

WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 17, 2018 The Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Proper 6

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 165 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 can assist you.

Cards requesting prayer are in the pew racks and 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 My Heart Abounds with Pleasure, Op. 122
 Johannes Brahms

ENTER TO WORSHIP Dr. Lynn Wallich

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: God interrupted Samuel with an unexpected call.

P: "Here I am, Lord. Send me!"

L: God surprised Jesse, choosing his youngest son, David, to be king.

P: "Here I am, Lord. Send me!"

L: We join with Christ and are a part of God's new creation.

P: O Mighty God, we come to join the harvest.

L: Gather us in, O Holy One, for we would be your people.

P: Amen.

* OPENING HYMN 205 All hail to God's anointed *Rockport*

* INVOCATION The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

L: God be with you.

P. And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Keep, O Holy One, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love; that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness and administer your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

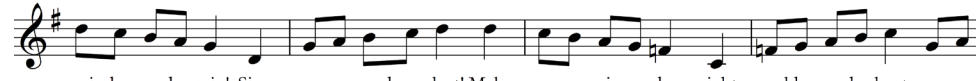
* SONG OF PRAISE Let all creation praise the Lord *Whitehead*



1. Let all cre - a - tion, bless the Lord, till heav'n with praise is ring - ing, Sun,
 2. All liv - ing things up - on the earth, green fer - tile hills and moun-tains, sing -
 3. O men and wo - men, ev - ery-where, lift up a hymn of glo - ry; let



moon, and stars, peal out a chord, stir up the an - gels' sing - ing, Sing,
 to the God who gave you birth; be joy - ful, springs and foun-tains, Lithe
 all who know God's stead - fast care tell our sal - va - tion's sto - ry. No



wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make mu - sic, day, night, cold and heat: ex -
 wa - ter life, bright air - borne birds, wild rov - ing beasts, tame flocks and herds: ex -
 tongue be - si - lent; sing your part, you hum - ble souls and meek of heart: ex -



- alt the God who made you.
 - alt the God who made you.
 - alt the God who made you.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

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 Rev. Ahrens

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE 1 Samuel 15:34—16:13 (O.T., p. 259) Dr. Wallich

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

P: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 5:6—10, 14—17 (N.T., p. 181) Dr. Wallich

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

P: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL HYMN 399 We walk by faith and not by sight *Dunlap's Creek*

During the hymn, children in Kindergarten through Second Grade are invited to Worship Connections in the Children's Library on the second floor of the Education Wing. They will return after the sermon. A fully staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age four. This ministry is located in the Nursery and Toddler Rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.

THE GOSPEL Mark 4:26—34 (N.T., p. 38) Rev. Corzine

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Flourishing" Rev. Corzine

A time of reflection follows.

THE 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 see the Depart to Serve leaflet for more information and a QR link.

MISSION INVITATION

Dawn George

Cash and designated checks go to **CRIS**. Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS) is an independent non-profit agency serving refugees, asylees and immigrants in central Ohio. Among local community-based organizations, CRIS is the largest agency providing services to immigrants in Central Ohio, and is the agency providing the most extensive services to immigrant populations in our area. Those services include immigration legal services and interpretation and translation. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY

Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness, Op. 122

Brahms

* 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.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Ahrens

Please be seated.

BLESSING OF CAMPERS

Rev. Ahrens and Dr. Mozingo

L: Let us pray for these individuals who will be attending camps this summer.

P: Gracious God. We thank you for this new day and for all the opportunities you place before us to grow in faith. We ask your blessing on those who are getting ready to go off to camp, that they may they grow in the knowledge and understanding of your love and grace. May they be kept safely in your hand. May they encounter you in both the beauty of your creation and in the eyes of their neighbor. May they feel your presence with them while they are away. And may they return safely to their homes better equipped to serve you with the whole of their lives. In the name of our Savior and Lord, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Dr. Mozingo

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN 285 God, You spin the whirling planets
Austrian Hymn

* BENEDICTION Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE Come, Holy Ghost, BWV 667 J.S. 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 name tag. We'd be delighted to assist you. Please join us in the Parish Hall for Fellowship Hour.

ACOLYTES: Jack Patterson and Ruby Holt

MUSIC: Kevin Jones, *organist*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given by Jon and David Peterson to the glory of God and in memory of Helen Peterson.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY

Rev. Corzine – Broad Street

Rev. Ahrens – Ninth Street

Dr. Mozingo – Christian Education wing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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.

Our Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, believe the following represents our commitment and desire to reach out and welcome all those in need of and searching for God's love: We believe that we are all created in God's image, female and male, and we are called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us on our common journey. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels and political and theological 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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