



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 13, 2022

The Second Sunday in Lent

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

Six Studies in English Folksongs  
David Thomas, *clarinet*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Nancy Braverman

Leader: Our help is in the name of God, who made heaven and earth. Let us worship God.

*\* Then all stand.*

L: Wait for the Lord; be strong!

**P: The promises of God will never be broken.**

L: With God as our light, what is there to fear?

**P: The promises of God will never be broken.**

L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

**P: The promises of God will never be broken.**

1. The God of A - braham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;  
 2. Your spir - it still flows free, High surg - ing where it will;  
 3. You have e - ter - nal life Im - plant - ed in the soul;

The an - cient of e - ter - nal days, The God of love!  
 In proph - et's word you spoke of old And you speak still.  
 Your love shall be our strength and stay, While a - ges roll.

The Lord, the great I AM, By earth and heaven con - fessed,  
 Es - tab - lished is your law, And change - less it shall stand,  
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name;

We bow be - fore your ho - ly name, For - ev - er blest.  
 Deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, On sea, or land.  
 The first, the last, be - yond all thought, And still the same!

## \* INVOCATION

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P. And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**P: O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Corzine

L: We are called to examine our faithfulness to God's covenant with us. God, in whose presence we gather, promises us grace and pardon when we acknowledge our weakness and brokenness. Let us confess our sin to almighty God.

**All: Eternal God, whose Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, we recognize and confess that we have failed to respond faithfully to your gracious presence in our lives. Through Jesus Christ you have offered us new life, fulfillment, and the freedom to serve you. We confess that we are captive to sin, that our sin binds us with false pride, and that the wrong we do is made worse by the good we leave undone. Reconcile us to you and to all people. God of mercy, forgive all our sin and strengthen us anew for life as you intend it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

*Silence may be observed for reflection and prayer.*

\* KYRIE ELEISON S153

William Mathias

(organ)

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have  
mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer -  
- cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Corzine

L: Almighty God, who is great in mercy and promises forgiveness of sin to all who truly repent and are sincere in faith, have mercy on us, pardon and deliver us from all sin, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and bring us to everlasting life.

**P: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

\* WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMAND ARAN CUNNINGHAM

Rev. Ahrens

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Mr. Cunningham

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 SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM FOR GRAHAM MICHAEL BUKACH  
*We welcome Graham, parents Michael and Caitlin Bukach, godparents Scott and Margaret Graham (grandparents),  
and Senior Deacon Gregory Halbe.*

WELCOME

Leader: . . . But when Jesus saw it, Jesus was indignant, and said to them,

**People: “Let the children come to me, do not hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it.”**

ADDRESS

L: . . . the sign and seal of their participation in God’s forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

**P: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ’s body.**

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATE

\* CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

L: . . . Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as Graham lives and grows in Christ?

**P: We promise our love, support, and care.**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

L: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

**P: I believe in God.**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

**P: I believe in Jesus Christ.**

L: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

**P: I believe in the Holy Spirit.**

*The congregation may be seated.*

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

L: Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

ACT OF BAPTISM

NAMING OF THE CHILD

L: Graham Michael Bukach, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Rise from the waters of baptism and give glory to God all the days of your life.

**P: Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

L: Grant us grace to receive, nurture, and befriend this newest member of the body of Christ.

**P: Give to Graham strength for life’s journey, courage in time of suffering, the joy of faith, the freedom of love and the hope of new life; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

*A reading from the book of Genesis, chapter 15.*

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.”

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

MOTET

Lord, for Thy tender mercy's sake

Richard Farrant

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake, lay not our sins to our charge, but forgive that is past and give us grace to amend our sinful lives; to decline from sin and incline to virtue, that we may walk in a perfect heart before thee now and evermore.

THE EPISTLE

Philippians 3:17—4:1 (N.T. p. 198)

Mrs. Braverman

*A reading from Paul's letter to the Philippians, chapter 3.*

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

1. O for a clos - er walk with God, A calm and heaven - ly frame,  
 2. Re - turn, O ho - ly Dove, re - turn, Sweet mes - sen - ger of rest!  
 3. The dear - est i - dol I have known, What - e'er that i - dol be,  
 4. So shall my walk be close with God, Calm and se - rene my frame;

A light to shine up - on the road That leads me to the Lamb!  
 I hate the sins that made Thee mourn And drove Thee from my breast.  
 Help me to tear it from Thy throne, And wor - ship on - ly Thee.  
 So pur - er light shall mark the road That leads me to the Lamb.

