



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 6, 2020

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 18

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

Bryn Calfaria

Ralph Vaughan Williams

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: How shall we live in the love of God?

P: We will treat one another with fairness and dignity.

L: How shall we witness God's forgiving love?

P: We will reach out to others with compassion.

L: Come, let us worship God who has always loved us.

P: Let the worship of God be reflected in our lives of hope and peace. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy



1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays.
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
 4. Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus, Which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!
 Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way; gi -
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea, chant -
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who live in love are thine; teach
 Ev - er sing - ing march we on - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife; Joy -



- ver of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.
 - ful mus - ic lifts us sun - ward, in the tri - umph song of life.

* INVOCATION

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Grant us, O God, to trust in you with all our heart; for as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast in your mercy; 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 HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Exodus 12:1-14

James Velo

A reading from the book of Exodus, chapter 12.

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled

congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE

Romans 13:8–14

Dr. Velo

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Romans, chapter 13.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:15–20

Rev. Corzine

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 18.

Jesus said, “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

P: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

“Remember, Restore, Renew”

Rev. Corzine

Part seven of the Seven-part Sermon Series:

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

(Today, the Lord's Prayer will be prayed during Holy Communion.)

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 **Mid Ohio Workers Association** whose mission has been to create a self-help organization to address day-to-day critical survival needs while building longterm solutions to poverty conditions. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY

Rhosymedre

Ralph Vaughan Williams

* 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.**

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We practice open communion: Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Lord's table.

* INVITATION

Rev. Corzine

L: Holy God, we praise and bless you for creation and the gift of life and for your abiding love which brings us close to you, the source of all blessing. We thank you for revealing your will for us in the giving of the law and in the preaching of the prophets. We thank you especially that in the fullness of time you sent Jesus, born of Mary, to live in our midst, to share in our suffering, and to accept the pain of death at the hands of those whom Jesus loved. We rejoice that in a perfect victory over the grave you raised Christ with power to become sovereign in your realm. We celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to gather your church by which your work may be done in the world and through which we share the gift of eternal life.

With the faithful in every place and time, we praise with joy your holy name:

P: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.

L: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, Jesus also took the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things. In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Eat this, for it is the body of Christ, broken for you.

Drink this, for it is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Corzine

L: Let us pray.

P: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hyfrydol



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
2. Come, Al - migh - ty to de - liv - er, Let us all Thy life re - ceive;
3. Fin - ish, then, Thy new cre - a - tion; Pure and spot - less let us be;



Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown!
Sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.
Let us see Thy great sal - va - tion Per - fect - ly re - stored in Thee;



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pass - ion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
Thee we would be al - way bless - ing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts a - bove;
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, Till in heaven we take our place,



Vis - it us with Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
Pray, and praise Thee with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.
Till we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*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

September 6, 2020

This Week at First Church

9/6
9 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Zoom Chat
11 a.m. Worship
12 Noon Virtual Coffee Hour

9/7
Labor Day – Church Office and Building Closed

9/8
7 p.m. Executive Committee Mtg

9/9
2:30 p.m. Livestream Task Force Mtg
5:45 p.m. Personnel Mtg

9/10
7 p.m. Security Team Mtg

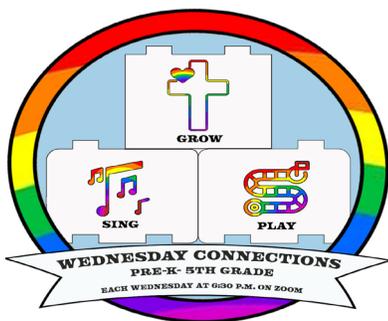
9/12
8:30 a.m. House & Grounds Mtg

Attention Fourth Grade Parents

First Church will be celebrating another milestone of our Milestone Ministry this month. We will be celebrating all our 4th graders on September 20th. If you have a 4th grader in your home please contact Mark Williams as soon as possible.

Rev. Emily Corzine is making Pastoral Care Lawn or Patio visits on Thursday afternoons. If you are interested in a socially distant lawn or patio visit, please contact Pat Patterson, at ppatterson@first-church.org to arrange a visit with Rev. Emily.

