



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 27, 2022

The Last Sunday after Epiphany/Transfiguration

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

Prelude on the Name A-L-A-I-N, Op. 7

Maurice Duruflé

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Alyssia Palmer

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

** Then all stand.*

L: By the appearance on earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ

P: God has broken the power of death and brought life and immortality to light.

L: Arise, shine, for your light has come

P: and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

L: For though darkness will cover the earth

P: and thick darkness the nations,

L: the Lord will rise upon you

P: and his glory will be seen upon you.

L: By the appearance on earth of our Saviour Jesus Christ

P: God has broken the power of death and brought life and immortality to light.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 75

O wondrous sight

Deo Gracias



1. O won - drous sight, O vi - sion fair of glo - ry that the church shall share,
2. From age to age the tale de - clare, how with the three dis - ci - ples there,
3. The law and proph - ets there have place, two cho - sen wit - ness - es of grace;
4. With shin - ing face and bright ar - ray, Christ deigns to man - i - fest to - day
5. And faith - ful hearts are raised on high by this great vi - sion's mys - ter - y.



Which Christ up - on the moun - tain shows, where bright - er than the sun, Christ glows!
 Where Mo - ses and E - li - jah meet, they with the Christ God's fu - ture greet.
 The voice of God out from the cloud pro - claims the Hu - man One a - loud.
 What glo - ry shall be theirs be - yond, who live with - in God's lov - ing bond.
 For which in joy - ful strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

* INVOCATION

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: O God, who on the holy mount revealed to chosen witnesses your well-beloved Son, wonderfully transfigured, in raiment white and glistening: Mercifully grant that we, being delivered from the disquietude of this world, may by faith behold Christ in beauty; who with you, O Creator, and you, O Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMAND SEBASTIAN KULWICKI

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Mr. Kulwicki

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

Mark S. Williams

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Exodus 34:29–35

Ms. Palmer

A reading from the book of Exodus, chapter 34.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love

Ned Rorem

Sing, my soul, his wondrous love,
who from yon bright throne above,
ever watchful o'er our race,
still to us extends his grace.

God, the merciful and good,
bought us with the Savior's blood,
and, to make our safety sure,
guides us by his Spirit pure.

Heaven and earth by him were made;
all is by his scepter swayed;
what are we that he should show
so much love to us below?

Sing, my soul, adore his Name!
Let his glory be thy theme:
praise him till he calls thee home;
truth his love for all to come.
—Anonymous, 1800

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, chapter 3.

Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

P: **Thanks be to God.**

* GOSPEL HYMN S24

We have come at Christ's own bidding

Whisenhunt

1. We have come at Christ's own bid - ding to this high and ho - ly place,
 2. Light breaks through our clouds and shad - ows, splen - dor bathes the flesh-joined Word,
 3. Strength-ened by this glimpse of glo - ry, fear - ful lest our faith de - cline,
 where we wait with hope and long - ing for some to - ken of God's grace.
 Mo - ses and E - li - jah mar - vel as the heaven - ly voice is heard.
 we, like Pe - ter, find it tempt - ing to re - main and build a shrine.
 Here we pray for new as - sur - ance that our faith is not in vain,
 Eyes and hearts be - hold with won - der how the Law and Proph - ets meet:
 But true wor - ship gives us cour - age to pro - claim what we pro - fess,
 search - ing like those first dis - ci - ples for a sign both clear and plain.
 Christ, with gar - ments drenched in bright - ness, stands trans - fig - ured and com - plete.
 that our dai - ly lives may prove us peo - ple of the God we bless.

A reading from the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 9.

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” —not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Coming Down from the Mountain”

Rev. Ahrens

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Radiant God, source of light, as you surrounded Jesus with your glory, so you come to us in penetrating brightness. You catch us off guard and expose our weakness. We choose the limelight while you call us to explore the shadows and brighten the darkness. We seek the spectacular while you bind up the broken in countless acts of mercy. We seek to stay on the mountain or in a comfortable pew while you walk to the valleys of need. Radiant God, fill us with light and courage to carry good news into all the corners of the world and to bring back the joy of your presence. Amen. *(From Shaping Sanctuary: Proclaiming God’s Grace in an Inclusive Church, © 2000. Reprinted by permission.)*

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 **Deep Griha Scholarships**. Deep Griha, in Pune, India, a mission partner with First Church, is a charitable organization working to improve the lives of people living in the slums of Pune. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

O nata lux

Morten Lauridsen

*O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
dignare clemens supplicum
laudes precesque sumere.
Qui carne quondam contegi
dignatus es pro perditis,
nos membra confer effici
tui beati corporis.*

O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with kindness deign to receive
the praise and prayer of suppliants.
You who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be made members
of your blessed body.

* 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.

