



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
SERVICE LEAFLET

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 21, 2018

The Twentieth-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Proper 24

* PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 104:1–9, 24, 35c

L: Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great. You are clothed with honor and majesty,

P: wrapped in light as with a garment. You stretch out the heavens like a tent,

L: you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot,
you ride on the wings of the wind,

P: you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

L: You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.

P: You cover it with the deep as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.

L: At your rebuke they flee; at the sound of your thunder they take to flight.

P: They rose up to the mountains, ran down to the valleys to the place that you appointed for them.

L: You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth.

**P: O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures. Praise the LORD.**

THE FIRST READING

Job 38:1–7, 34–41

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? “Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, ‘Here we are’? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together? “Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

THE SECOND READING Mark 10:35–45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

HOMILY

“No Small Matter”

Rev. Ahrens

MISSION INVITATION

Marty Worth

The loose plate and designated checks go to **The Good Samaritan Fund**: The Good Samaritan Fund provides help every month to those who come to the door of First Church in need. The next Good Sam Day is Monday, November 12.

OFFERTORY HYMN 498

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love

Chereponi

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

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *celebrant*

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *preacher*

Nancy Livingston, *pianist*

Cori Rowley, *liturgist*

LOOKING AHEAD TO NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28

Liturgist: Laurie Maynell

Communion Preparation: Please Sign Up

Refreshments: Laurie Maynell

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS AND BLESSING OF A STORY BIBLE MILESTONE

Mark: We invite all the children and youth to come forward for children's time.

Mark: On this Children's Sabbath Sunday, we celebrate two Milestone Ministry events in our congregation. One that has been celebrated quietly for many years and one that is new for our younger children.

First, each newborn of our congregation receives a beautiful baby quilt handmade by our First Church Quilters. We are pleased to recognize Gleva Stephens, Deb Anderson, Sarah Giffen and Debbie Yontz for their ministry of welcoming the children into our faith community. Today we will bless this ministry and the many quilts they have made over the years.

Rev. Tim: The materials we dedicate today are representative of the many items which you as members have put together over the last several years. We commend the quilters of our church who so faithfully have met together to make these beautiful quilts. We thank you for their devoted service. We pray that they will continue to use their talents to create beautiful messages of love to the newborns of this congregation.

Rev. Tim: Let us pray. Lord, we thank you for the loving hands and loving spirit of the quilters who created these quilts. We thank you for the generosity and time given, so that these quilts could be given as a gift to newborn children of this congregation. As we clothe our children with these quilts, may it be a reminder of You, the giver of all gifts. May the colors, textures and patterns displayed on these quilts symbolize the amazing beauty and glory of your creation. Let these quilts enfold our little ones with your love as Your Holy Spirit embraces each in loving and comforting ways. Lord, cover them with your mercy and your grace, easing any worry or pain that may hinder them from enjoying the promise and peace of your kingdom. Amen

Mark: For our second and newest Milestone, I would like to ask our Quilters to stay and assist. Today we begin a new milestone for our children that are 4 years old. Each year on Children's Sabbath we will help nurture the faith of the children in our faith community with Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible. This engaging book features 150 popular Bible stories that are organized by 13 themes, including Strong Women and Men; Listening for God; Parables; Healings and Miracles; and more. Growing in God's Love features diverse artwork from more than twenty artists to appeal to a variety of ages and learning styles. Three reflection questions—Hear, See, Act—are included at the end of each story to help children further ponder the message of the story. Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible is ideal for children ages 4-8, therefore as we begin this milestone, we will be giving this book to every child that is age 4 through age 8 this year. We would like all of children that are age 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 to stand and go to the top of the chancel steps. (Quilters will hand out the books to the children)

Rev. Emily: Receive this gift “Growing in God’s Love: A Story Bible” so that the story of God and God’s people may be with you at home, church, or wherever you carry it. We hope you and your families enjoy reading how God is at work in nature and history. Learn about the life and teachings of Jesus. Be open to how God may continue to speak to you through your reading of stories from the scriptures.

Rev. Emily: Let us pray. Loving God, inspire these young readers and their families with this new Story Bible. We bless these books and our children by the power of your Holy Spirit so we may all Grow in God’s Love each and every day. Help us to learn about your love for creation, the world and all who live in it. Increase our faith in you. May your Holy Spirit encourage us to live these stories as we follow Jesus. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.