



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

October 24, 2021

The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Proper 25

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 169 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.*

This service is being livestreamed.

Please silence all electronic devices.

Assistive listening devices 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

Chorale Prelude on *Wer nur den lieben Gott*

Mark Fax

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Elaine Warren

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: Bless the Lord at all times.

P: Let everyone bless God.

L: Praise the Lord continually.

P: Let everyone praise Christ.

L: Our souls boast in the Lord.

P: We boast in the Spirit's greatness.

L: With one voice, we magnify and exalt the Lord, for God has delivered us and made us whole.

P: Exalt our God, the Lord of life.



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus! Thine the scep - ter, thine the throne!
2. Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row now.
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of an - gels, you on earth our food, our stay.
4. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ e - ter - nal, noth - ing can dis - rupt your reign;



Al - le - lu - ia! Thine the tri - umph, thine the vic - to - ry a - lone!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou art near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Here the sin - ful flee to you from day to day.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Born of Mar - y, heaven and earth are your do - main.



Hark! the songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood;
 Though the cloud from sight re - ceived you when the for - ty days were o'er,
 In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er, plead for me,
 Hu - man life you ful - ly en - tered, tend - ing those we count the least,



Je - sus, out of ev - ery na - tion, hast re - deemed us by his blood.
 shall our hearts for - get your prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more."
 and the songs that sound in heav - en will re - peat your gra - cious plea.
 serv - ing both as Priest and Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

* INVOCATION

Mark S. Williams

L: God be with you.

P. And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: P: Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. 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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR ARIA LYNN COIL AND ELIJAH DEAN COIL

We welcome Aria and Elijah, parents Anita and Jarrod, godparents Andrea Rower and Nicholas Bruckelmeyer, and Senior Deacon Al Waddell. Members and friends are invited to write a prayer and greeting to Aria and Elijah on the baptismal cards found in the pew pads. Please write their names at the top and today's date on the bottom of each card.

Please place the cards in the offering plate at the time of the Offertory..

WELCOME

Leader: ... But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

People: "Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."

L: ... and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

P: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

L: ... to the ones about to be baptized, as Aria and Elijah live and grow in Christ?

P: We promise our love, support and care.

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: ... in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

P: I believe in God.

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

P: I believe in Jesus Christ.

L: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

P: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER OF BAPTISM

L: Christ be with you

P: And also with you.

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

L: ... these newest members of the body of Christ.

P: Give to Aria and Elijah strength for life's journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Job 42:1-6, 10-17 (O.T., p. 488)

Ms. Warren

A reading from the book of Job, chapter 42.

Then Job answered the LORD: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. 'Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 'Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.' I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes."

And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring. The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a

thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job's daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children's children, four generations. And Job died, old and full of days.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

O taste and see

Eugene Hancock

O taste and see how gracious the Lord is, happy are they who trust in the Lord.
—Psalm 34:8

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 7:23–28 (N.T., p. 222)

Ms. Warren

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 7.

Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL HYMN 362

I love the Lord, who heard my cry

Spiritual

1. I love the Lord, who heard my cry And pit-ied ev-ery groan.
2. I love the Lord, who heard my cry And chased my grief a-way.

Long as I live and trou-bles rise, I'll has-ten to God's throne.
O let my heart no more de-spair While I have breath to pray.

THE GOSPEL

Mark 10:46–52 (N.T., p. 47)

Rev. Ahrens

A reading from the Gospel according to Mark, chapter 10.

They came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

BAPTISMAL MEDITATION

“Unflappable”

Rev. Ahrens

A time of reflection follows.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Ahrens

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

*Offerings may be placed in the offering plate or delivered to the church office following the service.
Want to give online? Please scan this QR code link, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve.*



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Ahrens

Designated gifts go to support the **Mid-Ohio Food Collective**. The Mid-Ohio Food Collective is dedicated to feeding hungry people by collecting and distributing food and grocery products, educating the community about hunger, advocating for hunger relief programs, and collaborating with others who address basic human needs. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

I hear a voice a-prayin’

Houston Bright

I hear a voice a-prayin’, prayin’, Lord, I hear a voice a-prayin’, Hallelujah, I hear a voice a-cryin’, cryin’, Oh Lord, save-a my soul,
Hallelujah, Lord.
Every time I hear a sinner pray, I wonder if I’m ready for the Judgment Day. Every time I hear a sinner cry, I wonder where I’m goin’
When I come to die.
Every time I hear the parson preach, I wonder if salvation is in-a my reach.
—Houston Bright (1916–1970)

* PRESENTATION HYMN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

Lasst uns erfreuen

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below; Alleluia, alleluia.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Ahrens

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.

