



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 20, 2022

The Seventh 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.*

*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

Psalm-Prelude, Set. 1, No. 2  
*But the meek shall inherit the Earth. —Psalm 37:11*

Herbert Howells

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Dameon Jones

Leader: Blessed be God, Light of the world, bright Morning Star, and Spirit of love.

*\* Then all stand.*

L: Come and learn the ways of life.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

**P: We have come to follow Jesus.**

L: Come and learn the ways of life.

1. Ce - le - brate with joy and sing - ing, Al - le - lu - ia be our song.  
2. Hon - or, glo - ry, praise, thanks - giv - ing Give we now to God a - bove.  
3. Wor - ship now with shouts of glad - ness, For the Christ, the Ho - ly One,

Je - sus Christ has risen to save us, Prais - es to our Christ be - long.  
With the cross and grave Christ bought us, Let us now re - turn that love.  
On this day of res - ur - rec - tion, For the world new life has won.

Through great love has come the vic - tory; Life, not death, can be our claim.  
By our lives of ded - i - ca - tion, As we teach and tes - ti - fy,  
Let us pray and praise the Sav - ior, Trust the acts, be - lieve the word.

Let us now de - clare Christ's great - ness, Spread good news, pro - claim Christ's name.  
May we show Christ's love a - round us, May it grow and pu - ri - fy.  
Our sal - va - tion has been pur - chased By our lov - ing, ris - en Lord.

\* INVOCATION

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing; Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Corzine

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 HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Genesis 45:3–11, 15

Mr. Jones

*A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 45.*

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

I Choose Love

Mark Miller

*(Written for Emmanuel AME Church, Charleston, S.C.)*

In the midst of pain, I choose love...

In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain, I await the sun again, I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace...

In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score, I will seek the good once more, I choose peace.

When my world falls down, I will rise...

When my world falls down, explanations can't be found, I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.

—Lindy Thompson

*A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 15.*

But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* GOSPEL HYMN 374

Lord, make us servants of your peace

*Dickinson College*



1. Lord, make us ser - vants of Your peace: Where there is hate, may we sow
2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; Where all is gloom, may we sow
3. Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek To be con - soled, but to con -
4. May we not look for love's re - turn, But seek to love un - self - ish -
5. Dy - ing, we live, and are re - born Through death's dark night to end - less



love; Where there is hurt, may we for - give; Where there is strife, may we make one.  
 hope; Where all is night, may we sow light; Where all is tears, may we sow joy.  
 sole, Nor look to un - der-stand-ing hearts, But look for hearts to un - der - stand.  
 ly, For in our giv - ing we re - ceive, And in for - giv - ing are for - given.  
 day: Lord, make us ser - vants of Your peace To wake at last in heav-en's light.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 6:27–38

Rev. Corzine

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

Jesus said, “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Oh No, He Didn’t!”

Rev. Corzine

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

*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 support **BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity)**. BREAD is the organization through which our congregation works for social justice. BREAD has a 24-year history of improving the quality of life in Central Ohio by researching serious community problems and gathering the power of people in nearly 40 congregations to press public officials to implement proven solutions to those problems. BREAD rises! Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

Steal Away

Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

Steal away, steal away, steal away to Jesus  
Steal away, steal away home I ain’t got long to stay here.  
My Lord, He calls me He calls me by the thunder  
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul I ain’t got long to stay here.  
Green trees are bending poor sinner stands a-trembling  
The trumpet sounds within-a my soul I ain’t got long to stay here.

\* PRESENTATION HYMN

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

Take my life and let it be

Hendon

1. Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee. Take my mo - ments  
 2. Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love. Take my in - tel -  
 3. Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one. Take my heart, and  
 4. Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow. Take me now, and

and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise, let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 -lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose, all its pow - ers as you choose.  
 by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place, make of it your dwell - ing place.  
 help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty, part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

\* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Paeon

Kenneth Leighton

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

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LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY  
 The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *preacher*  
 Dameon Jones, *liturgist*  
 Mark S. Williams, *liturgist*  
 Alyssia Palmer, *crucifer*  
 The First Church Chamber Choir  
 Kevin Jones, *organist*  
 Peter Murray, Mike Kennedy, Janet Newcity, *livestream ministry*

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in honor of Gleva Stephens in celebration of her 90th birthday with love from her family.

