



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 5, 2020

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 9

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 Fanfare for the Common Man Aaron Copland

WELCOME The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

ENTER TO WORSHIP Rev. Corzine

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 to me," Jesus invites.

**P: We come to you.**

L: "Come to me, if you are tired."

**P: We come to you.**

L: "Come to me, if you carry burdens."

**P: We come to you.**

L: "Come, and discover rest for your souls."

\* OPENING HYMN

O Beautiful, For Spacious Skies

Materna

1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain,  
 2. O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern, im - pas - sioned stress  
 3. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In lib - er - at - ing strife,  
 4. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the years

For pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!  
 A thor - ough-fare for free - dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness!  
 Who more than self their coun - try loved, And mer - cy more than life!  
 Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un - dimmed by hu - man tears!

A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed your grace on thee,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine  
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed your grace on thee

And crown thy good with ser - vant-hood From sea to shin - ing sea!  
 Con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law!  
 Till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness And ev - ery gain di - vine!  
 And crown thy good with ser - vant-hood From sea to shin - ing sea!

\* INVOCATION

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P. And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever 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.

## THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Genesis 24:34–38, 42–49, 58–67

James Velo

*A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 24.*

So he said, "I am Abraham's servant. The Lord has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.' "I came today to the spring, and said, 'O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also" —let her be the woman whom the Lord has appointed for my master's son.' "Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. Then I bowed my head and worshiped the Lord, and blessed the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left." And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "May you, our sister, become thousands of myriads; may your offspring gain possession of the gates of their foes." Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way. Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

## THE EPISTLE

Romans 7:15–25a

Dr. Velo

*A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Romans, chapter 7.*

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

*A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 11.*

Jesus said, “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.’ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.” At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION

“Too Blessed to Complain”

The Rev. Dr. Renee P. Wormack-Keels

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Corzine

*(Today, the Lord’s Prayer will be prayed during Holy Communion.)*

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. Corzine

Cash and designated checks go to **COMPASS**. Since 1982, COMPASS, Congregational Outreach Ministries Program of Assistance and Social Service, has been a partnership with more than 20 area churches and other groups. This ministry is housed at Broad Street Presbyterian Church, 760 East Broad Street. COMPASS provides services to prevent homelessness and stall evictions, allowing families to remain in their homes. COMPASS improves the lives of the working poor through education classes on financial management, resume building, and job interviewing skills. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY

*Largo e dolce* (Sonata in B Minor, BWV 1030)

J.S. Bach

Amara Guitry, *baroque flute*; Kevin Jones, *harpsichord*  
(pre-recorded)

\* PRESENTATION HYMN

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

sung to *Duke Street*

**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.*

\* INVITATION

Rev. Corzine

L: Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life and for your abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life.

With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name:

**P: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.**

L: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.

Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Corzine

L: Let us pray.

**P: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Rev. Corzine

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* CLOSING HYMN

This Is My Song

*Finlandia*

1. This is my song, O God of all the na-tions, a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.  
2. My coun-try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean, and sun-lightbeams on clo-ver-leaf and pine.

This is my home, the coun-try where my heart is; here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;  
But oth-er lands have sun-light too, and clo-ver, and skies are ev - ery-where as blue as mine.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat-ing with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the na-tions, a song of peace for their land and for mine.

\* BENEDICTION

Rev. Wormack-Keels

POSTLUDE

God of the Nations

Emma Lou Diemer

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*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: 874 9207 5026

Password: 599583

July 5, 2020

*Enter to Worship*  
**Depart to Serve**

**This Week at First Church**

7/5  
9 a.m.           Worship  
9:45 a.m.       Zoom Chat  
11 a.m.          Worship  
12 Noon         Virtual Coffee Hour

7/6  
Observance of July 4th – Church office closed  
7 p.m.          Book Club

7/7  
6 p.m.          Music Committee Mtg  
7 p.m.          Justice and Mercy Mtg

7/8  
2:30 p.m.       Live Stream Task Force Mtg  
5:45 p.m.       Personnel Committee Mtg

7/9  
7 p.m.          Security Team Mtg

7/11  
8:30 a.m.       House and Grounds Committee Mtg  
10:30 a.m.      Sacred Earth

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**Twink Starr will celebrate his 98th birthday on July 16! During this time of social distancing, we ask that people help celebrate this amazing milestone by sending Twink a birthday card or note!**

Cards can be mailed to:  
**Twink Starr**  
**Thurber Tower**  
**845 Neil Avenue, Apt. 603**  
**Columbus, OH 43215-1650**

**Join us in a Church-Wide Program**

We will continue the dialogue for the 21-Day Racial Challenge.

Here are the dates:

August 10

August 17

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 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.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge?fbclid=IwAR14DWYP7qKFg7j5aokIXhfBeQhy21pV-kbvF\\_S8HIOccZm-JgQbY\\_bVAIk](https://www.eddiemoorejr.com/21daychallenge?fbclid=IwAR14DWYP7qKFg7j5aokIXhfBeQhy21pV-kbvF_S8HIOccZm-JgQbY_bVAIk)

**Join Zoom Meeting 10:00 a.m.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88054839264?pwd=WFE3Nm9EdXgrbmNxVW1adHFuWVd6QT09>

**Meeting ID: 880 5483 9264**

**Password: 754146**

**Join Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83054339411?pwd=bE1RZXdTbElkWFZQOU9yMGxXK0R1UT09>

**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=L014R1dldmE4U-  
zIUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dldmE4UzIUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09)

**Meeting ID: 865 2790 7526**

**Password: 601438**

**11:00 a.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/  
j/88494216574?pwd=cDNVS0dKaEdvT-  
GhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88494216574?pwd=cDNVS0dKaEdvTGhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09)

**Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574**

**Password: 693317**

## Keep in Prayer

In celebration of the birth of Heather and Dameon Jones's daughter, Evelyn. Fran Panek; Lindy Miller; Paul Flocken; Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz; and Arlene Reynolds.

Jane Mead, mother of Cindy Deliman; Duan Cannon and her mother Lois Fields; Will Nirote, grandson of Rev. Bill and Arevena Nirote; Tito Sanchez, friend of Dayna McCrary; Amy Smith, sister of Sarah Lange; and Calvin Roth, father of Julie Roth.

All medical professionals who are on the front lines, and those affected by illness including Natalie Wojtanowski who is being treated for Covid19 and her parents Denny and Carmen Wojtanowski; and Rev. Mary Kay Beall and John Carter on the death of her cousin Paul who died from COVID-19.

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including: the Zimmerman family on the death of Doug's father Paul Zimmerman; and the family of Clara Harsh on her death at age 102.

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Save the Date!

We are making lunches and helping for  
THE LARGEST TABLE at St. JOHN'S on JULY 29.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Making Lunches  
10:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Serving at Saint John's

Volunteers are needed. Masks are required. Contact  
Rev. Emily Corzine for information.

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## Upcoming Mission Offerings

July 12	<b>Good Samaritan Program</b>
July 19	<b>CRIS</b>
July 26	<b>Gladden Community House</b>

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## 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](http://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](mailto:pmantor@first-church.org) or Rev. Emily Corzine at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org).

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## 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](http://www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx)



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