



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 19, 2020

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 11

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

Allegro vivace (Symphony I, Op. 14)

Louis Vierne

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: In the midst of strife, God is with us!

P: Come, O Lord, and pour your word into our hearts.

L: In the anguish and grief of everyday living, God is with us!

P: Hear our cries, O Lord, and quiet our spirits!

L: Come, let us open our hearts and spirits to the Lord.

P: We come, with confidence and hope in the presence of God. Amen.

1. Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; glad of heart your ca-rols raise; ran-somed, healed, re-stored, for-
 2. Praise God for the grace and fa - vor shown our fore-bears in dis-tress; God is still the same for-
 3. Like a lov-ing par-ent car - ing, God knows well our fee-ble frame; glad - ly all our bur-dens
 4. An - gels, teach us ad - o - ra - tion, you be - hold God face to face; sun and moon and all cre-

giv - en who, like me, should sing God's praise? Al - le - lu - ia!
 ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless: Hal - le - lu - jah!
 bear - ing, still to count - less years the same. Hal - le - lu - jah!
 a - tion, dwell - ers all in time and space. Hal - le - lu - jah!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Mak - er all your days!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Sing our Mak - er's faith - ful - ness!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! All with - in me, praise God's name!
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Praise with us the God of grace!

* INVOCATION

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Holy One, you know us already. Help us to know you better. Let us see you both in front of us and behind us. Infuse our worship with your Spirit so that we may learn to recognize your presence in all places; through the worthiness of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for 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

Mark S. Williams

A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 28.

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.” So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel; but the name of the city was Luz at the first.

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 8.

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 13.

Jesus put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“The Sowers of Redemption”

Rev. Corzine

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. Corzine

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

I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ

J.S. Bach

**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. Corzine

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

Amazing Grace

New Britain

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound—
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
 3 The Lord has prom - ised good to me,
 4 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years,

that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost
 and grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious_ did
 his word my hope se - cures; he will my shield
 I have al - read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought
 bright shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days

but now am found, was blind but now I see.
 that grace ap - pear the hour - I first be - lieved!
 and por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 to sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Final (Symphonie I, Op. 14)

Vierne

*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

- 7/19
 9 a.m. Worship
 9:45 a.m. Zoom Chat
 11 a.m. Worship
 12 Noon Virtual Coffee Hour
 6:30 p.m. Youth Group Gathering
- 7/20
 10 a.m. 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge
 7 p.m. Budget & Finance Mtg
 21-Day Racial Equity Challenge
- 7/21
 7 p.m. Executive Committee Mtg
- 7/22
 10:30 a.m. Acts Comes Alive
 2:30 p.m. Live Stream Task Force Mtg

Arlene Reynolds, long time member of First Congregational Church, died at home on Monday, July 6, 2020.

A service to celebrate her life will be held for family Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. This service will be live-streamed for those outside her family. More information will follow

Our love and care surround Arlene's family, especially Annette Salser, Lou Flocken, and Paul Flocken; and her friends at this time.

Join us in a Church-Wide Program

The 21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge has been extended and it's never too late join! New topics on Protest and Rebellion, Self Care, and a 21 Day Youth, Race & Moore. You can read more about each topic on the following page.

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 Zoom meetings on Monday at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. for us to discuss what we have learned during this challenge in a safe place.

The dates for the discussions are:

- July 20
- August 10
- August 17

The challenge is sponsored by the Christian Education and Justice and Mercy Commissions.

More information about the challenge can be found at: https://www.eddiemoorej.com/21daychallenge?fbclid=I-wAR14DWYP7qKFg7j5aokIXhfBeQhy21pV-kbvF-S8HIOCCzm-JgQbY_bVAIk

Join Zoom Meeting 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88054839264?pwd=WFE3Nm9EdXgrbmNxVW1adHFMVWd6QT09>

Meeting ID: 880 5483 9264
 Password: 754146

Join Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83054339411?pwd=bE1RZX-dTbElkWFZQOU9yMGxXK0R1UT09>

Meeting ID: 830 5433 9411
 Password: 361493

Additional Topics for The 21- Day Racial Equity Challenge

Protest and Rebellion

Protests and Rebellions are as old as the United States. When the status quo becomes unbearable to enough people, uprisings pressure those in power to make changes that bring us closer to the Land-of-the-Free promise. We've pulled together a reminder that we are in a long struggle that did not begin with this moment and will not end with this moment. This Challenge includes resources to inspire us and remind us whose shoulders we stand on and whose sacrifices we are honoring as we continue to educate and activate to demand a more just and humane world.

Self Care

When white supremacy wears us down to the point of ineffectiveness, white supremacy wins. Because white supremacy thrives when we deny humanity, ours and others', tending to our human needs is vital. And, using the oxygen mask on the airplane analogy, we can hardly care for our collective humanity if we don't first pay attention to our own. Joy, positive energy, clarity, deep relationships, and resilience not only feel good, they are powerful forms of resistance. Though it can feel counterintuitive to take time for self-care when the world around us is in crisis and many of us have zero time for self-care, understanding and practicing self-care is not only "allowed," it is required of us. Activism is a marathon, not a sprint. We hope the resources will help you stay physically and spiritually nourished so you can step up and stay in the intergenerational struggle for liberation.

21 Day Youth, Race & Moore

The Christian Church, for many, has been seen as a catalyst for justice and righteousness across the United States. After all, the 1960's Civil Rights Movement was grounded in the Church. Leaders such as Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Fannie Lou Hamer, Rep. John Lewis, and Rosa Parks cite Christian theology and biblical teachings as influencing factors in their fight for equity. Though, for many others, the Christian Church has dominated and oppressed. Enslaved peoples were forced to abandon their identities and adopt the faith. The bible was even used to continue the enslavement of our Black and Brown neighbors. No human institution is perfect, the Church is no exception. The good news is that we are in the midst of an opportunity to use the Gospel as a means of anti-racist liberation and education in our own lives. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. taught, "Our goal is to create a Beloved Community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives." #ThisIsOurTime #YOUthFaithRace

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-
zlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dldmE4U-zlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09)

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=cDNVS0dKaEdvT-GhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09)

Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574

Password: 693317

Keep in Prayer

Prayers:

In celebration of the birth of Josephine Lavinia Shimeall Shanahan, daughter of Wyatt and Cecilia Shimeall and granddaughter of Kent Shimeall and Lisa Morris, born on July 9, 2020.

Betsy Zahn; Dana Navin Schultz; Fran Panek; Lindy Miller; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz.

Caleb Creech, brother-in-law to Sarah Ahrens Stadie, to be deployed to Afghanistan; Jane Mead, mother of Cindy Deliman; 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; Penny Davidovitch, friend of Melissa Kulwicki; Jackie Conley, friend of Linda Mumford, and her uncle Robert Capaldi, who suffered massive heart attack

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including the Reynolds/Flocken family and friends on the death of Arlene Reynolds; and friends of Natalie Barker on the death of their baby.

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 Johns

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

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

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 Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS). 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.



Upcoming Mission Offerings

July 19 **CRIS**
July 26 **Gladden Community House**

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,

Bulletins are printed on recycled paper with a minimum 50% post-consumer content.
All music in the bulletin is reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717661. All rights reserved.
Bulletins and audio podcasts of services are available on the website for each week:
www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
444 EAST BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO 43215-3885
PHONE: 614.228.1741 FAX: 614.461.1741
WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG

