** Alec Deitz;

Treasurer Dennis Secor; **Treasurer-elect** Matt Myers;

Secretary Jim Griffin; **Secretary-elect** Peter Murray

Board of Trustees

Chairperson Chris Farquhar; **Trustees** Allen Baker, Brian Cave, Sue Cook, Cindy Conn, Kevin Cubick, Tom Hadley, Jim Kyle, Elaine Warren

Commissioners

Administration Andy Bensing; **Administration-elect** Brad West; **Church Growth** Cheryl Hoskinson; **Church Growth-elect** Elisha Hardekopf; **Church Vitality** Fran Panek; **Church Vitality-elect** Lee Kiesel; **Education** Stacie Sholl; **Education-elect** Margaret Graham; **House & Grounds** Victor John; **House & Grounds-elect** Eric Klintworth; **Justice & Mercy** Kaye Martin; **Justice & Mercy-elect** Lauren Muscott; **Music, Arts & Heritage** David Mailer; **Music, Arts & Heritage-elect** Scott Jones; **Members-at-Large** Melissa Prendergast & Mia Provenzano; **Nominating Committee Chair** Joe Baszynski

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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