



MORNING PRAYER AND HOLY COMMUNION AT NINE
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 13, 2022

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

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.*

The liturgy of Morning Prayer is a form of daily worship adapted through the ages that has its earliest roots in our Jewish heritage. Its premise is one of praying to God at the beginning of the day—giving thanks for another day ahead. The service falls roughly into three main parts: Opening sentences and singing/reading of the Psalms; readings from Holy Scripture - usually one from the Hebrew texts, and one from the Gospels - interspersed with ancient songs of the church; and prayers. To this we add Holy Communion, bringing further meaning to the totality of the prayers we have already offered. The liturgy presupposes full and hearty congregational involvement in the spoken and sung responses, preparing us to be sent forth from this house of worship into the wider world to live out the Great Commission.

PRELUDE

David Hogrefe, *pianist*

OPENING SENTENCES

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

Leader: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, the life and light of humanity.

People: Great is God's love for us. Alleluia!

Please stand as you are able

(indicates Congregation standing)*

* THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

L: O God, open our lips.

P: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

L: Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

P: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

* OPENING SONG

I sing as I arise today

Seed of Life



1. I sing as I a - rise to - day! I call on my Cre - a - tor's might:
 2. The word of God to be my speech, The hand of God to be my stay,
 3. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



The will of God to be my guide, The eye of God to be my sight.
 The shield of God to be my strength, The path of God to be my way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

* PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1 (*read responsively by verse*)

Rev. Corzine

L: Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;

P: but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on this law they meditate day and night.

L: They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.

P: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

P: for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

L: Glory to God the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit:

P: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Ahrens

L: The peace of God be always with you.

P: And also with you.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mark S. Williams

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5–10

Rev. Corzine

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah, chapter 17.

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse— who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

L: May light break forth on God's Holy Word.

P: Thanks be to God.

Today we sing stanzas 1 and 3.



1. A - rise, shine out, your light has come, un - fold - ing
 2. A - bove earth's val - leys, thick with night, high on your
 3. From walls sur - pass - ing time and space un - num - bered
 4. The sounds of vi - o - lence shall cease as dwell - ings
 5. The danc - ing air shall glow with light, and sun and



ci - ty of our dreams. On dis - tant hills a
 walls the dawn ap - pears, and his - to - ry shall
 gates, like o - pen hands, shall gath - er gifts from
 of sal - va - tion rise to spar - kle in e -
 moon give up their place, when love shines out of



glo - ry gleams: the new cre - a - tion has be - gun.
 dry its tears, as na - tions stream towards your light.
 all the lands, and wel - come all the hu - man race.
 ter - nal skies, from a - ve - nues of praise and peace.
 ev - ery face, our good, our glo - ry, and de - light.

THE SECOND READING

Luke 6:17-26

Rev. Ahrens

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 6.

Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

L: May light break forth on God's Holy Word.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

1. Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace, Your word is now ful - filled.
 2. This is the Sav - ior of the world, The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light,
 These eyes have seen sal - va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
 God's glo - ry dwell - ing in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.

HOMILY

“Healing Everybody”

Rev. Ahrens

THE PRAYERS

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Almighty God, you have given us the Word in flesh. Let the Word be the wisdom for all that we do in our lives; through Jesus Christ, this Word, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(We pray for the special needs and concerns of this congregation, the members, family, and friends who are listed in the Depart to Serve and whom we hold in our hearts in prayer. As directed, you are invited to pray silently or aloud for those needs and concerns you have.)

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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, our beginning and our end, be our starting point and our haven, and accompany us in this day’s journey. Use our hands to do the work of your creation, and use our lives to bring others the new life you give this world in Jesus Christ, redeemer of all. **Amen.**

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

Designated gifts go to **Faith Mission**. Each month a team of First Congregational Church volunteers prepares a meal and serves it at Faith Mission. Your donations ensure that the team has the resources to provide a nourishing meal to those whom Faith Mission serves. Thank you for your generosity.

1. O for a world where ev - ery - one Re - spects each oth - er's ways, Where
 2. O for a world where goods are shared And mis - er - y re - lieved, Where
 3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly And strug - gle with each choice That
 4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, The fool - ish ones are wise. Tell
 5. O for a world pre - par - ing for God's glo - rious reign of peace, Where

love is lived and all is done With jus - tice and with praise.
 truth is spo - ken, chil - dren spared, E - qual - i - ty a - chieved.
 o - pens us to u - ni - ty And gives our vi - sion voice.
 all who mourn; Out - casts be - long, Who per - ish - es will rise.
 time and tears will be no more, And all but love will cease.

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Corzine

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Rev. Ahrens

We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have brought us from darkness to light, from slavery to freedom, from death to rebirth. Transform our lives with this heavenly food, that we may shine with your love and take to the world the risen life of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

L: Let us sing the closing hymn as we depart with a heart to serve.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

* CLOSING HYMN

Many are the lightbeams

Lightbeams

Ma - ny are the light-beams from the one light. Our one light is Je - sus.
 Ma - ny are the light-beams from the one light; we are one in Christ.

* BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

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: 865 2790 7526

Password: 601438

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Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

February 13, 2022

This Week at First Church

2/13
9 a.m. Worship (Parish Hall & Virtual)
10 a.m. Coffee Hour (Virtual)
11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)
12 Noon Coffee Hour (Virtual)
12:15 Confirmation Class (Parish Hall)
1 p.m. Trustees Mtg (Virtual)
4 p.m. Congregational Concert (Sanctuary)
6 p.m. Youth Connections (Virtual)

2/15
7 p.m. Church Council Mtg (Virtual)

2/16
10 a.m. Largest Table Food Prep & Delivery (Education Wing)
10:30 a.m. Book Study (Virtual)

2/17
7:15 p.m. First Church Choir Rehearsal (Parish Hall)

Website Launch

Monday, February 14, 2022

Monday, February 14, 2022 is the scheduled launch for our new First Church website! There may be a temporary interruption accessing the site as the transition happens. Should you need any assistance accessing information during that time, please email Amy Wagner at awagner@first-church.org. [We appreciate your patience and understanding](#) and look forward to sharing our new website.

Justice and Mercy Commission Collects Items for Overnight Warming Center

Justice and Mercy Commission supports the overnight warming center at The Church for All People (UMC) on Parsons Avenue in February.

The Church for All People has an overnight warming center every night from 7 p.m.-7 a.m. They are in need of supplies and volunteers.

First Church is collecting new or clean winter hats, gloves, and hand/foot warmers for adults and children now through February 27.

A drop box will be available inside the Ninth Street door during church office hours Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. A drop-off Sunday location in the Education Wing will be available when we return to in-person worship (watch for more details).

You may also make a purchase on Amazon.com (https://www.amazon.com/s?k=bulk+winter+hats+and+gloves+-for+homeless&crid=1UHU33KD3FECS&srefix-=bulk+winter+hats+and+gloves%2Caps%2C94&ref=nb_sb_ss_ts-doa-p_1_27) and send the items directly to First Congregational Church, UCC 444 East Broad Street, Columbus Ohio 43215.

Contact Rev. Emily Corzine, ecorzine@first-church.org if you are available to volunteer for the warming center.

First Church Choir to Host Curbside Pasta Dinner and Online Auction

In anticipation of its pilgrimage to Winchester Cathedral, UK, in August, the First Church Choir will host its final major fundraising event. The ever-popular pasta dinner and auction are back and both have a new look.

Dinners will be carry-out only and available on Sunday, February 27, between 4 and 6 p.m. Pre-orders begin Monday, February 7, and are accepted through Friday, February 25. There are no “at the door” sales. Dinner includes baked ziti (with meat, vegetarian, or gluten-free); tossed salad; and Italian bread. Ticket prices start at \$15 for one meal and vary according to your meal choice. Once registered you will be assigned a 30-minute window, between 4 and 6 p.m., on Sunday, February 27, to pick up your order at the church.

Visit <https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/t/first-church-choir-carry-out-pasta-dinner-8bfe0ed368> for more details and to place your order. Only online payments will be accepted.

Auction items will be offered online. Bidding will open on Sunday, February 20, and close Saturday, February 26. Watch this space in upcoming communications for more information.

Lent at Home Kits

The Christian Education Commission (Faith Formation) will again be providing “Lent at Home” kits for the Lenten season. The kits will be given out after each service on February 27 in the Education Breezeway and the Narthex. We will also have a drive-by in the North Parking lot distributing from 12:15-1 p.m. We hope this will help in your faith journey during Lent.

Concerts at First Church: Kevin Jones Organ Recital

Please join us on Sunday, February 13, at 4 p.m. when Minister of Music Kevin Jones plays his annual organ recital in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Beckerath organ. In 1972, the organ was dedicated in three different recitals. Mr. Jones will offer two pieces that were played on these recitals in addition to music by Bach, Distler, Heiller, Messiaen, and Sweelinck. Come celebrate the birthday of this wonderful musical machine that has led many musical moments of joy and faith over the past 50 years. Vaccinations and boosters are highly recommended, medical-grade masks are required for entry, and socially distanced seating protocols will be observed.

For more information visit <http://concertsatfirstchurch.org/home/congconcerts/kevin-jones-organ-recital-feb-13/>

Purchase Kimball Organ CD

Minister of Music Kevin Jones plays music of Herbert Howells and Sir Edward Elgar on the 1931 Kimball organ at First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Columbus, Ohio. Containing more than 71 minutes of music, this physical CD is available for \$15 each and can be ordered through contacting the main office or by visiting the purchase site, <http://concertsatfirstchurch.org/getkimballcd/>

The album will also be available on iTunes, Spotify, Amazon, and many other digital distributions; however, the accompanying 12-page booklet will only be available with the physical CD.

