



L: ...Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:  
**P: Christ has died. Christ is Risen. Christ will come again.**

*(The Communion Prayer continues)*

L: ...Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.  
**P: Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives for ever. Amen.**

L: Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.  
**P: 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.**

L:...Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
**P: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

#### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

ANTHEM E'en so, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come Paul Manz  
Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins, Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God, Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell there in, Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, For Christ is coming, is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more; They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!  
—from Revelation 22

*Please remain seated for the Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Notices.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Mr. Brown  
L: Let us pray.  
**All: We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have brought us from darkness to light, from slavery to freedom, from death to rebirth. Transform our lives with this heavenly food, that we may shine with your love and take to the world the risen life of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

\* CLOSING HYMN 281 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah Cwm Rhondda

\* COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH MISSION TRIP & BENECTION Rev. Ahrens

Leader ...This coming week, today through June 8, these 13 youth and four adults will go to New York City to serve the poor, hungry and homeless.  
**All: We support this valuable and unique ministry.**

L: Jesus himself commanded us all to go into the world. This summer, youth and adults of First Church have made the commitment to live out this Great Commission.

**All: We pray that the Holy Spirit will fill you, empower you and guide you.**

L: As this group of First Church travel in New York City, they will be inviting people to seek God's face, to experience Christ's love, and to radiate God's Spirit in the world, as they themselves will also be invited to do the same. The people whom they will meet will have many spiritual, emotional, and physical needs. These youth will feed those they encounter—literally and figuratively—and they themselves will be fed as well.

**All: We offer our blessing on those who are soon to leave.**

L: God has promised to always be with us. God invites us to abide in him and promises to always abide in us.

*Mission Trip Participants: We thank God for this promise. Strengthened by the awareness of God's presence within us, we offer ourselves to God's purposes and accept God's calling to go on this mission trip.*

L: There will be many challenges on this journey, but you are led by the greatest of all shepherds, God. God knows where and how we can find what we need most in any given situation. God will be with you and will guide you.

*Mission Trip Participants: We joyfully offer our gifts and talents, our energy and enthusiasm, as we look towards the many challenges that our mission trip will bring.*

**All: We thank God for the inspiration you are to us. We offer our prayers and support as you set out on this adventure with God.**

POSTLUDE Fugue in D Major, BWV 532 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 nametag. We'd be delighted to assist you. You are invited to Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.*

† ACOLYTES: Ethan Murray and Jack Patterson

† CRUCIFER: Finnegan Miller

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

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Don Erickson on his birthday, by Kate Erickson (see *Depart to Serve*).

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street – Rev. Ahrens

Ninth Street – Mr. Brown

Education Wing – Mr. Williams

† PLEASE NOTE: Next Sunday, June 9, is Pentecost Sunday. It is a longstanding tradition to wear red to mark the occasion. You are invited and encouraged to do so, if you so choose.

## 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.

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