## THE GOSPEL

Luke 13:31-35 (N.T. p. 77)

Rev. Ahrens

*A reading from the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 13.*

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

L: The Word of God for the people of God.

**P: Thanks be to God.**

## BAPTISMAL MEDITATION

"Thy Kingdom Come"

Rev. Ahrens

*Third in the Lenten sermon series, "The Lord's Prayer"**A period of silence follows.*

## 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 **Sisters of Empowerment**, a faith based non-profit which provides education and training in job readiness, financial literacy, productive life skills, and home ownership. This program seeks to develop confident, respectful, and self-sufficient individuals. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

The Lord is my light and my salvation  
David Thomas, *clarinet*

John Rutter

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? : The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid? Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid: and though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in him.

One thing have I desired of the Lord, which I will require : even that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the fair beauty of the Lord, and to visit his temple.

For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his tabernacle : yea, in the secret place of his dwelling shall he hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone.

Therefore will I offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness : I will sing, and speak praises unto the Lord.

Hearken unto my voice, O Lord, when I cry unto thee : have mercy upon me, and hear me.

My heart hath talked of thee, Seek ye my face : Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

O hide not thou thy face from me, : nor cast thy servant away in displeasure.

Thou has been my succour : leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

When my father and my mother forsake me, : the Lord taketh me up.

Be strong, and he shall comfort thine heart; and put thou thy trust in the Lord.

—from Psalm 27

\* 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.**

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

**P: Thanks be to God.**



1. All my hope on God is found - ed; who doth still my trust re - new: I through  
 2. Hu - man pride and earth - ly glo - ry, sword and crown, be - tray our trust; what with  
 3. God's great good-ness e'er en - dur - eth, deep - est wis - dom, pass - ing thought: splen - dor,  
 4. Dai - ly doth th'al - might - y giv - er boun - teous gifts on us be - stow. God's de -  
 5. Still from earth to God e - ter - nal sac - ri - fice of praise be done, high a -



change and chance am guid - ed, on - ly good and on - ly true. God un -  
 care and toil we fash - ion, tower and tem - ple fall to dust. But God's  
 light, and life at - tend - ing, beau - ty spring - eth out of nought. Ev - er -  
 sire our soul de - light - eth, pleas - ure leads us where we go. Love doth  
 bove all prais - es prais - ing for the gift of God's own Son. Christ shall



known, God a - lone calls my heart to be thine own.  
 power, hour by hour, is my tem - ple and my tower.  
 more from God's store new - born worlds rise and a - dore.  
 stand hand in hand; joy doth wait on God's com - mand.  
 call one and all: you that fol - low shall not fall.

\* BENEDICTION

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

Fugue on the Name of ALAIN, Op. 7

Maurice Duruflé

*Please be seated for the Postlude*

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† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in honor of her mother, Patricia Lightbody, by Mary Lightbody.

† THE RED ROSES on the chancel table mark the arrival of the newest members of the First Church community: Charlise Jane Shimeall-Evans, born July 15, 2021, daughter of Courter Shimeall and Angela Evans, younger sister of Reppart and Gillespie; and Lydia Jane Shimeall Shanahan, born February 25, 2022, daughter of Wyatt Shimeall and Cecilia Shanahan, younger sister of Josephine. Clarlise and Lydai are the granddaughters of Lisa Morris and Kent Shimeall.

† THE WHITE ROSES on the chancel table mark the deaths of two beloved members of the First Church community last Sunday: Ruth Allred and Paul Flocken.



LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY

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

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *liturgist*

Mark S. Williams, *liturgist*

Nancy Braverman, *liturgist*

Gregory Halbe, *Senior Deacon*

Ethan Murray, *crucifer*

The First Church Choir

David Thomas, *clarinetist*

Kevin Jones, *organist*

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

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“The God of Abraham Praise” - Text: Daniel ben Judah, 1404; trans. Max Landsberg and Newton Mann, 1885, alt. Public Domain. Music *Leoni*, Hebrew melody, adapt. Thomas Olivers and Meyer Lyon, 1770. Public Domain.

