

# Concerts at First Church

presents

## Choral Evensong

February 16, 2020 4 o'clock p.m.  
The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

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Voluntary

Sonata in C Minor, Op. 65, No. 2  
*i. Grave; ii. Adagio*

Felix Mendelssohn  
(1809–1847)

*Please stand at the entrance of the Choir and Clergy.*

Preces

Bernard Rose  
(1916–1996)

*Precentor* O Lord, open thou our lips.

*Choir* And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

*Precentor* O God, make speed to save us.

*Choir* O Lord, make haste to help us.

*Precentor* Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

*Choir* As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*Precentor* Praise ye the Lord.

*Choir* The Lord's name be praised.

Office Hymn 550

O Light, Whose Splendor Thrills

*Les Commandements de Dieu*

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston

*Please be seated as the Choir chants the psalm appointed for this day.*

Psalm 46, *sung in the Myles Coverdale translation*

chant: John Fenstermaker

(b. 1942)

- 1 God is our hope and strength \*  
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved \*  
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.
- 3 Though the waters thereof rage and swell \*  
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
- 4 The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God \*  
the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
- 5 God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed \*  
God shall help her, and that right early.
- 6 The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved \*  
but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us \*  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord \*  
what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.
- 9 He maketh wars to cease in all the world \*  
he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder,  
and burneth the chariots in the fire.
- 10 Be still then, and know that I am God \*  
I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us \*  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

*At the end of the psalm, please stand as the Choir sings:*

Glory be to the Father,

and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:

world without end. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

The First Reading

Genesis 29:20–35

So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife. (Laban gave his maid Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her maid.) So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah. He served Laban for another seven years.

When the LORD saw that Leah was unloved, he opened her womb; but Rachel was barren. Leah conceived and bore a son, and she named him Reuben; for she said, "Because the LORD has looked on my affliction; surely now my husband will love me." She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am hated, he has given me this son also"; and she named him Simeon. Again she conceived and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will be joined to me, because I have borne him three sons"; therefore he was named Levi. She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "This time I will praise the LORD"; therefore she named him Judah; then she ceased bearing.

*Officiant* Here ends the reading.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

Magnificat (The Song of Mary)

*Service in E Minor*

Leo Sowerby  
(1899–1968)

MY soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever.

Glory be to the Father, &c.

As it was in the beginning, &c.

*Please be seated.*

The Second Reading

Mark 10:23–31

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible."

Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

*Officiant* Here ends the reading.

*People* Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

Nunc dimittis (The Song of Simeon)

Sowerby

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people, To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, &c.

As it was in the beginning, &c.

The Apostles' Creed, *said together, standing*

I BELIEVE IN GOD the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

## The Responses

Rose

*Precentor* The Lord be with you.

*Choir* And with thy spirit.

*Precentor* Let us pray.

*Please be seated during the slight pause.*

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Then the Choir will sing the Lord's Prayer:*

Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. Amen.

*Precentor* O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

*Choir* And grant us thy salvation.

*Precentor* O Lord, save the State.

*Choir* And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

*Precentor* Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

*Choir* And make thy chosen people joyful.

*Precentor* O Lord, save thy people.

*Choir* And bless thine inheritance.

*Precentor* Give peace in our time, O Lord.

*Choir* Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

*Precentor* O God, make clean our hearts within us.

*Choir* And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

## The Collect of the Day

O God, the strength of all who put their trust in thee: Mercifully accept our prayers; and because through the weakness of our mortal nature, we can do no good thing without thee, give us the help of thy grace, that in keeping thy commandments we may please thee both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## The Collect for Peace

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Collect for Aid against all Perils

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Anthem

Now There Lightens Upon Us

Sowerby

Now there lightens upon us a holy daybreak. Alleluia, Alleluia. Come, come, all good people, and praise the Lord with gladness. For the star which we have looked for shines forth a sign to all people. Alleluia, Alleluia.

—The Rt. Rev. George Craig Stewart (1879–1940)

Prayers of Intercession

Rev. Livingston

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom, *said together*

ALMIGHTY GOD, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise, that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests; Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

Offering Invitation

The Grace, *said together*

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. Amen.

*During the singing of the Closing Hymn, the ushers will take up a collection to support the First Church Choir's 2022 Winchester Cathedral Tour Fund. Thank you for your generosity. If you would like to give electronically, please use this QR code for the link:*



Please stand.

