



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 24, 2022

The Second Sunday of Easter

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

Partita on "O Sons and Daughters"

Wilbur Held

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Lynn Wallich

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

** Then all stand.*

L: When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, Jesus came and stood among the disciples and said: Peace be with you!

P: The Risen Christ is with us now, offering us the gift of peace.

L: Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

P: We too have seen the Lord. Let us rejoice and give thanks!

L: Let us worship God!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1. O sons and daugh - ters, let us sing! The King of heaven, the glo - rious King,
2. That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them came their Lord most dear,
3. When Thom - as first the ti - dings heard, How they had seen the ris - en Lord,
4. "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as see; My hands, my feet, I show to thee;
5. No long - er Thom - as then de - nied, He saw the feet, the hands, the side;
6. How blest are they who have not seen, And yet whose faith hath con - stant been,

O'er death and hell rose tri - umph - ing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 And said, "My peace be with you here." Al - le - lu - ia!
 He doubt - ed the dis - ci - ples' word. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Not faith - less, but be - liev - ing be." Al - le - lu - ia!
 "Thou art my Lord and God," he cried. Al - le - lu - ia!
 For they e - ter - nal life shall win. Al - le - lu - ia!

Final ending

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

* INVOCATION

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Almighty and everlasting God, who in the Paschal mystery established the new covenant of reconciliation: Grant that all who have been reborn into the community of Christ's body, may show forth in their lives what they profess by their faith; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMAND ALEXI COOKS

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Ms. Cooks

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 ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

5:27–32 (N.T. p. 123)

Dr. Wallich

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 5.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

P: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Rise up, my love, my fair one

Healey Willan

Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away. For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear upon the earth. The time of singing of birds is come. Arise my love, my fair one, and come away.
—Song of Songs 2

THE REVELATION TO JOHN

1:4–8 (N.T. p. 245)

Dr. Wallich

A reading from the Revelation to John, chapter 1.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

Refrain

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful: the Lord God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings;
 2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
 3. The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

God made their glow - ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
 the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den: God made them ev - ery one.
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

A reading from the Gospel according to John, chapter 20.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the authorities, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.” Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Designs for Trust”

Rev. Corzine

A period of silence follows.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Ahrens

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 the **Ohio Environmental Council**, whose mission is to secure healthy air, land, and water for all who call Ohio home. The OEC believes one of the best ways to make progress addressing climate change and environmental problems is at the local level where leaders are less partisan. Such leaders are more prone to listen to constituents who are asking for more sustainable, livable communities with permanent, clean economies. The Ohio Environmental Council’s vision is a clean, beautiful Ohio where diverse people, innovation, and all of our natural treasures thrive. Thank you for your generosity.

ANTHEM

The Lord is my shepherd
The text is taken from Psalm 23

Howard Goodall

* PRESENTATION HYMN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow

sung to *Lasst uns erfreuen*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Christ, all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Ahrens

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: Thanks be to God.

* CLOSING HYMN 399

We live by faith and not by sight

Dunlap's Creek



1. We live by faith and not by sight; no gra-cious words we hear
2. We may not touch his hands and side, nor fol-low where he trod,
3. Help then, O Lord, our un-be-lief; and may our faith a-bound
4. That when our life of faith is done, in realms of clear-er light



from one who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we be-lieve him near.
but in his prom-ise we re-joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:
may we be-hold you as you are in full and end-less sight.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Corzine

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G Major, BWV 541

J.S. Bach

Please be seated for the Postlude

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God by Sarah Giffen, in memory of Wally Giffen and loved ones.

LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *preacher*

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

Mark S. Williams, *liturgist*

Lynn Wallich, *liturgist*

Will Haslett, *crucifer*

The First Church Choir

Kevin Jones, *organist*

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

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street: Rev. Corzine

Education Breezeway: Rev. Ahrens

Education Wing Door: Mr. Williams

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Prelude in G Major, BWV 541 - J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

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Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

April 23, 2022

This Week at First Church

- 4/24**
9 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary)
10 a.m. Faith Formations
 (Playground or Classroom B)
11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)
4 p.m. Congregational Concert (Sanctuary)
- 4/25**
12 Noon Grief Support Group (Virtual)
- 4/26**
3:30 p.m. Congregational Care Organizational
 Mtg (Virtual)
5:30 p.m. Time Out Tuesday
 (Plank's Café & Pizzeria)
7 p.m. Deacons Mtg (Fanning Rm)
- 4/28**
7:15 p.m. First Church Choir Rehearsal
 (Parish Hall)
- 4/29**
8:30 a.m. Realm Mtg (Virtual)

Time Out Tuesday April 26, 5:30-7 p.m.

Looking for new ways to meet and connect with other church members? Please join us during "Time Out Tuesday" for a casual meal and conversation with your church family! Meet us around the corner from the church at Plank's Pizzeria on Parsons on April 26, 5:30-7 p.m. First Church will sponsor the first few pizzas and appetizers.

We hope to see you there!