1. Al - le - lu - ia, song of glad - ness, voice of joy that can - not die;
 2. Al - le - lu - ia you are sound - ing, true Je - ru - sa - lem and free;
 3. Al - le - lu - ia can - not al - ways be our song while here be - low;
 4. In our hymns we pray with long - ing: Grant us, bless - ed Trin - i - ty,
 al - le - lu - ia is the an - them ev - er dear by choirs on high;
 al - le - lu - ia, joy - ful mo - ther, bring us to your ju - bi - lee;
 al - le - lu - ia our trans - gres - sions make us for a while for - go;
 at the last to keep glad Eas - ter with the faith - ful saints on high;
 in the house of God a - bid - ing thus they sing e - ter - nal - ly.
 here by Bab - y - lon's sad wa - ters mourn - ing ex - iles still are we.
 for the sol - emn time is com - ing when our tears for sin shall flow.
 there to you for - ev - er sing - ing al - le - lu - ia joy - ful - ly.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

Litanies

Jehan Alain

When the Christian soul in distress can no longer find new words to implore the mercy of God, it repeats the same invocation without ceasing with vehement faith. Reason reaches its limit. Faith alone continues its ascension.

Please be seated for the Postlude.

LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY

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

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *liturgist*

Alyssia Palmer, *liturgist*

Mark S. Williams, *liturgist*

Matty Provenzano, *crucifer*

The First Church Choir

Kevin Jones, *organist*

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

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God by Amy, Bill, Katie, and Chase Wagner in loving memory of Edward and Betty Ryan.

† GREETING AFTER THE SERVICE TODAY

Rev. Ahrens – On the West Lawn

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

Rev. Corzine – Near the Children’s Playground (accessible via the Education Wing)

PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

Prelude on the name of ALAIN, Op. 7 - Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986). Published by Durand et Cie. All rights reserved.

“O wondrous sight, O vision fair” - Text: Latin, 15th century, trans. John Mason Neale, 1854, (1818–1866). Music: *Deo Gracias*, 15th century English ballad, Public Domain.

“Sing, my soul, his wondrous love” - Text: Anonymous, 1800. Music: Ned Rorem (b. 1923). All rights reserved.

“We have come at Christ’s own bidding” - Text: Carl P. Daw, 1988, (b. 1944), © 1988 Hope Publishing Company. Music: *Whisenbunt*, Lynn Shaw Bailey, 2008 (b. 1955), ©2010 Celebrating Grace Music, a division of Celebrating Grace, Inc.

O nata lux - Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943). Peer Music Classical. All rights reserved.

“Alleluia, song of gladness” - Text: Latin hymn, 11th century, tr. John Mason Neale. Music: *Lauda anima*, John Goss (1800–1880). Public Domain.

Litanies- Jehan Alain (1911–1940), © Alphonse-Leduc, 1939, 1943, 1952, 1971, 2006. All rights reserved.

All music in the bulletin is reprinted and livestreamed under OneLicense.net #A-717661. All rights reserved.

Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

February 27, 2022

This Week at First Church

2/27

- 9 a.m. Worship (Parish Hall & Virtual)
11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)
12 noon Lent at Home Kit Drive By
 (North Parking Lot)
4 p.m. Pasta Dinner Pickup

2/28

- 12 Noon Grief Support Group (Virtual)
5 p.m. BREAD Mtg (Parish Hall)

3/1

- 6 p.m. Personnel Comm. Mtg (Virtual)
6:30 p.m. Christian Education Mtg (Virtual)
7 p.m. Justice & Mercy Mtg (Zoom)

3/2

- 12:05 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
 (Sanctuary & Virtual)
7:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service
 (Sanctuary & Virtual)

3/3

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

3/5

- 10:30 a.m. Sacred Earth Mtg
 (Virtual & Classroom C)

The Lord's Prayer **2022 Lenten Sermon Series**

Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"Teach Us to Pray the Lord's Prayer"

First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"Our Father Who Art in Heaven, Hallowed Be Thy Name"

Second Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"Thy Kingdom Come"

Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022

The Rev. Emily Corzine Preaching
"Thy Will Be Done on Earth as it is in Heaven"

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"Give Us This Day our Daily Bread"

Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 3, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"And Forgive Us Our Debts, as We Forgive Our Debtors"

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 10, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"Lead Us Not into Temptation but Deliver Us from Evil"

Easter

April 17, 2022

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Preaching
"The Kingdom, Power and Glory are Yours Forever."

Lenten Studies with Rev. Ahrens

“Breath of Life: God as Spirit in Judaism”

Rev. Ahrens continues the Wednesday Book Study with a whole new book – beginning March 16 at 10:30 a.m. During his 2021 Sabbatical, Rev. Ahrens spent time with Rabbi Rachel Timoner. She is one the “Geniuses of Justice” in his new book. Here in Rabbi Timoner’s book, she explores the Hebrew Bible, Midrash, and other rabbinic writing to uncover surprising insights about how God as spirit influences Jewish ideas of creation, revelation, and redemption. Written with an accessible and engaging voice, full of stories and relevant teachings, Breath of Life speaks to lay readers and scholars alike, as it pursues a new perspective on Judaism’s sacred texts. This book promises Christian readers meaningful insights on their own notions of God as Holy Spirit while giving Jewish readers a new look at their own tradition.