This album was funded and produced through the Barnard Music Fund and is released in celebration of the 90th birthday of the Kimball organ.

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 **Faith Mission**. Each month a team of First Congregational Church volunteers prepares a meal and serves it at Faith Mission. Your donations ensure that the team has the resources to provide a nourishing meal to those whom Faith Mission serves. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information visit <https://lssnetworkofhope.org/faithmission/>

Livestream Ministry Seeking Volunteers

The Livestream Ministry is seeking volunteers to join the team that is extending our Sunday worship services to online viewers in Central Ohio and beyond. No video production experience is needed. The team provides the training, and the permanently-installed equipment is straightforward to use. Extend your worship by being a part of our congregation's Extravagant Welcome to members and visitors.

Online worshipers are members of our faith community participating from home or while traveling. We also have viewers that are seeking a spiritual resting place or simply enjoying First Church's preaching and music. The current team of three is looking to at least double its size as we aim for a one-Sunday-service-a-month commitment level. The commitment each Sunday is 30 minutes before the start of worship through the end of the service. There is the potential for offering recording and streaming services for weddings, memorial services, and other events in the sanctuary and Parish Hall as well.

Interested or ready to join? Contact Peter Murray (peter@pandc.org) or Emily Corzine (ecorzine@first-church.org). If you have questions, ask any of the livestream ministry team members: Peter Murray, Janet Newcity, and Mike Kennedy.

Global Mission Partner Robert Howard, Fiji

Robert Howard is a global mission intern serving with the Pacific Council of Churches, Fiji. The Pacific Council of Churches is an organization that works to promote self-determination, resilience, and empowerment to both individuals and communities in the Pacific Islands. It focuses on climate change, child protection, cultural retention, and decolonization. PCC currently has 30 affiliated churches. Robert works with the Stewardship team in areas relating to Ocean Advocacy to help make information more accessible.

For more information about Global Ministries visit <https://www.globalministries.org/>.

Virtual Coffee Hour

Following 9 a.m. Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81281921601?pwd=b3YxcGhjd1RQakRIK0tNMUYyN2d0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 812 8192 1601

Passcode: 765775

Following 11 a.m. Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86230570295?pwd=VjMwTURJdWljeHU5MGpRc1B5NWQ3UT09>

Meeting ID: 862 3057 0295

Passcode: 298540

Keep in Prayer

Members Janice White; Judy Smith; Lou Flocken; Martha Huey; Barbara Knox; Betsy Zahn; and John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter.

Family and friends Mark Dahnke; Melva Fisher's son, Stephen Fisher; Joe Bellissimo's parents, Joe and Nancy Bellissimo; Kathy Reed's friend, JD Mace, Amy Wagner's friend, Ken Burke; Claudia Glenn's mother, Mary Booth.

Those who mourn loved ones Jeremy Howard and grandmother, Geneva Howard, on the death of his grandfather, Earl Howard, Sr.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of Austria, Liechtenstein, and Switzerland. We pray for Global Ministries worker RJ Howard in Fiji.

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

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.

Upcoming Mission Offerings

February 13 Faith Mission

February 20 BREAD

February 27 Deep Griha Scholarships

Nursery Workers Needed

First Church is looking to hire two adult nursery workers. Positions are immediately available. Please contact Mark Williams at mwilliams@first-church.org for more information.

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.
Commissioned Minister for Social Justice Tom Brownfield
Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction Jacquelyn Dean
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 Gregory Halbe
Deacons Alec Deitz, Chris Gelpi, Scott Graham, Tom Kiesel, Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen, Nancy Kreimer, Gail Lowe, James Lowe, Allison Lowery Palmer, Dayna McCrary, Lynn Wallich, Hank Wilson, Martha Wilson, Marty Worth
Church Council Leadership
Moderator Christine Farquhar
Moderator-elect Allison Lowery Palmer
Treasurer Andy Bensing
Treasurer-elect James Velo
Secretary Nicole Moss
Secretary-elect Gretchen Atkinson
Board of Trustees
Chairperson Sue Cook
Trustees Allen Baker, Cindy Conn (Treasurer), Kevin Cubick, Elizabeth Iannarino, Todd Jacobson, Victor John, Judy Smith, Christopher Washington
Commissioners
Administration Dennis Secor
Administration-Elect Chris Glaros
Church Growth Geoff Smith-VerHage
Church Growth-elect Steve Sterrett
Church Vitality Kosby Carrico
Church Vitality-elect Wendy Kennedy
Education Linda Slocum
Education-elect Dameon Jones
House & Grounds Mark Brown
House & Grounds-elect Mike Kennedy
Justice & Mercy Kris Brant
Justice & Mercy-elect Heather Giffen
Music, Arts & Heritage Sandra Mathias
Music, Arts & Heritage-elect Melissa Kulwicki
Members-at-Large Dayna McCrary and Alyssia Palmer
Nominating Committee Chair Alec Deitz

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



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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