### Closing Hymn

Sing of God made man - i - fest in a child ro - bust and blest,  
Sing of God made man - i - fest when at Jor - dan John con - fessed,  
Sing of God made man - i - fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest,  
Sing of God made man - i - fest on the cloud-capped moun-tain's crest,

to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid - ed them,  
"I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."  
and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;  
where the law and proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re - mained:

ma - gi came and gifts un - bound, signs mys - te - rious and pro - found:  
Then from heaven a dou - ble sign— dove - like Spir - it, voice di - vine—  
fur - ther still was love re - vealed as he taught, for - gave, and healed,  
glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face

myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.  
hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."  
bring - ing light and life to all who would lis - ten to God's call.  
towards the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

Voluntary

Sonata in C Minor, Op. 65, No. 2

Mendelssohn

*iv. Fuga-Allegro moderato*

*During the closing voluntary, the Choir and Clergy depart.*

*Please remain standing until the procession has exited the door.*

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# Leadership in the Liturgy

The Reverend Dr. Nancy Livingston, *officiant*

Mark S. Williams, *verger*

Kevin Cubick, *precentor*

The First Church Choir

Kevin Jones, *conductor*

Tyler W. Robertson, *organist*

## The First Church Choir

Kevin Jones, *Minister of Music*

*Soprano:* Marti Baumer, Brianna Burkett, Candace Cummings,

Catherine Goode, Rose Kandel, Melissa Lawson,

Joan Lombardi, Emily Noël, Dora Paolucci,

Susan Pusecker, Megan Smith, Margaret Wells, Lexi White

*Alto:* Janet Axt, Jamie Blair, Cari Brackett, Susan Brooks,

Cindy Deliman, Allison Ellenberger, Marcia Essig, Brad Findell, Jennifer Fry,

Cheryl Hoskinson, Mary Anne Jacobson, Sarah Lange, Nancy Loy,

SallyJane Mathias, Cathy Redenbarger, Jan Wade

*Tenor:* Leigh Briggs, Bill Catus, Kevin Cubick, Jim Griffin,

Dustin Jarred, Bill Lange, Pavan Peter, Rick Sayre

*Bass:* Joseph Bellissimo, Jonathan Bethke, Jeff Corzine,

John Deliman, Jim Gieseke, Christopher Humbert,

Ryan Jones, Sebastian Knowles, David Stang

*This bulletin is printed on recycled paper with a minimum 50% post-consumer content.*

# About Choral Evensong...

Choral Evensong, or sung evening prayer, is intended as a daily liturgy in the Anglican church. When Thomas Cranmer penned the first Book of Common Prayer in 1549, he combined all of the hourly monastic prayer services into two daily services, Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer. In most British Cathedrals, Choral Evensong is sung six days a week. It is increasingly popular in the United States, and has spread beyond The Episcopal Church into some protestant churches with traditional liturgies and music. The liturgy we offer today is adapted from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer, still in use today in most Cathedrals.

A service of prayer, Choral Evensong can be led by a layperson and consists of introductory sung prayers (Preces), the Psalm for the Day (usually sung to Anglican chant), two readings from the Bible interspersed with two Canticles (the Magnificat or "Song of Mary"; and the Nunc dimittis or "Song of Simeon."), the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, closing prayers (Responses and Collects) and an anthem. It is a brief service lasting between 35-40 minutes.

The service is essentially that composed by Cranmer in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, but contains texts and melodies which are much earlier. The solemn worship of God, with all the resources and creativity at our disposal, is our core purpose, pointing as the flèche does on this building, to our belief in the centrality of God in the life of the world.

The essence of this service is praise: words, inspired by God, used to worship God and lift our minds and hearts. The singing of psalms and the reading from the Hebrew scripture unite us with our spiritual ancestors, and with Jesus Christ, who himself used them to praise God. Our meditation on the word of God leads us to Jesus who is the Word made flesh, and so the Magnificat acts as a pivot, pointing us to the new relationship with God that he brings about. The remainder of the service celebrates that new covenant and, in the prayers, commits us to the life of service to which Christians are called.

There is not as much opportunity for congregational involvement as you might find in other forms of worship, but we hope that you will find prayerful reflection on what is said and sung a worthy offering to God. In our busy world, it is easy for us to become distracted. It is our prayer that this act of worship may both glorify God and provide an opportunity for the recharging of our spiritual batteries.

# About First Congregational Church...

WELCOME TO FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. As you can see and hear from the soaring Gothic Revival architecture, the stained glass windows, and the sound of music in this space, beauty is truly a multi-media encounter here.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES are held at 9:00 a.m. (Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, Parish Hall) and 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary). Following in the tradition of Washington Gladden, minister of this church from 1882 to 1914, First Congregational Church welcomes all people and extends its mission and witness into the community.

THIS BUILDING was designed by renowned architect John Russell Pope, dedicated in 1931 and renovated in 1997.

THE BRUSSELS TAPESTRIES were woven in 1575 in Belgium, embodying the artistic ideals of the Renaissance. Part of a larger series, they depict events in the life of Abraham.

