



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
SERVICE LEAFLET

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 6, 2018

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

* PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 98 (*read responsively by verse*)

L: Sing a new song to God, who has done marvelous things.

P: With your right hand, O God, and your holy arm, you have won for yourself the victory.

L: You have made known your victory; your righteousness have you openly shown in the sight of the nations.

P: You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

L: Sing to God with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

P: With trumpets and the sound of the horn, shout with joy before God who reigns in majesty.

L: Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, the lands and those who dwell therein.

P: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before God, who will come to judge the earth.

L: God shall judge the world in righteousness

P: and the peoples with equity.

THE FIRST READING Acts of the Apostles 10:44–48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

THE SECOND READING John 15:9–17

As God has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept God’s commandments and abide in God’s love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from God. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that God will give you whatever you ask in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

HOMILY

“The Commandment of Love”

Rev. Ahrens

MISSION INVITATION

Cash and designated checks go to **B.R.E.A.D.** We are all members of the BREAD organization ~ Building Responsibility Equality And Dignity. Your gifts are needed to help us build a strong justice ministry in Columbus. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY HYMN 388

Help us accept each other

Aurelia

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WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *celebrant*

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *preacher*

Nancy Livingston, *pianist*

Laurie Maynell, *liturgist*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 13

Liturgist: Joel Mathias

Communion Preparation: PLEASE SIGN UP

Refreshments: Debbi Kelly