



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

June 9, 2019

Pentecost Sunday

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 166 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 and Ushers wearing red roses can assist you.  
 Cards requesting prayer are in the Welcome Notebooks and should be 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 Fugue on an Easter Alleluia, Op. 57 Marcel Dupré

CHORAL INTROIT If Ye Love Me Thomas Tallis  
 If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the spirit of truth.  
 —John 14: 15–17

ENTER TO WORSHIP Janet Newcity  
 Leader: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**People: And also with you.**

*\* Then all stand.*

L: Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite our hearts with joy and confidence!

**P: For God has done wondrous things for us.**

L: Come, Holy Spirit! Fill us with the power of the rushing wind that we may faithfully serve you in all that we do.

**P: For Christ has called each of us and blessed us!**

L: Come, Holy Spirit! Be with us today.

**P: Help us to boldly proclaim Christ Risen. Amen.**

\* PROCESSIONAL HYMN Hail Thee, Festival Day! *Salva festa dies*  
*(Please see insert for this hymn)*

\* INVOCATION Anthony Brown  
 L: God be with you.  
**P: And also with you.**  
 L: Let us pray.  
**P: God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens  
 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 2:1–21  
*The Acts reading will be read in English, Dutch, and German.*  
*You are invited to follow the text in English found on the back panel of the insert.*  
*English:* Janet Newcity  
*Dutch:* Antoinette Beynen  
*German:* Mary Anne Jacobson

*After the reading:*

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 315 Every Time I Feel the Spirit *Pentecost*  
*During the hymn, Children, Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, are invited to the Worship Connections in the Children's Library on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Education Wing. They will return after the meditation. A fully staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age 4. This ministry is located in the nursery and toddler rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.*

*Please remain standing for the Gospel.*

\* THE GOSPEL John 14:8–17 (N.T. p. 108) Rev. Ahrens  
 L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.  
**P: Thanks be to God.**

PENTECOST MEDITATION "Questioning Our Faith" Rev. Ahrens  
*A time of reflection follows.*

PASTORAL PRAYER Mr. Brown  
*(Today, the Lord's Prayer will be prayed as part of the Communion liturgy.)*

THE OFFERTORY

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

MISSION INVITATION Rev. Ahrens  
 Cash and designated checks support rebuilding and mission efforts for churches in Sri Lanka that were bombed, three African American churches in Louisiana that were devastated by arson, and the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris that suffered a catastrophic fire. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM *Gloria (Messe Solennelle)* Louis Vierne  
*A translation of this text may be found in the hymnal, #575*

\* PRESENTATION HYMN 591 Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow *Old Hundredth*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
 Praise Christ, all creatures here below  
 Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
 Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*We practice open communion: Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward down the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisle. (Gluten free wafers are available on the trays.) Cups with the purple ribbons are filled with wine.*

\* INVITATION Rev. Ahrens

\* SURSUM CORDA Plainsong

*Leader* The Lord be with you. *People* And also with you.  
*Leader* Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them to the Lord.  
*Leader* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* It is right to give our thanks and praise.

\* COMMUNION PRAYER

\* SANCTUS William Mathias

*organ* Ho - ly, Ho - ly,  
 Ho - ly Lord. *organ* God of power and might, Heav'n and earth are  
 full of your glo - ry. *organ* Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*The congregation may be seated.*

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 *Agnus Dei (Messe Solennelle)* Louis Vierne  
*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.*  
*Agnus Dei qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.*

Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us..  
Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

*Please remain seated for the Prayer of Thanksgiving*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Mr. Brown  
**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

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

\* CLOSING HYMN 440 In Christ There Is No East or West McKee

\* BENEDICTION Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE *Final (Symphony I, Op. 14)* Vierne  
*Please be seated for the postlude.*

*Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found welcome, 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. Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.*

† ACOLYTES: Maggie Myers and Maya Haslett

† DOVE BEARER: Erin Murray

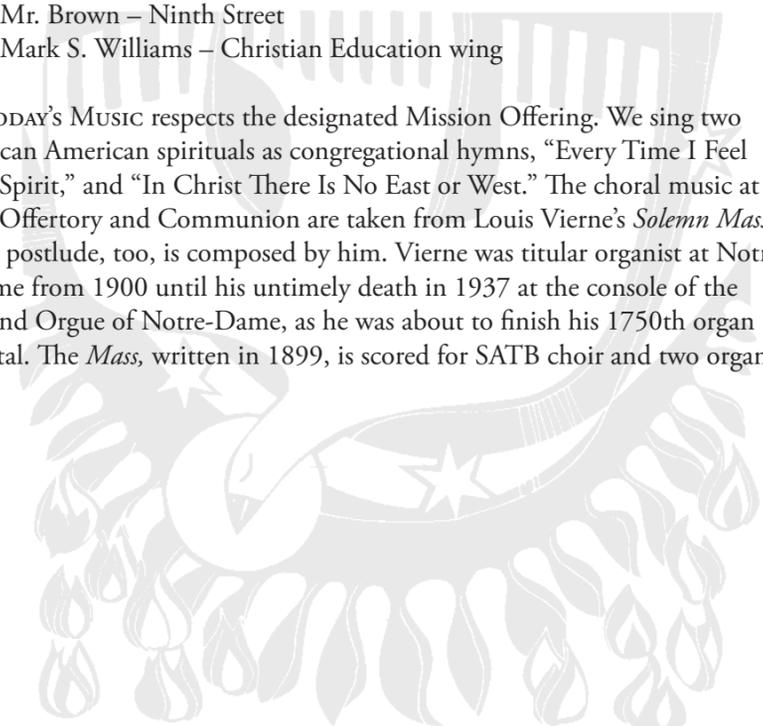
† CRUCIFER: Samantha Myers

† MUSIC: The First Church Choir, Kevin Jones, *organist and director*; Robert Wisniewski, *assisting organist*.

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in memory of Barbara M. Heer, given by Betsy Heer and Bill Heer.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:  
Rev. Ahrens – Broad Street  
Mr. Brown – Ninth Street  
Mark S. Williams – Christian Education wing

† TODAY'S MUSIC respects the designated Mission Offering. We sing two African American spirituals as congregational hymns, "Every Time I Feel the Spirit," and "In Christ There Is No East or West." The choral music at the Offertory and Communion are taken from Louis Vierne's *Solemn Mass*. The postlude, too, is composed by him. Vierne was titular organist at Notre-Dame from 1900 until his untimely death in 1937 at the console of the Grand Orgue of Notre-Dame, as he was about to finish his 1750th organ recital. The *Mass*, written in 1899, is scored for SATB choir and two organs.



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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

## 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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