



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 28, 2020

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 8

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 167 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.*

*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 Sonata in E-flat, BWV 525 (*Allegro moderato*) J.S. Bach

WELCOME The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

ENTER TO WORSHIP Mark S. Williams

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: Great is our God and greatly to be praised!

P: The whole earth reflects God's power and might.

L: When we recall the wonders of God's creation:

P: We rejoice at the awesome complexity of it all.

L: Lord, you have brought us up from fear to hope.

P: Let us worship and praise God for all God's faithfulness. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN In Christ There Is No East or West McKee

1. In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north;
 2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where Their high com - mu - nion find;
 3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, What - e'er your race may be.
 4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In Him meet south and north;

But one great fel - low - ship of love Through - out the whole wide earth.
 His ser - vice is the gold - en cord Close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
 All chil - dren of the liv - ing God Are sure - ly kin to me.
 All Christ - ly souls are one in Him Through - out the whole wide earth.

* INVOCATION

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Corzine

L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Mr. Williams

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Genesis 22:1-14

David Mailer

A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 22.

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans, chapter 6.

Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Little Innocent Lamb

Marshall Bartholomew

(pre-recorded)

*Little Lamb, little Lamb, little innocent lamb,
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.
Little Lamb, little Lamb, little innocent lamb,
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.*

Devil, he's got a slippery shoe.
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.
Now, if you don't mind, he's gonna slip it on you.
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.

'Cause there ain't no dyin' over there,
In that Heavenly Land,
There'll be joy, joy, joy.

Just take one brick from Satan's wall,
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.
Satan's wall, gonna tumble and fall.
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 10:40–42

Rev. Corzine

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 10.

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Love Front Porch"

Rev. Corzine

THE 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 scan this QR code link, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve leaflet:



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Ahrens

Cash and designated checks go to **Deep Griha**. Deep Griha, in Pune, India, a mission partner with First Church, is a charitable organization working to improve the lives of people living in the slums of Pune. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

Sing Me To Heaven

Daniel Gawthrop

*Dedicated to the lives lost to racial violence in the United States,
and the more than 476,372 victims of COVID-19 around the world.
(pre-recorded)*

In my heart's sequestered chambers lie truths stripped of poets' gloss.
Words alone are vain and vacant, and my heart is mute.
In response to aching silence, memory summons half-heard voices.
And my soul finds primal eloquence, and wraps me in song.
If you would comfort me, sing me a lullaby.
If you would win my heart, sing me a love song.
If you would mourn me and bring me to God, sing me a requiem, sing me to Heaven.
Touch in me all love and passion, pain and pleasure.
Touch in me grief and comfort, love and passion, pain and pleasure.
Sing me a lullaby, a love song, a requiem.
Love me, comfort me, bring me to God.
Sing me a love song, sing me to Heaven.
—Jane Griner

* PRESENTATION HYMN

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 for the Notices.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.
P: **Thanks be to God.**

* CLOSING HYMN

Extol the God of Justice

King's Lynn

1. Ex - tol the God of jus - tice with heart and soul and voice;
2. Ex - tol the God of jus - tice en - throned for ev - er - more,
3. Ex - tol the God of jus - tice, how - ev - er dark the day:

re - mem - ber all God's won - ders, re - count them and re - joice.
a strong - hold in af - flic - tion, a ref - uge to the poor:
the hope that calls for mer - cy will not be turned a - way;

God stands with all who la - bor for what is true and right,
God hears the cry of vic - tims and sens - es their de - spair;
for e - vil shall not tri - umph, nor hu - man sin pre - vail:

till wick - ed - ness and false - hood are ban - ished from God's sight.
in faith - ful - ness is hon - ored the faith that sparks our prayer.
the Lord is God e - ter - nal, whose judg - ments can - not fail.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Sonata in E-flat, BWV 525 (*Vivace*)

Bach

*Please join us on ZOOM for a virtual coffee hour immediately following
this service.*

[Click HERE to be taken to this meeting.](#)

ZOOM meeting ID: 884 9421 6574

Password: 693317



Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

This Week at First Church

- 6/28**
9 a.m. **Worship**
9:45 a.m. **Zoom Chat**
11 a.m. **Worship**
12 Noon **Virtual Coffee Hour**
- 6/29**
10 a.m. **21-Day Racial Equity Challenge**
12 Noon **Grief Support Group**
7 p.m. **21-Day Racial Equity Challenge**
- 6/30**
7 p.m. **FCC BREAD Justice Ministry**
Network Meeting
- 7/1**
10:30 a.m. **Book Study**

“Acts Comes Alive!”
 Extended

Wednesdays in June, July and August at 10:30 a.m.
 The second Wednesday, the fourth Wednesday, and the fifth Wednesday when that happens. The dates, which account for Rev. Tim’s vacation in early July will take us through the end of our study in “Acts Comes Alive.”

We will meet at 10:30 a.m. on these days:

- June 10 - Worship
- June 24 - Healing
- July 22 - Learning and Teaching
- July 29 - Evangelism
- August 12 - 12 keys together

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82880952096?pwd=U-WlpY2UrMm5jVVJkdWk1ZHBmUzNadz09>

Meeting ID: 828 8095 2096
 Password: 919279

[Class Materials](https://www.first-church.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=63AYGYY&dasi=4G3AI)
<https://www.first-church.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=63AYGYY&dasi=4G3AI>

Join us in a Church-Wide Program

Everyone is invited to participate in the 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge. It is sponsored by the Christian Education and Justice and Mercy Commissions. The 21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge is where you do one action to further your understanding of power, privilege, supremacy, oppression, and equity. The Plan includes suggestions for readings, podcasts, videos, observations, and ways to form and deepen community connections. The suggested categories are: Read, Listen, Watch, Notice, Connect, Engage, Act, Reflect and Stay inspired.

