

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: Samantha Myers and Maggie Myers

WE THANK AND WELCOME the Rev. Rachael Gardner Purdy as guest preacher today, and thank the Rev. Lauren Emery for serving as officiant.

Rev. Rachael Gardner Purdy is a graduate of the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, with her Master of Divinity in 2015 and her Master of Arts and Counseling Ministries in 2016. She passed her licensure exam to be a professional counselor soon after graduation and is working on her independent licensures in counseling and chemical dependency. Rachael earned her bachelor's degree from Ohio University in Social Work specializing in mental health and trauma, and has been a licensed social worker since 2002. Rachael was an Assistant Pastor for a UCC church in Columbus when she decided to merge her degrees to start a non-profit which will be starting sometime this year. She and her wife, Judy share their home in the Columbus area with their yorkie, Chip.

MUSIC: Marti Rideout, *guest organist*

THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given by Todd & Catherine Cunningham to the glory of God and in celebration of their 21st wedding anniversary.

GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY

Rev. Gardner Purdy – Broad Street

Rev. Emery – Ninth Street

Dr. Mozingo – Christian Education wing

Bulletins are printed on recycled paper with a minimum 50% post-consumer content. All music in the bulletin is reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-717661. All rights reserved. Bulletins and audio podcasts of services are available on the website for each week: www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx

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)



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