*Kyrie eleison* by William Mathias. Music: © 1976, Oxford University Press.

“Lord, for thy tender mercies sake” - Text: John Bull, *Lidley’s Prayers*, 1566. Public Domain. Music: Richard Farrant (1530-1580). Public Domain.

“O for a closer walk with God” - Text: William Cowper, 1772. Public Domain. Music: *Caithness*, Scottish Psalter, 1635; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906, alt. Public Domain.

“The Lord is my light and my salvation” - Text: Psalm 27:1–10. Music: John Rutter (b. 1945), © 1989, Hinshaw Music, Inc.

“All my hope on God is founded” - Text: Joachim Neander, trans. Robert Bridges (1844–1930); Public Domain. Music: *Michael*, Herbert Howells (1892–1983), ©1938 Novello & Company, Limited.

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Enter to Worship  
**Depart to Serve**

March 13, 2022

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## This Week at First Church

**3/13**  
9 a.m. Worship (Parish Hall & Virtual)  
10 a.m. Labyrinth Walk Open (Parish Hall)  
11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)  
4 p.m. Congregational Concert (Sanctuary)  
6 p.m. Youth Connections (Virtual)  
"Contemplative Practices"  
Lenten Small Group (Virtual)

**3/14**  
7 p.m. Trustees Mtg (Virtual)

**3/15**  
7 p.m. Church Council Mtg (Virtual)

**3/16**  
10:30 a.m. Book Study (Virtual)  
12:15 p.m. Organ Meditations (Sanctuary)  
7 p.m. Homeless Concerns Mtg (Virtual)

**3/17**  
10 a.m. "Tea for the Soul: Reflections on Sufficiency" Lenten Small Group (Virtual)  
7:15 p.m. First Church Choir Rehearsal (Parish Hall)

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## Congregational Concert

**Today at 4 p.m.**

**Chatham Baroque- The Art of the Trio**

Visit <http://concertsatfirstchurch.org/home/congconcerts/mass-in-b-minor-mar-13-at-4pm/> to learn more.

## 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](#).

### Upcoming Mission Offerings

March 13	<b>Sisters of Empowerment</b>
March 20	Church World Service- Ukraine Crisis Response Fund
March 27	Crossroad Family & Child Services
April 3	Amethyst House

### “Teach Us to Pray” Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens Leads Zoom Lenten Small Group

Mondays in Lent  
March 21, 28, and April 4 at 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.

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.

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### Location and Time for a Labyrinth Walk

The labyrinth is located in the Parish Hall. The labyrinth will open after each service during the season of Lent and will remain open the rest of Holy Week during regular church office hours (10:30 a.m.- Noon). It will also be open before and after the Maundy Thursday Service, the Good Friday Service, and on Holy Saturday from 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. If you are unable to walk the labyrinth, the Gladden Chapel will be open for meditation during the same hours. Please enter the Parish Hall from the ninth street door area.

Please enter this space in a meditative and quiet spirit as people walk the labyrinth.

## Lenten Small Group Studies with Rev. Corzine

### 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. Corzine at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org)

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

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

Register at <https://conta.cc/3hwSkU2>

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### Global Mission Partner Raul Santiago-Rivera, Puerto Rico

Raul Santiago Rivera works with The Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico. The seminary is an ecumenical seminary that has served the Christian community in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean for over a century. Founded by the historical protestant denominations in Puerto Rico and the U. S., its alumni have answered the call to serve in local congregations, denomination leadership roles, and ecumenical organizations within Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

Mr. Santiago-Rivera states that as the seminary is embedded in the daily life of the Puerto Rico society, it faces the same difficulties and struggles as the rest of the society. One of the major difficulties currently affecting the seminary is its finances. His academic preparation and professional experiences are in business administration, especially in accounting and taxes (BA and MBA). He served for 25 years in the US Army as a Logistic Manager, responsible for property, contracting, and service support. This background has prepared him for his work as the seminary's Finance Director. His main duty is to manage the seminary's limited financial resources to achieve its goals.

### Tea for the Soul: Reflections on Sufficiency Thursday 10-10:45 a.m. ZOOM

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](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org).