1. If thou but trust in God to guide thee with hope-ful heart through all thy ways,
 2. On - ly be still, and wait God's lei - sure in cheer-ful hope, with heart con - tent
 3. Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv-ing, of - fer thy ser - vice faith - ful - ly,

God will give strength, what - e'er be - tide thee, to bear thee through the e - vil days.
 to take what - e'er thy Keep - er's plea-sure and all dis - cern - ing love hath sent;
 and trust God's word; though un - de - serv-ing, so shall they be ful - filled in thee.

Who trusts in God's un - chang - ing love builds on the rock that nought can move.
 No doubt our in - most wants are clear to one who holds us al - ways dear.
 God nev - er yet for - sook at need the soul se - cured by trust in - deed.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

Partita on *Wer nur den lieben Gott*

Georg Böhm

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 name tag. We'd be delighted to assist you.

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in memory of Otilie Helm, Frank and Carol Hussey by the Hussey, Iannarino and Trace families.

† GREETING AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY

Rev. Ahrens – On the West Lawn

Rev. Corzine – On the East Breezeway patio (accessible via the Education Wing or the elevator)

Mr. Williams – Near the Children's Playground (accessible via the Education Wing)

LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY

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

Mark S. Williams, *liturgist*

Elaine Warren, *liturgist*

Will Haslett, *crucifer*

The First Church Choir

Kevin Jones, *organist and director*

Peter Murray, Mike Kennedy, and Janet Newcity, *livestream ministry*

Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

October 24, 2021

This Week at First Church

10/24	
9 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour (Virtual)
10 a.m.	Faith Formation (Playground)
11 a.m.	Worship (Sanctuary)
12 Noon	Coffee Hour (Virtual)
1 p.m.	Pathway of Justice Dedication (Gladden Social Justice Park)
4 p.m.	Congregational Concert (Sanctuary)
6 p.m.	Youth Connections (Outside)
10/25	
12 Noon	Grief Support Group (Virtual)
10/26	
7 p.m.	Deacons Mtg (Virtual)
10/28	
7:15 p.m.	First Church Choir Rehearsal (Parish Hall)

Concert at First Church: Today at 4 p.m.

Soprano Lynn Eustis is joined by pianist Kevin Jones in a recital of song this afternoon at 4 p.m. Songs of Schubert, Reynaldo Hahn, Tom Cipullo, Poulenc, and Liza Lehman will be offered.

For more information visit: <http://concertsatfirstchurch.org/home/congconcerts/lynn-eustis-soprano-and-kev-in-jones-piano>



You are invited to
the Dedication of the
Pathway of Justice
in the
Washington Gladden
Social Justice Park

Sunday, October 24, 2021

at 1 p.m.

404 E. Broad Street

Columbus, Ohio 43215

The Pathway of Justice in Washington Gladden Social Justice Park is a walkway of guide stones engraved with quotations pertaining to social justice by such notable figures as Jane Addams, James Poindexter, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Martin Luther King, Jr., Aminah Robinson, Amanda Gorman, and of course, Washington Gladden.

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens, senior minister of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is host of the event. Principal speakers will be Archie Griffin, former president and CEO of The Ohio State University Alumni Association and a trustee of Washington Gladden Social Justice Park, and Stephanie Hightower, President and CEO of the Columbus Urban League.

We plan to proceed with the event, rain or shine, and encourage those attending to follow CDC guidelines for health and safety.

Virtual Coffee Hour

9 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86527907526?pwd=L-014R1dIdmE4UzlUNDlnZkZ4ZURldz09>

Meeting ID: 865 2790 7526

Password: 601438

11 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88494216574?pwd=cD-NVS0dKaEdvTGhMcVozc0twU2pyZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 9421 6574

Password: 693317

Global Ministries Profile

Maria Bakalian, Lebanon

Ms. Bakalian works with Haigazian University, which was inspired by the Armenian Evangelical heritage and follows the American liberal arts educational model. It is the only Armenian university outside of Armenia and is known for having a student body of diverse backgrounds seeking higher education in a personalized, socially moderate, and religiously tolerant environment. Students emerge with a broader range of friendships spanning a variety of communities, so that their service in their respective communities and to society at large is expressive of the broader ideals of Lebanon. She works specifically with the camping ministry connected to the University. She is married to Nishan Bakalian who serves with the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches.