Rev. Emily has office hours at 10 a.m. on Thursdays. This could be a time to chat, discuss pastoral concerns or have prayer. These are 20 minute blocks beginning at 10 a.m.. Contact Emily Corzine for a time slot at ecorzine@first-church.org



Faith Formation

Children ages Pre K-5th grade will meet with our teachers each Wednesday. There will be singing, games, and a Bible lesson.

Youth 6th grade and up will meet online for an hour each Sunday for combination of Sunday school and Youth Group.

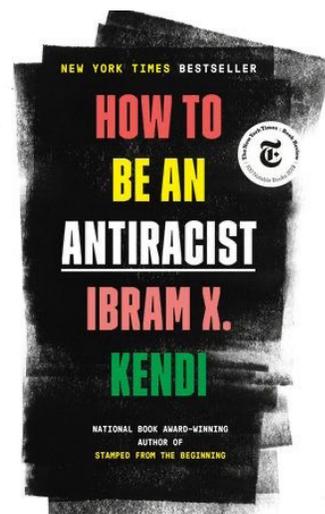
If you have any questions, please contact Mark Williams (mwilliams@first-church.org)



Church Wide Book Study

Beginning in mid-September, Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens will lead both a mid-week, mid-morning and a Monday evening class on Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How to Be An Antiracist*.

Starting Wednesday morning, September 16 at 10:30 a.m. and then again on Monday night, September 21 at 7 p.m., Dr. Ahrens invites the entire church community and any friends of First Church to join in the study of this important book.



Wednesday classes will be held September 16 and 30, and October 7 and 21 from 10:30 - 11:45 a.m. The Monday night classes will be held September 21, October 5, and October 19 from 7-8:30 p.m.

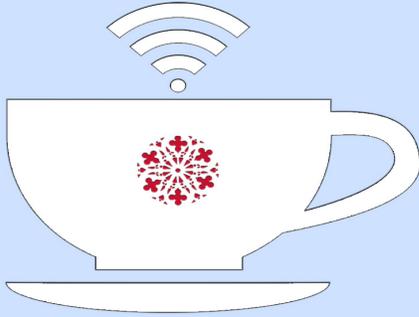
This book is a “must read.” Dr. Ibram X. Kendi's concept of antiracism is reenergizing and re-shaping the conversation about racial justice in America. He points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. Instead of working with the policies and system we have in place, Kendi asks us to think about what an antiracist society might look like, and how we can play an active role in building it. In his memoir, Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science--including the story of his own awakening to antiracism--bringing it all together in a cogent, accessible form. He begins by helping us rethink our most deeply held, if implicit, beliefs and our most intimate personal relationships (including beliefs about race and IQ and interracial social relations) and reexamines the policies and larger social arrangements we support.

How to Be an Antiracist is an essential book for anyone who wants to go beyond an awareness of racism to the next step of contributing to the formation of a truly just and equitable society.

The book is available on Amazon.com, and a recorded version is available on audible.com. You can also click here for a list of black-owned independent bookstores. If you have difficulty purchasing the book, First Church plans to order a limited number of books that will be available for purchase. Please email Pat Patterson at ppatterson@first-church.org. no later than September 10 if you want to pre-order a book. The cost for the book is \$16.50 (payable via check or cash), and the books will be available for pick up at the Ninth Street entrance once they arrive.

To sign up visit : <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/jcSQ8jJ>

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

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 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

Larry Walquist; Kelly Dodd; Betsy Zahn; Dana Navin Schultz; Lindy Miller; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz.

Erna Temple, mother of David Temple; Pamm Greene, former First Church member; Reid Bender, friend of Jen Provenzano; Talia Cook, granddaughter of Frank and Sue Cook; Brent Hatch, father of Annie West's partner Evin Hatch; Dwight and Elaine Holt, parents of David Holt; 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; Calvin Roth, father of Julie Roth; and Caleb Creech, brother-in-law to Sarah Ahrens Stadie, to be deployed to Afghanistan.

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.

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.

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 Annette McCormick at amccormick@first-church.org or Rev. Emily Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org.

Cash and designated checks go to Mid-Ohio Workers Association whose mission has been to create a self-help organization to address day-to-day critical survival needs while building long-term solutions to poverty conditions. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information about the mission of the week visit: <https://www.facebook.com/Mid-Ohio-Workers-Association-255097864918246>



Upcoming Mission Offerings

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

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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Bulletins and audio podcasts of services are available on the website for each week:
www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx



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