ABOUT THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS: Seven studios have placed their work in this church. Above the Chancel, the Jeffrey window (Nicola d'Ascenzo Studios, 1931) depicts Christ's earthly life and ministry, and the East Chancel window (Charles J. Connick Studios, 1937) honors Mary, the Mother of Jesus. The Friendship window (East wall, East Transept, Charles J. Connick Studios, 1931) represents Christ and Saint John, and in the South bay, two lancet windows portray the Good Samaritan (Connick Associates Studio, 1966); while the Gladden window (West wall, West Transept, Oliver Smith, 1931) honors the social justice conscience of Washington Gladden, and in the South bay, two lancet windows represent the Resurrection and the New Jerusalem (Gabriel Loire Built by Jacques Loire Vitraux 1984). High above the nave, the eight Clerestory windows (designed by Francis Deck, built by Emil Frei Studios, 1976-1983) depict the story of Creation, and the Fall of Adam and Eve. Below, the Aisle windows (Gabriel Loire, 1988) illustrate parables of Jesus from the Gospels. The Rose window (designed by Wilbert C. Ronan, built by Oliver Smith, 1931) above and behind the Beckerath organ case portrays Christian cardinal virtues. The Barnard window (Ellen Miret, the Willet Stained Glass Studio, 2004) in the East Narthex, that celebrates music, was inspired by Bach's Fantasia and Fugue in G minor and honors G. Dene Barnard, who served First Church as Organist/Choirmaster for 30 years.

THE BANNER STAND is rolled steel and made by Albert Paley, sculptor, in 2003.

THE COLLECTION OF LITURGICAL BANNERS is made by artist Deb Anderson.

THE CHANCEL CROSS is made of red enameled copper facets on Brazilian rosewood, by William J. Thompson, sculptor, in 1963.

We are grateful for your free will offering today. If you would like to make an additional donation to the Concert Fund, please fill out the donor information below. Make checks out to First Church and mark them Concert Fund. You may place the card and your check in the offering plate. Thank you!

\$50-99 Angel

\$100-249 Cherub

\$250-499 Seraph

\$500-999 Archangel

\$1,000 + Gabriel

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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*THANK YOU for supporting Congregational Concerts. Through your generosity we can offer programs that feature our outstanding organs and choirs, and that offer the congregation at First Congregational Church, UCC, and the greater Columbus community both musical variety and excellence.*

**Gabriel (\$1000+)**

Anonymous  
Joseph Bellissimo and Kevin Jones  
Jim and Mary Day Fewlass  
Thomas Gerke  
Marti and Rob Rideout  
Allen Baker and Al Waddell  
Lissa and Drew Wade  
Lynn R. Wallich

**Archangels (\$500-\$999)**

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Barbara Johannes Clapham  
Catherine, Todd,  
and Aran Cunningham  
Christine  
and W. Thomas Farquhar  
The Rev. and Mrs. Earl  
and Pauline Fritz  
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Bill and Sarah Lange  
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John and Cindy Deliman  
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Jim Gieseke and Deb Fox  
Carol and Jim Gallagher  
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Cynthia Krause  
Sandra and Joel Mathias  
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Sheldon and Rebecca Taft  
Amy and Bill Wagner

**Cherubim (\$100-\$249)**

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Gretchen Atkinson  
Lyle and Meg Barkhymer  
Dorothy Beehner, In memory  
of Ben Wiant  
Fubara and Stella Braide  
Tom and Evalyn Brandt  
Bobby Carrington  
Jhan and Joan Corzine  
Kevin Cubick  
Mark and Shelley Gallant  
Jennifer A. Fry  
Pat Liebchen  
Gleva Stephens  
G. Dene Barnard  
Carol Ann Bradley  
Frank and Susan Cook  
Kate Erickson  
In memory of Amalie K. Nelson  
Eva Goode  
Leslie Huntington  
Heath Jolliff and Ryan Jones  
Rose and David Kandel  
James Kyle  
Sam and Jean Lebold  
David and Betty Meil  
Honoring Marie  
and Dick Pfeiffer  
Todd and Nyla Phillips  
Blake and Chris Rafeld  
Wayne  
and Cathy Redenbarger  
In memory of Helen Wilson  
Richard M. Sayre  
Hugh Schultz  
and Dana Navin  
Kent Shimeall and Lisa Morris  
Judy Smith  
Matthew Stevens  
and James Velo

In memory of Dorothy  
Cromartie and Amos White  
Richard and Jane Ward  
Elaine Warren  
The Weaver Family  
Mark S. Williams  
and Timothy Carsey  
Anne Jeffrey Wright

**Angels (\$50-\$99)**

Peter Anderson  
and Kathleen Sandman  
Gene and Sue Babb  
John Bachman  
Paul Barte  
Gene E. Beard  
Nancy Burba  
Michael Broome, in memory  
of Robert C. Roberts  
Terry and Penny Casey  
Chessie Dellenbach  
David Fontana  
Ann Fox  
Dawn George  
Ron and Beth Kenreich  
Eric and Bonnie Klintworth  
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Jerry L. Meyer  
Carolyn Moore  
David C. Nassau  
Marilyn J. Potts  
Rita and Michael Preston  
Larry and Carol Rhoades  
Anne Powell Riley  
Daniel E. Schleppe  
Ann and Jim Walters

**Friends (\$1-\$49)**

A.R. Koolemans Beynen  
Ronald Betz  
and Richard Horton  
Margaret Cipriani

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*This list is current as of 12 February 2020. Please contact Kevin Jones to correct any error or omission in this list.*

## 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.

## 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

## 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.



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