



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

July 7, 2019

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 9

**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 Adagio in E Frank Bridge

ENTER TO WORSHIP Todd Jacobson

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: Praise be to God who has freed us from oppression!

**P: Praise be to God who has healed our wounded souls!**

L: Let our hearts rejoice at God's redeeming love.

**P: Let our voices raise in songs of thanksgiving for all that God is doing for us.**

L: Come, let us worship the Lord with our whole hearts!

**P: May our praise and voices resound with joy! Amen.**

\* OPENING HYMN 429 Lord, You Give the Great Commission *Abbot's Leigh*

\* INVOCATION The Rev. Laurence Miller

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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE The Rev. Abby Prendergast

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 in the Welcome Notebook at the end of each pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor.*

CHILDREN'S TIME Mark S. Williams

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE Isaiah 66:10–14 (O.T. p. 697) Mr. Jacobson

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE Galatians 6:7–16 (N.T. p. 191) Mr. Jacobson

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 564 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies *Materna*

*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 meditation. 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 Luke 10:1–11, 16–20 (N.T. p. 71) Rev. Prendergast

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION "The Dust That Clings" Rev. Prendergast

*A time of reflection follows.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Miller

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

THE OFFERTORY

MISSION INVITATION Antoinette Beynen

Cash and designated checks go to **Refugee Resettlement - First Church Team.**

In 2018, First Congregational Church, UCC, through our connection with Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), welcomed three Eritrean families to Columbus. We are committed to the families of Rigat Teame Mebrhatu and her 12-year-old daughter, Kileopatra Fikre Amdeselasia, Nasra Mohamed Shom Omar and her adult daughter, Hayat Mohamed, and Letkehidan Teklu Redan and her four-year-old son, Million Beemnet Negash. Over the last year, we have helped them furnish a home, improve their English, learn how to get around Columbus, and seek employment, but our work toward helping them achieve self-sufficiency is not quite finished. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY on *Melcombe* C.H.H. Parry

\* PRESENTATION HYMN 375 Lord of All Good, *stanza 1* *Toulon*

**Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to You;  
 Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill;  
 Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,  
 That our whole life is offered to Your will.**

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. (Wheat-free rice flour bread is available on the trays, cut into circles.) Cups with the purple ribbon around them are filled with wine.*

\* INVITATION

\* SURSUM CORDA

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

\* COMMUNION PRAYER

\* SANCTUS

Richard Proulx

*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

HYMN 515      Now to Your Table Spread      *Love Unknown*

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING      Rev. Miller

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*

\* BENEDICTION      Rev. Prendergast

POSTLUDE      Toccata in Seven      John Rutter

*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: Jack Patterson and Maggie Myers

† MUSIC: G. Dene Barnard, *organist/choirmaster emeritus*

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in memory of her mother, Marjorie Kufel, by Sharon Leidheiser

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:  
Broad Street – Rev. Prendergast  
Ninth Street – Rev. Miller  
Education Wing – Mr. Williams

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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UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking.



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