† GREETING AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY

Rev. Corzine – On the West Lawn

Mr. Williams – On the East Breezeway patio (accessible via the Education Wing or the elevator)

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*Enter to Worship*  
**Depart to Serve**

February 20, 2022

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## **This Week at First Church**

**2/20**

9 a.m. Worship (Parish Hall & Virtual)  
11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)  
12:15 p.m. Confirmation Class  
(Classroom D & Virtual)  
4 p.m. Choral Evensong (Sanctuary)  
6 p.m. Youth Connections

**2/21**

7 p.m. Budget and Finance Mtg (Virtual)

**2/22**

7 p.m. Deacons Mtg (Zoom)

**2/24**

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

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## **Choral Evensong Today at 4 p.m.**

The First Church Choir sings Choral Evensong this afternoon, at 4 p.m., including responses in B-flat major by Gerre Hancock, as well as the “Latin American” canticles by Bryan Kelly. The choir also will sing Morten Lauridsen’s haunting “O nata lux.” Tyler W. Robertson will be featured as the organist, and the Rev. Dr. Nancy Livingston officiates.

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## **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.

## **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.

You may also make a purchase on Amazon.com ([https://www.amazon.com/s?k=bulk+winter+hats+and+gloves+for+homeless&crd=1UHU33KD3FECS&sprefix=bulk+winter+hats+and+gloves%2Caps%2C94&ref=nb\\_sb\\_ss\\_ts-doa-p\\_1\\_27](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=bulk+winter+hats+and+gloves+for+homeless&crd=1UHU33KD3FECS&sprefix=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](mailto: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 are now being taken 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 carry-out dinner order. Only online payments will be accepted.

The Auction will be offered online as well. Bidding will open on Sunday, February 20 @ 8 a.m., and will close Saturday, February 26 @ Noon. In order to bid and continue to increase your bids, or select multiple items, you must register online.

For more information and to complete the registration process, visit <https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/First-Church-Choir-Silent-Auction-2022-28782> for more details. Registration is simple: Click the link to the Auction site, click ‘Register to Bid’ and you’re ready to go!! Only online payments will be accepted for Auction items. In addition, if you would like to make a cash donation to the choir you may also do that through the Auction site by clicking on the ‘Donate’ button.

See you online soon!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

## **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.

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## **Lenten Sermon Series 2022: The Lord’s Prayer**

Beginning Ash Wednesday, March 2 through Easter Sunday, April 17, the 2022 Lenten Sermon series will focus on The Lord’s Prayer. Join us as we explore this powerful and uniting prayer.

If you would like to share thoughts or stories about The Lord’s Prayer and what it means to you and your faith journey, please email Melissa Kulwicki at [communications@first-church.org](mailto:communications@first-church.org)

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## **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](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org) for more information.

## 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](http://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](mailto:amccormick@first-church.org).



Designated gifts go to support **BREAD (Building Responsibility, Equality, and Dignity)**. BREAD is the organization through which our congregation works for social justice. BREAD has a 24-year history of improving the quality of life in Central Ohio by researching serious community problems and gathering the power of people in nearly 40 congregations to press public officials to implement proven solutions to those problems. BREAD rises! Thank you for your generosity.

For more information visit <https://www.breadcolumbus.com>.

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### 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](mailto:peter@pandc.org)) or Emily Corzine ([ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto: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

Angelica Santiago-Gonzales, Chile

Angelica Santiago-Gonzalez is a global mission intern serving with the Shalom Center and Campground of Chile. The mission of the center is related to the values of Faith, Dignity, Creativity, and Transformation. It provides safe spaces for spiritual and emotional healing and nurturing the relationship with oneself and God. Her role is to do research and build a curriculum regarding resilience and trauma that can be used at a camp for children. She also is developing a workshop for parents and teachers to identify red flags and signs of potential child abuse.

Learn more about Global Ministries by visiting <https://www.globalministries.org/>.

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### Upcoming Mission Offerings

February 20	BREAD
February 27	Deep Griha Scholarships
March 6	Riverview International Center
March 13	Sister of Empowerment

## Keep in Prayer

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

**Family and friends** Colleen Merrill; David Hogrefe's mother Linda Hogrefe; Cali Mitchell's parents, James and Juanita; Amy Wagner's friend, Ken Burke; Susan Brooks' son, John Kampmeier; Claudia Glenn's mother, Mary Booth; Melva Fisher's son, Stephen Fisher; Kathy Reed's friend, JD Mace.

**Those who mourn loved ones** Leigh Briggs, his niece and her husband, Carrie and Alex Heiden, on the death of their infant daughter, Lola Collette Heiden; Joe Bellissimo and Kevin Jones, Joe's mother Nancy Bellissimo, sisters Cherie and Tina, and brother-in-law, Scott Garver, on the death of Joseph Bellissimo, Sr.; Steven Ferris on the death of his friend, Ralph LeRue; Association Minister Rev. Patricia Battle on the death of her mother, Hattie Holland; Nick Bruckelmeyer on the death of his grandmother, Joanne Severance; and Sheri Moreen on the death of her mother, Dorothy Van Cleef.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of France, Germany, and Monaco. We pray for Global Ministries worker Angelica Santiago-Gonzales in Chile.

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

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## 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.

## 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



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
God is still speaking,

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