



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 9, 2020

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 14

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

Master Tallis's Testament

Herbert Howells

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Mark S. Williams

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: Give thanks to the Lord!

P: Sing praise to God's name!

L: The Lord has done wonderful things for us!

P: The Lord has heaped blessing upon blessing in our lives!

L: Come, sing, shout, and give thanks to God.

P: In all our ways, we will continually thank God forever. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN

O Come and Sing Unto the Lord

Irish

1. O come and sing un - to the Lord, To God our voic - es raise; Let
 2. Be - fore God's pres - ence let us come With praise and thank - ful voice; Let
 3. The Lord our God is ov - er all, A - bove all gods en - throned, The
 4. To God the spa - cious sea be - longs; God made its waves and tides. And
 5. O come, and bow - ing down to God Our wor - ship let us bring; Yea,
 us in our most joy - ful songs The Lord, our Sav - ior, praise.
 us sing psalms to God with grace, With grate - ful hearts re - joice.
 depths of earth and moun - tains high By God a - lone are owned.
 by God's hand the ris - ing land Was formed, and still a - bides.
 let us kneel be - fore the Lord, To God our voic - es sing.

* 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 forever. 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 a sign of Christ's peace.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Mr. Williams

A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 37.

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob. Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him. Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron. He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it. Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

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 10.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

P: Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 14.

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.” Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

P: Thanks be to God

SERMON

“Make Your Life Matter”

Rev. Ahrens

Part three of the Seven-part Sermon Series:

“For Such a Time As This: Seven Lessons for Living Through Pandemic Times”

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 **Making A Difference**. Making A Difference, Inc. (MAD) is a community focused organization serving First Church’s neighboring community, Columbus’ near east side. MAD works with community leaders and organizations to produce events such as health fairs and wellness clinics to educate citizens on the importance of taking care of themselves and connect with resources available to them. MAD produces events such as basketball camps, father-focused clinics, and leadership development activities. MAD also supports and encourages entrepreneurship within the community, and educates residents on the strength of working together for the common good. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY

Aria (Six Short Pieces)

Howells

**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.**

* 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

All My Hope on God is Founded

Michael



1. All my hope on God is found - ed; who doth still my trust re - new:
2. Hu - man pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown, be - tray our trust;
3. God's great good - ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep - est wis - dom, pass - ing thought:
4. Dai - ly doth th'al - might - y giv - er boun - teous gifts on us be - stow.
5. Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of praise be done,



I through change and chance am guid - ed, on - ly good and on - ly true.
 what with care and toil we fash - ion, tower and tem - ple fall to dust.
 splen - dor, light, and life at - tend - ing, beau - ty spring - eth out of nought.
 God's de - sire our soul de - light - eth, pleas - ure leads us where we go.
 high a - bove all prais - es prais - ing for the gift of God's own Son.



God un - known, God a - lone calls my heart to be thine own.
 But God's power, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tower.
 Ev - er - more from God's store new - born worlds rise and a - dore.
 Love doth stand hand in hand; joy doth wait on God's com - mand.
 Christ shall call one and all: you that fol - low shall not fall.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

Psalms-Prelude, Set. 2, No. 3

Howells

Sing unto God a new song: play skillfully with a loud noise.

—Psalm 33:3

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

August 9, 2020

This Week at First Church

8/9	
9 a.m.	Worship
9:45 a.m.	Zoom Chat
11 a.m.	Worship
Noon	Virtual Coffee Hour
8/10	
9 a.m.	Good Samaritan
10 a.m.	21-Day Racial Equity Challenge
Noon	Grief Support Group
7 p.m.	21-Day Racial Equity Challenge Trustees Mtg
8/11	
7 p.m.	Executive Committee Mtg
8/12	
10:30 a.m.	Acts Comes Alive Bible Study
2:30 p.m.	Live Stream Task Force Mtg
5:45 p.m.	Personnel Committee Mtg
6 p.m.	Christian Education Mtg
8/13	
7 p.m.	Security Team Mtg

“Acts Comes Alive!”

The final class of “Acts Comes Alive!” meets this Wednesday, August 12 at 10:30 a.m.
Click for class materials and the Zoom Meeting Link and class materials

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83825673745?pwd=dmltVzB5U0YwRjJ4L2lXa25pWHc5UT09>

Meeting ID: 838 2567 3745

Passcode: 036547

Class Materials

<https://www.first-church.org/protected/ArticleView.aspx?iid=63AYGYY&dasi=4G3AI>

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.

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:

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=IwAR14DWYP7qKEg7j5aokIXhfBeQhy21pV-kb-vF_S8HIOccZm-JgQbY_bVAIk

Join Zoom Meeting 10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88054839264?pwd=WFE3Nm9EdXgrbmNzVW1adHFuWVd6QT09>