Learn More about Mission Co-Workers at <https://www.globalministries.org/mission-coworkers/>

Emergency Pastoral Care Line

If you need to be in touch with Rev. Corzine or Rev. Ahrens 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.

Keep in Prayer

Members Pat Groseck; Twink Starr; Joanne Morse; Todd Jacobson; Martha Huey; Donice Wooster; David Holt; Tracy Shaw; Carol Woodard; Robert Reber; Tom and Shelly Gies; Barbara Knox; Betsy Zahn; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter; and Rev. Earl Fritz and Pauline Fritz.

Family and friends Craig Clay's friend, Tom; Sarah Lange's sister and brother-in-law, Melissa and Dan Clayton; Duan Cannon's family and friends, Phillip Cannon, Nubia Cannon, Nivia Collins and Charles Collins; Barbara Clapham's friend, Brenda Hall; Rev. Marti Baumer's brother, Rev. Paul Baumer and family; Kathryn Bamberger's brother, Jim Bamberger; Andrea Gonzalez's mother-in-law, Emma Becerrill; Melva Fisher's son, Stephen Fisher; Joe Bellissimo's parents, Joe and Nancy Bellissimo; Mark Williams' cousin, Tom Norris; Kathy Reed's friend, JD Mace.

Those who mourn loved ones Matt Taylor and family on the death of his father, David Taylor; Jeff, Emily, and Cami Corzine on the death of Jeff's mother, Catherine Corzine; Gary West and family on the death of his father, George West; Nathalie Wright on the death of her setp-father and mother; Annette McCormick's sister-in-law Patty McCormick on the death of her son, Brian Moore; Andrea Rower, on the death of her father, Robert Rower; Mark Williams and family on the death of Mark's cousin, Ruth Diehl; Dora Paolucci, on the death of her father, Joseph Paolucci; family and friends of Helen Spears; Susan Brooks on the death of her sister, Connie.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of The Caribbean: Antigua, Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Martin, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago. We pray for Global Ministries co-worker Maria Bakalian in Lebanon.

Please note that individuals will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks, unless specified to clergy or staff.

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 presented below, 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.



Designated gifts go to support the **Mid-Ohio Food Collective**. The Mid-Ohio Food Collective is dedicated to feeding hungry people by collecting and distributing food and grocery products, educating the community about hunger, advocating for hunger relief programs, and collaborating with others who address basic human needs. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information about the mission of the week visit <https://mofc.org>

Upcoming Mission Offerings

October 31	Suicide Prevention Hotline
November 7	Good Samaritan
November 14	Food Pantries
November 21	Gladden Christmas Fund
November 29	Kaleidoscope

A Note About Communion Elements

First Church utilizes biodegradable and recyclable cups for our Communion bread and juice.

Church Leadership

Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, D.Min., M.Div.

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

Wedding Coordinators Amy Wagner, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani

Nursery Staff Miranda Brooks, Norma Secor, Miranda Gumbita

Senior Deacon Al Waddell

Deacons Carol Ernst-King, Sarah Giffen, Scott Graham,

Greg Halbe, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen,

Nancy Kreimer, James Lowe, Allison Lowery Palmer,

Mark Sholl, Andrew Smith-VerHage, Hank Wilson,

Martha Wilson, Donice Wooster, Marty Worth

Church Council Leadership

Moderator Alec Deitz

Moderator-elect Christine Farquhar

Treasurer Dennis Secor

Treasurer-elect Andy Bensing

Secretary Peter Murray

Secretary-elect Nicole Moss

Board of Trustees

Chairperson Brian Cave

Trustees Allen Baker, Alec Deitz, Sue Cook, Cindy Conn

(Treasurer), Kevin Cubick (Secretary), Elizabeth Iannarino,

Jim Kyle, Elaine Warren, Christopher Washington

Commissioners

Administration Brad West

Administration-Elect Dennis Secor

Church Growth Geoff Smith-VerHage

Church Growth-elect

Church Vitality Lee Kiesel

Church Vitality-elect Kosby Carrico

Education Margaret Graham

Education-elect Linda Slocum

House & Grounds Eric Klintworth

House & Grounds-elect Mark Brown

Justice & Mercy Lauren Muscott

Justice & Mercy-elect Kris Brant

Music, Arts & Heritage Scott Jones

Music, Arts & Heritage-elect Sandy Mathias

Members-at-Large Jonathan Miller and Finn Miller

Nominating Committee Chair Lynn Wallich

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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