



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

July 29, 2018 The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Proper 12

**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 *Méditation (Suite Medievale)* Jean Langlais

ENTER TO WORSHIP Greg Kellison

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, rest your spirits in the Lord.

**P: We come, hungry and thirsting for God's word.**

L: This is a place of peace and hope, where all may be fed and healed.

**P: Bring us to the time of healing.**

L: Come, place your trust in God who is always near you.

**P: Open our hearts, Lord, to hear your word and feel your presence. Amen.**

\* OPENING HYMN 83 O love, how deep, how broad, how high

*Deo Gracias*

\* INVOCATION The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P. And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our leader and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through 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 The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

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

BAPTISM HYMN 498 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (*stanzas 1–2*)  
*Kingdom*

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR  
 CARSYN EMILY SCHMITT

*We welcome Carsyn, parents Emily & Derek, godparents Kim Kuschbach & James Maynard and Senior Deacon Janet Newcity. Members and friends are invited to write a prayer and greeting to Carsyn on the baptismal card found in the pew pads. Please write Carsyn's name at the top, and today's date on the bottom of the card. Please place the card in the offering plate at the time of the Offertory.*

WELCOME

Leader: . . . But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

**People: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."**

ADDRESS

L: . . . the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of her growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**P: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.**

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

\* CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

L: . . . Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as Carsyn lives and grows in Christ?

**P: We promise our love, support, and care.**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

**P: I believe in God.**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**P: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

L: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**P: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

L: Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

ACT OF BAPTISM

NAMING OF THE CHILD

L: Carsyn Emily Schmitt, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Rise from the waters of baptism and give glory to God all the days of your life.

**P: Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

L: Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this newest member of the body of Christ.

**P: Give to Carsyn strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

BAPTISM HYMN 498 Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (*stanzas 3–4*)  
*Kingdom*

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE 2 Samuel 11:1–15 (O.T., p. 284) Mr. Kellison

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

THE EPISTLE Ephesians 3:14–21 (N.T., p. 193) Mr. Kellison

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 366 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me *St. Catherine*  
*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 John 6:1–21 (N.T., p. 97) Rev. Ahrens

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

BAPTISMAL MEDITATION "The Prophet of the Social Gospel" Rev. Ahrens  
*Part one of the six-part sermon series, "The New Social Gospel"*

*A time of reflection follows.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Corzine

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

Nicole Moss

Cash and designated checks go to **YWCA Family Center**. With community support, the YWCA is a refuge for many families and children struggling with homelessness and unemployment. Your contributions will make these programs possible; please give generously.

VOLUNTARY *Prélude au Kyrie (Hommage à Frescobaldi)*

Langlais

\* 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. Corzine

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Dr. Mozingo

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*

\* BENECTION

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE Postlude No. 1

Langlais

*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: AnnaSofia Severson and Sebby Kulwicki

MUSIC: G. Dene Barnard, *guest organist*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given by Janet Newcity to the glory of God and in celebration of my second family - the current, past and future Deacons and Ushers.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY

Rev. Ahrens – Broad Street

Rev. Corzine – Ninth Street

Dr. Mozingo – Christian Education wing

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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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