If you are reading this and have never been with us before, you are invited to get the book through Amazon and join us for this study. We meet the first and third Wednesday mornings each month from 10:30-11:45 a.m. In March, we will meet March 16 and March 30 (a slight change) but return to April 6 and 20 in the following month. Share with your friends – Jewish, Christian, and others interested in the movement of God’s spirit in this world. Call Rev. Ahrens if you have questions – 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

To register for the study, visit <https://conta.cc/3JJerTe>

Books can be purchased on Amazon at https://www.amazon.com/Breath-Life-Spirit-Judaism-Paraclete/dp/1557257043/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1Y1SLQ7G8V75U&keywords=“Breath+of+Life%3A+God+as+Spirit+in+Judaism”&qid=1645628393&srefix=breath+of+life+god+as+spirit+in+judaism+%2Caps%2C117&sr=8-1

“Teach Us to Pray”

Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Leads Zoom Lenten Small Group

Four Mondays in Lent: March 7, 21, 28, and April 4, 7- 8:15 p.m.

In Matthew 6, the people around Jesus don’t know how to pray. They come to him and ask him for his guidance in prayer. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus gives good lessons in approaches to prayer, when to pray, and how to pray.

On four Monday nights in Lent, we will share with one another our approaches and experiences with prayer. Rev. Ahrens will open each evening with a brief lesson and then discussion will follow. Please sign up and join us and let all learn and grow in our life of prayer - together. Call Rev. Ahrens if you have questions – 614-228-1741, ext. 13.

Visit <https://conta.cc/3haKSy0> to register.

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 today after each service 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.

Lenten Small Group Studies with Rev. Corzine

Tea for the Soul:

Reflections on Sufficiency

Thursday 10-10:45 a.m. ZOOM (5 sessions)

Join Rev. Corzine in a small group for tea and reflection on the Lenten theme of Sufficiency. You are welcome here; come and bring your favorite cup of tea and join in. Created in God's image, we are enough. How do we see God in all the imperfections of our lives? Share our honest struggles through our challenging times. For more information, contact Rev. Corzine at ecorzine@first-church.org.

Tea for the Soul: Reflections on Sufficiency
Every week on Thursday until April 7, 2022

March 3, 2022 10 a.m.
March 10, 2022 10 a.m.
March 17, 2022 10 a.m.
March 24, 2022 10 a.m.
April 7, 2022 10 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83312127510?pwd=RG-pNN0t2ZUMrWDIwdkpLSUFURWFoUT09>

Meeting ID: 833 1212 7510
Passcode: 694531

Lenten

Contemplative Practices

Sundays 6 p.m. Zoom

Join your heart in a contemplative group that will meet on Sunday evenings in Lent. No previous experience needed. Come, reflect, engage, and learn. For more information contact, Rev. Emily Corzine, ecorzine@first-church.org

Lenten Small Group: Contemplative Practice
Every week on Sunday until April 3, 2022

March 6, 2022 6 p.m.
March 13, 2022 6 p.m.
March 20, 2022 6 p.m.
April 3, 2022 6 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81396643191?pwd=dXdI-MEpmqZzNtWlI2R0pESk4yK3hqQT09>

-
Meeting ID: 813 9664 3191
Passcode: 272092

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 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 to support **Deep Griha Scholarships**. Deep Griha, in Pune, India, a mission partner with First Church, is a charitable organization working to improve the lives of people living in the slums of Pune. Thank you for your generosity.

For more information visit <https://deepgriha.org>.

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 Rev. 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 Abigail Reed, Korea

Abigail Reed is a global mission intern serving with the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK). The PROK is a close partner with Global Ministries, and is very active in clergy and mission exchanges with many Disciples and UCC congregations and seminaries. The PROK is a progressive denomination, bearing witness to a number of peace and justice concerns within the Church, in Korean society, and globally.

In Haenam, at Yangmuri Church, Abigail works through the Reading Star program, teaching English through reading books. The English program focuses on faith practices and character building. She currently teaches in the English Education ministry at Yangmuri Church while also offering support to the PROK Ecumenical office in Seoul.

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

Upcoming Mission Offerings

February 27	Deep Griha Scholarships
March 2	Good Samaritan (Ash Wednesday)
March 6	Riverview International Center
March 13	Sisters of Empowerment

Keep in Prayer

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

Family and friends Pat Patterson's nephew and niece, Arnall and Christine Page; 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; and Kathy Reed's friend, JD Mace.

Those who mourn loved ones Scott Jones on the death of his aunt, Paula Taylor; 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.; Leigh Briggs, his niece and her husband, Carrie and Alex Heiden, on the death of their infant daughter, Lola Collette Heiden; 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 Belgium, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands. We pray for Global Ministries worker Abigail Reed in Korea.

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,

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 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