We will host a Zoom meeting each Monday, starting June 15th, for us to discuss what we have learned during this challenge in a safe place.

We will host a Zoom meeting each Monday for us to discuss what we have learned during this challenge in a safe place.

You will find the link below – so get started now and help make a change in our lives and country.

https://www.eddiemoorej.com/21daychallenge?fbclid=IwAR14DWYP7qKFg7j5aokIXhfBe-Qhy21pV-kbvF_S8HIOCCz-m-JgQbY_bVAIk

Join Zoom Meeting 10:00 a.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88054839264?pwd=W-FE3Nm9EdXgrbmNxVW1adHFuWVd6QT09>

Meeting ID: 880 5483 9264
Password: 754146

Join Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83054339411?pwd=bE1RZXdTbElkWFZQOU9yMGxX-K0R1UT09>

Meeting ID: 830 5433 9411
Password: 361493

Virtual Coffee Hour



Sundays on Zoom
Immediately Following the Service Livestream

Join the Virtual Coffee Hour,
immediately following each
Worship Livestream.

9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dId-
mE4UzlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dId-mE4UzlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09)

Meeting ID: 865 2790 7526

Password: 601438

11:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/88494216574?pwd=cDNVS0d-
KaEdvTGhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88494216574?pwd=cDNVS0d-KaEdvTGhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09)

Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574

Password: 693317

Keep in Prayer

Fran Panek; Lindy Miller; Paul Flocken; Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz; Duan Cannon and her mother Lois Fields; and Arlene Reynolds.

Jane Mead, mother of Cindy Deliman; Will Nirote, grandson of Rev. Bill and Arevena Nirote; Paul Zimmerman, father of Doug Zimmerman; Tito Sanchez, friend of Dayna McCrary; Amy Smith, sister of Sarah Lange; and Calvin Roth, father of Julie Roth.

All medical professionals in our congregation who are on the front lines, and those affected by illness including Natalie Wojtanowski who is being treated for COVID-19 and her parents Denny and Carmen Wojtanowski.

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

These Days for July, August & September have arrived. If you would like a copy please email Pat Patterson at ppatterson@first-church.org

Upcoming Mission Offerings

July 5 **COMPASS**
July 12 **Good Samaritan Program**
July 19 **CRIS**
July 26 **Gladden Community House**

Give

At First Church, our financial resources enable us to “Enter to worship, depart to serve.” You can support the mission and ministry of First Church now by scanning the QR Code, using either EasyTithe or PayPal, by visiting www.first-church.org/give.aspx, or by sending your offering directly to First Congregational Church, 444 E Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For more information, please contact Pam Mantor at pmantor@first-church.org or Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org.

Cash and designated checks go to Deep Griha. Deep Griha, in Pune, India, a mission partner with First Church, is a charitable organization working to improve the lives of people living in the slums of Pune. Thank you for your generosity.



Emergency Pastoral Care Line

If you need to be in touch with Rev. Ahrens or Rev. Corzine, for emergency pastoral care or name a prayer request, please call this number 614-733-4547 and leave a message. Someone will return your call as needed.

Church Leadership

Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, M.Div., D. Min.

Associate Minister Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, M.Div.

Minister of Music Kevin Jones, M.M., M.S.E.

Director of Christian Education Mark S. Williams, M.Ed.

Administrative Manager Amy Wagner

Office Assistant Pat Patterson

Communications Consultant Melissa Kulwicki

Financial Assistant Pam Mantor

Building and Grounds Superintendent Mark Dahnke

Building and Grounds Assistant Darrell Cross

Custodian Jimmy Sibrian

Wedding Coordinators Amy Wagner, Janet Newcity, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani, Katie Wagner

Nursery Staff Miranda Brooks, Norma Secor, Blessing Weekly, Miranda Gumbita

Senior Deacon James Velo

Deacons Carol Ernst-King, Shelly Gies, Sarah Giffen, Scott Graham, Greg Halbe, Lanier Holt, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen, James Lowe, Dayna McCrary, Allison Lowery Palmer, Mark Sholl, Andrew Smith-Verhage, Al Waddell, Marty Worth

Church Council Leadership

Moderator Lynn Wallich; **Moderator-elect** Alec Deitz;

Treasurer Dennis Secor; **Treasurer-elect** Matt Myers;

Secretary Jim Griffin; **Secretary-elect** Peter Murray

Board of Trustees

Chairperson Chris Farquhar; **Trustees** Allen Baker, Brian Cave, Sue Cook, Cindy Conn, Kevin Cubick, Tom Hadley, Jim Kyle, Elaine Warren

Commissioners

Administration Andy Bensing; **Administration-elect** Brad West; **Church Growth** Cheryl Hoskinson; **Church Growth-elect** Elisha Hardekopf; **Church Vitality** Fran Panek; **Church Vitality-elect** Lee Kiesel; **Education** Stacie Sholl; **Education-elect** Margaret Graham; **House & Grounds** Victor John; **House & Grounds-elect** Eric Klintworth; **Justice & Mercy** Kaye Martin; **Justice & Mercy-elect** Lauren Muscott; **Music, Arts & Heritage** David Mailer; **Music, Arts & Heritage-elect** Scott Jones; **Members-at-Large** Melissa Prendergast & Mia Provenzano; **Nominating Committee Chair** Joe Baszynski

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

Revisions adopted January 27, 2019 by the congregation



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
God is still speaking,

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www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx



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