Meeting ID: 880 5483 9264

Password: 754146

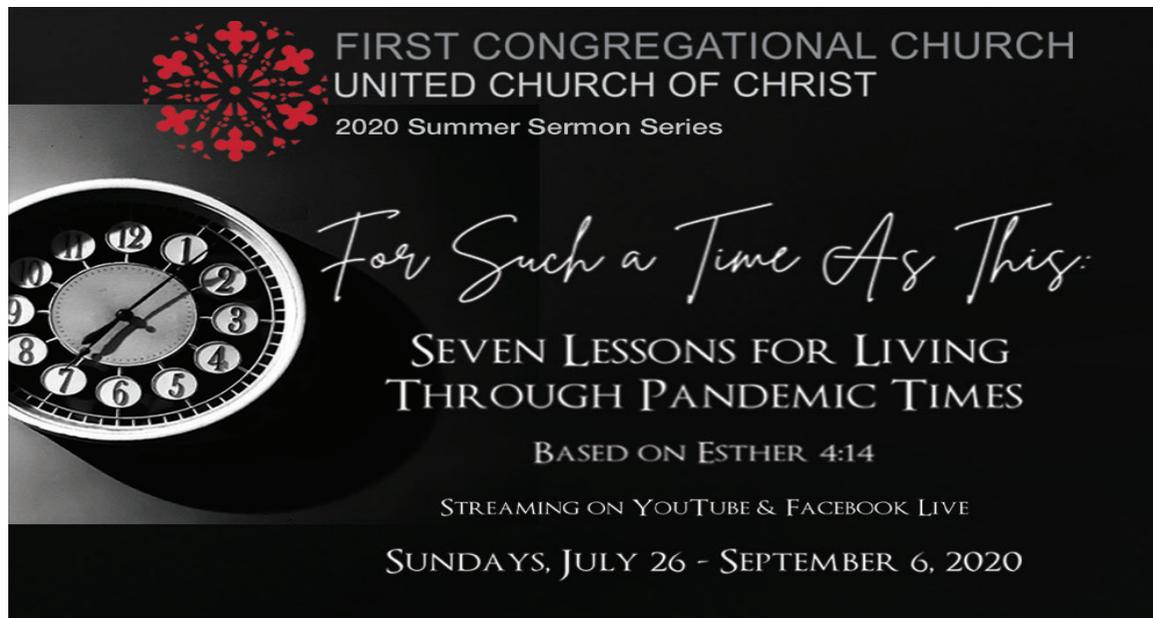
Join Zoom Meeting 7:00 p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83054339411?pwd=bE1R-ZXdTbElkWFZQOU9yMGxXK0R1UT09>

Meeting ID: 830 5433 9411

Password: 361493

2020 Summer Sermon Series



“For Such a Time As This: Seven Lessons for Living Through Pandemic Times” Based on Esther 4:14

We are living in trying times. These times are like nothing most of us have ever experienced. There are confluences of pandemics of with COVID-19, racism, economic hardship, and poverty all in the midst of a Presidential Election Cycle create challenges like we have never seen. How do we find our spiritual balance in times such as these?

Over the next seven weeks, we will engage a seven-part sermon series entitled, For Such a Time As This: Seven Lessons for Living Through Pandemic Times. Based on the story of Esther, Rev. Emily Corzine, Rev. Patricia Battle and I will present seven lessons for life in these times.

Please join us every Sunday on YouTube or Facebook Live. Also, share these lessons with others. Spread the word of God and the reflections we share to get us through times like these.

Blessings and love to you,
Tim

Sermon Titles for 2020 Summer Sermon Series

July 26 – “Get Into ‘Good Trouble’”

August 2 – “Learn from the Past and Don’t Repeat it”

August 9 – “Make Your Life Matter”

August 16 - “Use the VOTE Intelligently, Conscientiously and Prayerfully”

August 23 – Rev. Corzine preaching

August 30 – Rev. Corzine preaching

September 6- “Love God, Self, and Neighbor with Passion, Prayer, and Intelligence”

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

Grief Group

All are welcome to join us online
Monday, August 10 at noon for the Grief Support Group.

Zoom meeting information
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84782239104?pwd=bDMzK1NnR0s2bi9jaFl0VllnRkZmZz09>

Meeting ID: 847 8223 9104
Password: 911200

Keep in Prayer

Rob and Marti Rideout; Kelly Dodd; Betsy Zahn; Dana Navin Schultz; Lindy Miller; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz.

Jeffery Collins, father of Will Zimmerman's girlfriend, Kalee Collins; Brent Hatch, father of Annie West's partner Evin Hatch; Dwight and Elaine Holt, parents of David Holt; Emily Conlin, daughter of Valerie Conlin; Charles John, father of Victor John; Susan Gatton, sister of Amy Wagner; 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; and Amy Smith, sister of Sarah Lange; Calvin Roth, father of Julie Roth; the people of Beirut.

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including Shannon Washington and her mother, Lorraine Dodds, on the death of her father, Christopher.

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.

Dr. Will Fernald's will celebrate his 97th birthday on Aug. 16. Help him celebrate his special day by sending a card or note!

His address is :
Dr. Will Fernald
Bickford of Bexley, Room 205
2600 E. Main St.
Bexley, Ohio 43209

Thanks be to God for Dr. Will Fernald!

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.

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August Mission Offerings

August 9	Making a Difference
August 16	LSS-CHOICES
August 23	ACLU Foundation of Ohio
August 30	Equitas Health

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

Business Administrator Annette McCormick

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 Brian Cave **Trustees** Allen Baker, Sue Cook, Cindy Conn, Kevin Cubick, Christine Farquar, 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** Lauren Muscott; **Justice & Mercy-elect** Kaye Martin; **Music, Arts & Heritage** David Mailer; **Music, Arts & Heritage-elect** Scott Jones; **Members-at-Large** Mel 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



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