



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

August 23, 2020

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 16

**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 Adagio (Sonata in E-flat, BWV 525) J.S. Bach

WELCOME The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

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: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**P: We belong to God.**

L: When we feel overwhelmed,

**P: God is on our side.**

L: When we are afraid,

**P: God will keep us safe.**

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**P: Blessed be the Lord!**

\* OPENING HYMN

Awake, My Soul, and With the Sun

*Morning Hymn*

1. A - wake, my soul, and with the sun your dai - ly stage of du - ty run; Shake  
 2. Lord, I my vows to you re - new. Dis - perse my sins as morn - ing dew; Guard  
 3. Di - rect, con - trol, sug - gest, this day, All I de - sign or do or say; That

off dull sloth, and joy - ful rise To pay your morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 my first springs of thought and will, And with your - self my spir - it fill.  
 all my powers, with all their might, In your sole glo - ry may u - nite.

\* INVOCATION

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: Grant to us, O God, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

\* 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

Mr. Williams

THE FIRST READING

Exodus 1:8—2:10

Stacie Sholl

*A reading from the book of Exodus, chapter 1.*

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live." Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

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 12.*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

*A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 16.*

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

*Part five of the Seven-part Sermon Series:*

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

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 **ACLU Foundation of Ohio**. The Mission of the ACLU of Ohio Foundation is to aid in maintaining and extending constitutional and other fundamental rights, liberties, privileges, and immunities, and to take all legitimate actions in furtherance of that object without political partisanship. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

Greater Love Hath No Man

John Ireland

*(pre-recorded)*

Emily Riffin and Dylan Woodring, *soloists*

Many waters cannot quench love,  
neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death.  
Greater love hath no man than this,  
that a man lay down his life for his friends.  
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree,  
That we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness.  
Ye are washed, ye are sanctified,  
ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus.  
Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation;  
That ye should show forth the praises of him  
who hath call'd you out of darkness into his marvellous light.  
I beseech you brethren, by the mercies of God,  
that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy,  
acceptable unto to God, which is your reasonable service.  
--Canticles 8, John 15, 1 Peter 2, 1 Corinthians 6, Romans 12

\* PRESENTATION HYMN

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.**

\* 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

O Word of God Incarnate

Munich

1. O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,  
2. The church from you, dear Sav - ior, Re - ceived this gift di - vine,  
3. O make your church, dear Sav - ior, A lamp of pur - est gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:  
And still that light is lift - ed, On all the earth to shine.  
To bear be - fore the na - tions Your true light, as of old;

We praise you for the ra - diance That from the hal - lowed page,  
It is the chart and com - pass That, all life's voy - age through,  
O teach your wan - dering pil - grims By this our path to trace,

A lan - tern to our foot - steps, Shines on from age to age.  
A - mid the rocks and quick - sands, Still guides, O Christ, to you.  
Till, clouds and storms thus end - ed, We see you face to face.

\* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Fugue in E-flat ("St. Anne"), BWV 552

Bach

*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 23, 2020

**This Week at First Church**

**8/23**

9 a.m.      Worship  
9:45 a.m.   Virtual Coffee Hour  
11 a.m.      Worship  
Noon         Virtual Coffee Hour

**8/24**

12 noon     Grief Support Group

**8/25**

7 p.m.      Deacons Mtg

**8/26**

2:30 p.m.   Live Stream Task Force Mtg

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**First Church Book Club**

All are invited to join the First Church Book Club! The group meets next on Monday, August 31 (on Zoom) at 7 p.m. The book selection for the meeting is *Rust: A Memoir of Steel and Grit* by Elise Colette Goldbach.

The two final selections for 2020 are:

October 5: *The Lost Family, How DNA Is Upending Who We Are* by Libby Copeland

November 2: *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead

If you have question or would like more information please email [communications@first-church.org](mailto:communications@first-church.org)

Happy Reading!

**Coming Soon!**

Beginning in mid-September, Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens will lead a mid-week, mid-morning and Monday Evening class on Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How to Be An Antiracist*. More detailed information is coming soon!

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**Volunteer Opportunity**

We are making lunches and helping for THE LARGEST TABLE at St. JOHN'S the third Wednesday of each month, through the end of the year.

The next date is September 16.

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Making Lunches  
10:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Serving at Saint John's

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

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**Family Camping at Templed Hills through Labor Day**

(Reservations from now through September 7)

If you'd like to bring your family camping anytime between now and September 7, the Heartland Conference of the UCC are sponsoring family camping at Templed Hills Camp. All reservations from now through September 7 to reserve a cabin or tent site.

Visit <http://www.heartlanducc.org/all-project-list/templed-hills-partial-re-opening-in-july/> for more information!

## 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 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 – “Live in and out of Murky Waters”**

**August 30 – “Give Yourself Permission”**

**September 6 – “Remember, Restore, Renew”**

## 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=L014R1dIdmE4U-  
zlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L014R1dIdmE4U-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**

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As the November 3, 2020 election quickly approaches, visit the Ohio Secretary of State at <https://www.ohiosos.gov/elections/voters/absentee-ballot/> There you will find information on voter registration, update your voting information, request an absentee ballot, any any other questions about voting in Ohio. You must register or update your voter registration no later than 30 days prior to an election.

Don't miss your chance to make voice heard!

## Keep in Prayer

Kelly Dodd; Betsy Zahn; Dana Navin Schultz; Lindy Miller; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz; Pamm Greene, former First Church member; Reid Bender, friend of Jen Provenzano; Talia Cook, granddaughter of Frank and Sue Cook; 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; 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.

Those who mourn the loss of loved ones, including LJ Cooks and Gretchen Weller on the death of their brother-in-law and Alexi and Kylie's uncle; and Shannon Washington and her mother, Lorraine Dodds, on the death of her father, Christopher.

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## Emergency Pastoral Care Line

If you need to be in touch with Rev. Ahrens or Rev. Corzine for emergency pastoral care or to name a prayer request, please call **614-733-4547** and leave a message. Someone will return your call as needed.

## 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](http://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 Annette McCormick at [amccormick@first-church.org](mailto:amccormick@first-church.org) or Rev. Emily Corzine at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org).

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## Upcoming Mission Offerings

- August 23** ACLU Foundation of Ohio
- August 30** Equitas Health
- September 6** Mid Ohio Workers
- September 13** Celebrate One
- September 20** Good Samaritan
- September 27** Trustee Choice: Legacy Sunday

## 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  
**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](http://www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx)



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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](http://WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG)

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