



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 18, 2018 The Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Proper 28

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 166 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.* Please silence all electronic devices.

Assistive listening devices and large-print bulletins with hymns of the day 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 *Nun danket alle Gott, BWV 657* J.S. Bach

ENTER TO WORSHIP Melody Leidheiser

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: Come worship the Lord who is in our midst today.

P: There is no Holy One like our God.

L: Like Hannah of old, we raise our voices to praise the Lord of strength.

P: There is no Rock like our God.

L: We prepare to listen and learn with open hearts and open minds.

P: There is no Source of knowledge like our God.

L: We trust that righteousness will come on the heels of God's judgment.

P: There is no Justice like our God.

L: May the Son of our God lead us into faith.

P: There is no Guide like our God.

L: Come worship the Lord who is in our midst today.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 551 Come, ye thankful people, come
St. George's Windsor

* INVOCATION The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Blessed God, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning; Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

* SONG OF PRAISE Glory to God in the highest William Mathias

organ
 Glo-ry to God in the high est, and peace to God's peo-ple on

earth. Ho - ly One, heav-en-ly God, sov'-reign God and Cre - a - tor, we wor-ship you, we

mp
 give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je- sus Christ, God's on - ly be-

got - ten one, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy

organ
 on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of Ma - jes - ty: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Mes - si - ah,

you a lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly

Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of the

ff
 Tri - une God. A - - - men.

* 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 the sign of Christ's peace.

Please find the attendance pad at the end of the pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor.

PRESENTATION OF THE 2018 LAY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Joseph Baszynski, *moderator*

Gerry Worth

Bev Cook

Marty Worth

Jim Gallagher

CHILDREN'S TIME

Mark S. Williams

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE 1 Samuel 1:4–20 (O.T., p. 244) Mrs. Leidheiser

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

P: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM I Thank Thee, Lord Suzanne Paterson and Mary Kay Beall

Brianna Burkett, flute

For the sun shining bright on the land,
 For the sea's gentle song to the sand,
 For the wind dancing free,
 For the goodness in me,
 I thank Thee, Lord.

For the stars and the streams,
 For the daisies that grow
 in the green velveteen of the spring,
 For the people I love and the places I know,
 For the sound of a song when I sing.

For the wonder of winter in white,
 For the moon sailing soft on the night,
 For the young birds that fly,
 For the new baby's cry,
 I thank Thee, Lord.

For the answers to pray'rs that I've prayed,
 And for comfort when I am afraid;
 For these wonderful things,
 For my King of all kings,
 I thank Thee, Lord.
 —Mary Kay Beall

THE EPISTLE Hebrews 10:11–14; 19–25 (N.T., p. 224) Mrs. Leidheiser

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

P: Thanks be to God.

* GOSPEL HYMN 399 We walk by faith, and not by sight *Dunlap's Creek*

During the hymn, children in Kindergarten through Second Grade are invited to Worship Connections in the Children's Library on the second floor of the Education Wing. They will return after the sermon. A fully staffed childcare ministry is provided during each Sunday Morning Worship Service and Education Hour for infants through age four. This ministry is located in the Nursery and Toddler Rooms on the first floor of the Education Wing.

THE GOSPEL Mark 13:1–8 (N.T., p. 50) Rev. Ahrens

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Thank You Again and Again" Rev. Ahrens

A time of reflection follows.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Corzine

OUR 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 see the Depart to Serve leaflet for more information and a QR link.

MISSION INVITATION Miriam Myers

Cash and designated checks go to **Gladden Community House (GCH)** for Christmas food boxes and gift cards. For 113 years, children and families in need of essential services and support, have come to rely on GCH as a place of welcome and stability, like being at home. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM Wordless Song Within the Waters Alfred Fedak
Wordless song within the waters, whales draw breath and dive and sing. Hymns no human tongue can offer set the ocean echoing. Wordless singers wake our wonder; what can human voices bring? We will offer words for praising God, the Maker of all things.

Wordless song within the forest, wolves are howling in the night, haunting sounds outside the circle cast for us by campfire light: wordless singers, like the Spirit, on whose pleading we rely; let us dare to name the yearning in the Spirit's wordless cry.

Wordless song in early morning, songbirds sing as day draws near. Carols calling out their presence please the waking human ear. Wordless singers claim their places with a flag of song unfurled. We will sing the name of Jesus, word of joy that claims the world.
—Richard Leach

* PRESENTATION HYMN 591 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Old Hundredth
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise Christ, all creatures here below.
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Corzine

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE Mr. Williams
L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.
P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN 555 Now thank we all our God *Nun danket alle Gott*

* BENECTION Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE Now thank we all our God Sigfrid Karg-Elert

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. Please join us in the Parish Hall for Fellowship Hour.

ACOLYTES: Ruby Holt and Jack Patterson

CRUCIFER: Finnegan Miller

MUSIC: The Jubilate Choir, Sandra Mathias, *director*; The Exultate Choir, Kevin Jones, *organist and director*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given by Kathy Reed, Holly Reed and Becky Reed Liefeld to the glory of God and in celebration of the work of the Care Ministry team and in loving memory of Barbara Kemery Heer Reed who enjoyed being a part of Care Ministry.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY
Rev. Ahrens – Broad Street
Mr. Williams – Ninth Street
Rev. Corzine – Christian Education wing

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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.

Our Open and Affirming Statement

We, the members of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio, believe the following represents our commitment and desire to reach out and welcome all those in need of and searching for God's love: We believe that we are all created in God's image, female and male, and we are called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us on our common journey. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnicities, sexual orientations, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels and political and theological 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)



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