Tea for the Soul: Reflections on Sufficiency  
Thursday, March 17, 2022 10 a.m.  
Thursday, March 24, 2022 10 a.m.  
Thursday, April 7, 2022 10 a.m.

Register at <https://conta.cc/3C5ogIK>

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### 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](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 **Sisters of Empowerment**, a faith-based non-profit which provides education and training individuals in job readiness, financial literacy, productive life skills, and home ownership. This program seeks to develop confident, respectful, and self-sufficient individuals. Thank you for your generosity.

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

## Return of Spring Retreat Saturday, April 23, 2022 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m

Please join us for a day-long event at Temple Hills Camp in Bellville, Ohio, for our Spring Retreat. This is a wonderful time to be outside and reconnect with our friends at First Church. This event is for all ages! There will be time for devotion, crafts, games, and fishing. We will also take walks through the hills of the 148-acre camp during the day. Bring a lawn chair and an openness to the fellowship of nature and our faith community.

Don't forget, all children and youth attend free!

We begin with breakfast at 9 a.m. and the day will include lunch and dinner. We will end the day with a bonfire and communion.

To register visit  
<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=vta-6sivab&oeidk=a07ej2v02gweee798f9>

Questions? Contact Mark Williams at  
[mwilliams@first-church.org](mailto:mwilliams@first-church.org)

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## Second Nurture is Coming to First Church!

Have you ever considered becoming a foster or adoptive parent? Second Nurture partners with communities like yours to prioritize fostering and adoption.

Please join them for an informational meeting on Sunday, March 27 at 10 a.m. to learn more about the process and to meet other interested members at First Church.

Fostering not for you? Learn how to volunteer in support of foster families within your community.

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JWb6MqZw-BWQ> to watch a quick video to learn more about what Second Nurture does.

We hope to see you there!

## Summer Church Camp Scholarship & Registration Information

If the Outdoor Ministries Summer Camp info has arrived, can spring be far behind? Everyone is ready to plan some fun in the sun and that's just what camp is. The campers enjoy swimming, hiking, crafts, games, singing, and worship. They have campfires, vespers, rest time, and make friends that last a lifetime. There are camps for Kindergarten and First Graders with a grandparent. Weeklong camps are for children who have completed the second grade and older. There are camps for teens and camps with themes. There are camps for adults and even one for families.

Registration has now begun!! Camp weeks fill up fast!!! Don't wait too long!!!

Camp schedule and descriptions are available online at: <https://heartlanducc.org/temple-hills/?fbclid=I-wAR2hVap8Jbm3EWxARbr6AOcZM0uOxh-q431i5i3HMvMgxRJDkA-V3AfcR0Sc>

First Congregational Church has always been a strong supporter of the Outdoor Ministries Summer Camp Program by encouraging participation and by offering scholarships for campers. Thanks to the generosity of longtime member Alma Keeler, we are able to offer a 50% camp scholarship on the registration fee (after the \$75 deposit) to any First Church child or youth who wants to go to camp. A request for these funds must be made by the parent /guardian. This is not automatic as in the past. Download the form at <https://files.constantcontact.com/5728e215501/4a22ce8f-25bc-480c-bde6-dd6aee88a7ad.doc?rdr=true>

For more information visit  
<https://files.constantcontact.com/5728e215501/b7a7e0af-86d4-4631-987d-025ba54a5c07.doc?rdr=true>

## Keep in Prayer

**Members** Gretchen Atkinson; Janice White; 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; Amy Wagner's friend, Ken Burke; Susan Brooks' son, John Kampmeier; Melva Fisher's son, Stephen Fisher; and Kathy Reed's friend, JD Mace.

**Those who mourn loved ones** Cali Mitchell and her father James on the death of her mother, Juanita; Kosby Carrico, on the death of her sister, Nicole Winne; Lou Flocken and Annette Salser on the death of their brother, Paul Flocken; the family of Ruth Allred; Pat Patterson, her niece Christine Page and family, on the death of Arnall Page; and Scott Jones on the death of his aunt, Paula Taylor.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. We pray for Global Ministries worker Raul Santiago-Rivera in Puerto Rico.

## 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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[www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx](http://www.first-church.org/Worship.aspx)



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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](http://WWW.FIRST-CHURCH.ORG)

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