



HOLY COMMUNION AT ELEVEN  
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 5, 2018 The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Proper 13

**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 Three Elevations, Op. 32 Marcel Dupré  
*Quasi lento; Très modéré; Lento*

ENTER TO WORSHIP Janet Newcity  
 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: Blessed be the Lord of Hosts, who cleanses and heals our lives.

**P: Praise be to God!**

L: Blessed be the Holy One, who brings us from despair to hope.

**P: Praise be to God!**

L: Blessed be the Giver of Life, who nurtures and comforts us.

**P: Let us praise God with our whole hearts and souls. Amen.**

\* OPENING HYMN 442 The church's one foundation *Aurelia*

\* INVOCATION The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P. And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: Let your continual mercy, O God, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens  
 L: We are called to examine our faithfulness to God's covenant with us. God, in whose presence we gather, promises us grace and pardon when we acknowledge our weakness and brokenness. Let us confess our sin to almighty God.

**All: Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond faithfully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*A time of silence follows.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON  
 L: God hears the confession of our hearts and lips. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven all our sins, and by the Holy Spirit we are empowered for new life.

**P: We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE Rev. 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 Dr. Karen Mozingo

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE 2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a (O.T., p. 285)  
 Ms. Newcity

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

THE SECOND READING Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 (O.T., p. 62)  
 The Rev. John Aeschbury

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 510 Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts *Quebec*  
*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 6:24-35 (N.T., p. 98) Rev. Ahrens

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION MEDITATION "Forward to Freedom" Rev. Aeschbury  
*Part two of the six-part sermon series, "The New Social Gospel"*  
*A time of reflection follows.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Corzine  
*(Today, the Lord's Prayer will be prayed as part of the Communion liturgy.)*

THE OFFERTORY  
*Want to give online? Please see the Depart to Serve leaflet for more information and a QR link.*

MISSION INVITATION Rev. Corzine  
 Cash and designated checks go to **Church World Service-Hygiene Kits**. Church World Service was formed in response to an emergency – when churches helped to provide food, clothing and medical supplies to war-torn Europe and Asia following World War II. 70+ years later, churches are still responding to emergencies. Today's offering will be used to purchase personal hygiene items which the congregation will then assemble into Hygiene Kits on Sept. 9th. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY *Choral (Livre d'Orgue)* Samuel Ducommun

\* PRESENTATION HYMN 591 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow  
*Old Hundredth*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
 Praise Christ, all people 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. 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 Plainsong

Leader People  
 The Lord be with you. And also with you.  
 Leader People  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
 Leader  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
 People  
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

\* COMMUNION PRAYER

\* SANCTUS

William Mathias

organ  
Ho - ly, Ho - ly,  
Ho - ly Lord. God of power and might, Heav'n and earth are  
organ  
full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

*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.**

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMN 501 Bread of Heaven *Arfon*

*Please remain seated for the Prayer of Thanksgiving*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Rev. Corzine

L: Let us pray.

**All: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Dr. Mozingo

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* CLOSING HYMN There's a wideness in God's mercy

Corvedale

1. There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness of the sea;  
2. There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;  
3. For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure of the mind;  
there's a kind - ness in his jus - tice which is more than li - ber - ty.  
there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.  
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.  
There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;  
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;  
If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;  
there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.  
and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

\* BENEDICTION

Rev. Aeschbury

POSTLUDE

*Sanctus (Livre d'Orgue)*

Ducommun

*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. Please join us for Fellowship Hour in the Parish Hall immediately following the service.*

WE WELCOME GUEST PREACHER THE REV. JOHN AESCHBURY to worship this morning and thank him for his presence, message, and ministry. John is the Executive Director of DART, the umbrella organization for B.R.E.A.D. of which he is the founding organizer. An ordained UCC minister, John is also a member of First Church.

ACOLYTES: Matty Provenzano and Jack Patterson

MUSIC: Robert Wisniewski, *guest organist*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the Glory of God and in memory of our wife and mother, Kathleen Dean by Geoffrey, Amanda and Jennifer Dean.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street – Rev. Aeschbury

Ninth Street – Rev. Ahrens

Education Wing – Rev. Corzine

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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