The Safety and Security Training Save the Date: May 1

The Safety and Security Committee will host a Safety Training session on May 1, after each service. The members of the congregation will participate in a severe weather drill after a short presentation along with instructions about fire and interruption of worship. This is a very important training for all members. We hope that all will stay and learn ways to keep us all safe during an uncertain time.

FCC Organist Alumni Gala

This Sunday, April 24, at 4 p.m. we present a joyful program to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Congregational Concerts as well as the 50th anniversary of the Beckerath organ that graces our Gallery. To do this, we present a program featuring many of the alumni organists and choirmasters of First Church.

Reaching back to 1968, John Schaefer, now living in Kansas City, will be with us. Following Canon Schaefer, Organist and Choirmaster Emeritus G. Dene Barnard shares several of his favorites over the years. Marti Rideout, twice interim Minister of Music, will be featured as narrator in the large William Albright work, "The King of Instruments." Jamie Bobb returns from St. Olaf to share in the festival, and finally, current Minister of Music Kevin Jones will play a work from the upcoming Beckerath CD as well as play the organ part in the Albright.

This will be a giant celebration of more than 50 years of service to First Congregational Church and its love and support of fine music. Following the concert, a gala reception will take place in the Parish Hall to properly fête our guests and properly toast 50 years of the ministry and outreach of music in our communities. Please make plans to join us for this very important milestone in our life together.

Keep in Prayer

Members: Barbara Clapham; Jane Weddle; Rick Brant; Ed Koetz; Betsy Zahn; Rick Sayre; Grace Glaros; Abby Prendergast; Gretchen Atkinson; Janice White; Martha Huey; Barbara Knox; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter; and Pauline Fritz.

Family and friends Steven Ferris's brother, Doug Ferris; Bob Quinichett's daughter, Susan Webster; Jane Carter's grandson-in law, Michael Kessler and family; Bev and Bert Cook's friends, Terry Burns and Herb Smith; Stephanie Koscher's mother, Judy Young; Colleen Merrill; Amy Wagner's friend, Ken Burke; and Melva Fisher's son, Stephen Fisher.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. We pray for Global Ministries worker Nishan Bakalian in Lebanon.

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.

Give

The mission of the **Ohio Environmental Council (OEC)** is to secure healthy air, land, and water for all who call Ohio home. The OEC believes one of the best ways to make progress addressing climate change and environmental problems is at the local level where leaders are less partisan. Such leaders are more prone to listen to constituents who are asking for more sustainable, livable communities with permanent, clean economies. The Ohio Environmental Council's vision is a clean, beautiful Ohio where diverse people, innovation, and all of our natural treasures thrive. Please give generously.

For more information, please visit <https://theoec.org/>.

Upcoming Mission Offerings

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| April 24 | Sacred Earth |
| May 1 | BREAD |
| May 8 | Freedom a la cart |

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, Shelly Gies, Miranda Gumbita, Courtney Palmer
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
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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

BREAD'S Nehemiah Action on May 10 Will Focus on Environmental Justice

In the coming years, Columbus will experience increased rainfall and flooding due to the warming climate. The impacts on people are likely to be more mold in homes, particularly in vulnerable neighborhoods, and more respiratory and heat-related illnesses.

The BREAD Organization's Nehemiah Action on Tuesday, May 10, will focus on these environmental impacts. Members of First Church's Justice Ministry Network are recruiting church members, friends and neighbors to attend this in-person event from 6:40 to 8:30 p.m. at the Celeste Center on the Ohio State Fairgrounds.

BREAD's research found that Columbus has less tree coverage than comparable cities. Trees are important because they mitigate flooding and their shade reduces urban heat. BREAD proposes to work with city officials and other decision-makers to craft a private tree protection ordinance. BREAD also proposes to further research the mold problem and to encourage greater recognition of its danger to human health.

Virtual Coffee Hour

The next Virtual Coffee Hour is Sunday May 1, at 10 a.m.

Global Mission Partner Nishan Bakalian, Lebanon

Nishan Bakalian serves with the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches (UAWCNE) in Lebanon. Headquartered in Beirut, Lebanon, the UAWCNE throughout the Middle East supports a network of churches, schools and institutions. It primarily serves the needs of the Armenian communities in the countries where they reside after having been displaced from their historic homelands early in the 20th century.

Mr. Bakalian supports these ministries by serving alongside the clergy and lay leadership, by training and mentoring young leadership, by encouraging those who sacrificially serve here, and by offering his musical, linguistic and administrative expertise to churches and schools. He also serves by speaking, preaching, and writing in the Armenian language, and by occasionally extending this same effort to a sister church union in Armenia, the Evangelical Church of Armenia.

He notes that one of the greatest challenges facing the region, as well as the UAWCNE, is the departure of many Christians, including Armenians, from the region. There is a severe lack of financial resources in Lebanon as fewer people are left to support the ongoing work, while basic costs of living skyrocket. A less-than-transparent governmental system as well as regional and international struggles lead many of the brightest, most talented, and most principled youth to emigrate from Lebanon for what they consider a better future.

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

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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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

