



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

May 29, 2022

The Seventh Sunday of Easter/The Sunday after the Ascension

**WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!**

If you are visiting today and looking for a church home, welcome! *For more than 169 years our Covenant has been: We covenant with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another, and bind ourselves in the presence of God to live together in all God's ways as revealed to us by the Holy Spirit and holy scripture. The church acknowledges that all members have the right of individual interpretation of the principles of the Christian faith and respects them in their honest convictions. In accordance with the teaching of our Lord, the church recognizes two sacraments: Baptism and Holy Communion.*

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

PRELUDE

Ann Eliot, *pianist*

OPENING SENTENCES

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

Leader: This is the day which God has made. Alleluia!

**People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!**

*\* Please stand as you are able*

\* THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

L: O God, open our lips.

**P: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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

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

\* OPENING SONG - PSALM 95

Come let us sing to God on high

*Tallis' Canon*



1. Come, let us sing to God on high, The Rock of our sal - va - tion praise; Come  
 2. For God is high a - bove all gods, The heights and depths are in God's hand; God  
 3. Bow down and let us wor - ship God Who is our Ma - ker and our Lord; We



with thanks - giv - ing to God's courts And raise our joy - ful psalms in praise.  
 made the sea and all there - in, God's hands have mold - ed the dry land.  
 are God's peo - ple and God's sheep; To - day, then, heark - en to God's Word.

\* PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 97 (*read responsively by verse*)

L: You reign, O God; let the earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad.

**P: Clouds and darkness are round about you;**

**righteousness and justice are the foundations of your throne.**

L: A fire goes before you and burns up your enemies on every side.

**P: Your lightning light up the world; the earth sees it and is afraid.**

L: The mountains melt like wax at your presence, O God, at your presence, O God of the whole earth.

**P: The heavens declare your righteousness, and all the peoples see your glory.**

L: Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Let all gods bow down before you.

**P: Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O God.**

L: For you are God, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.

**P: You love those who hate evil; you preserve the lives of your saints  
and deliver them from the hand of the wicked.**

L: Light has sprung up for the righteous and joyful gladness for those who are truehearted.

**P: Rejoice in God, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy Name.**

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

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

\* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

L: The peace of God be always with you.

**P: And also with you.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Mark S. Williams

THE FIRST READING

Acts of the Apostles 16:16–34

Rev. Corzine

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 16.*

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour. But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**



1 This joy-ful Eas-ter - tide, a - way with sin and sor - - row!  
 2 My be - ing shall re - jice se - cure with - in God's keep - - ing,  
 3 Death's wa - ters lost their chill when Je - sus crossed the ri - - ver.



My love, the Cru - ci - fied, has sprung to life this mor - - row.  
 un - til the trum-pet voice shall wake us from our sleep - - ing.  
 His love shall reach me still; his mer - cy is for - ev - - er.

*Refrain*



Had Christ, who once was slain, not burst his three - day pris - on,



our faith had been in vain. But now has Christ a - ris - en, a -



ris - en, a - ris - en, a - ris - - - - en!

THE SECOND READING

John 17:20–26

Rev. Ahrens

*A reading from the Gospel according to John, chapter 17.*

Jesus said, “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. “Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

1. Let all cre - a - tion bless the Lord, till heav'n with praise is ring - ing.  
 2. All liv - ing things up - on the earth, green fer - tile hills and moun - tains,  
 3. O all you peo - ple ev - ery - where, lift up a hymn of glo - ry;

Sun, moon, and stars, peal out a chord, stir up the an - gels' sing - ing.  
 sing to the God who gave you birth; be joy - ful, springs and foun - tains.  
 let all who know God's stead - fast care tell our sal - va - tion's sto - ry.

Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make mu - sic, day, night, cold and heat:  
 Lithe wa - ter life, bright air - borne birds, wild rov - ing beasts, tame flocks and herds:  
 No tongue be si - lent; sing your part, you hum - ble souls and meek of heart:

ex - alt the God who made you.  
 ex - alt the God who made you.  
 ex - alt the God who made you.

HOMILY

“Our Children, Our Teachers, Our Neighbors, Our Church”

Rev. Ahrens

THE PRAYERS

Rev. Corzine

L: God be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray.

**Quietly and Slowly**

Be still, be still. Be still and know that I am God.

*repeat ad. lib.*

Be still, be still. Be still and know that I am God.

L: We give you thanks eternal God for the hope we have in Jesus Christ, who died but is risen. We give you thanks for his presence among us. Because he lives we look to you for eternal life, knowing that nothing past, present or yet to come can separate us from your great love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. This day we offer prayers on behalf of this church, the community and world.

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

L: Almighty God, in Christ you have embraced all of life through the one who is the way, the truth, and the life. Pour out your grace upon us that we may love all of life as you have loved us. **Amen.**

#### OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.**

**Amen.**

#### CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, you create us by your power and redeem us by your love. Guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may give ourselves in love and service to one another and to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### THE OFFERTORY

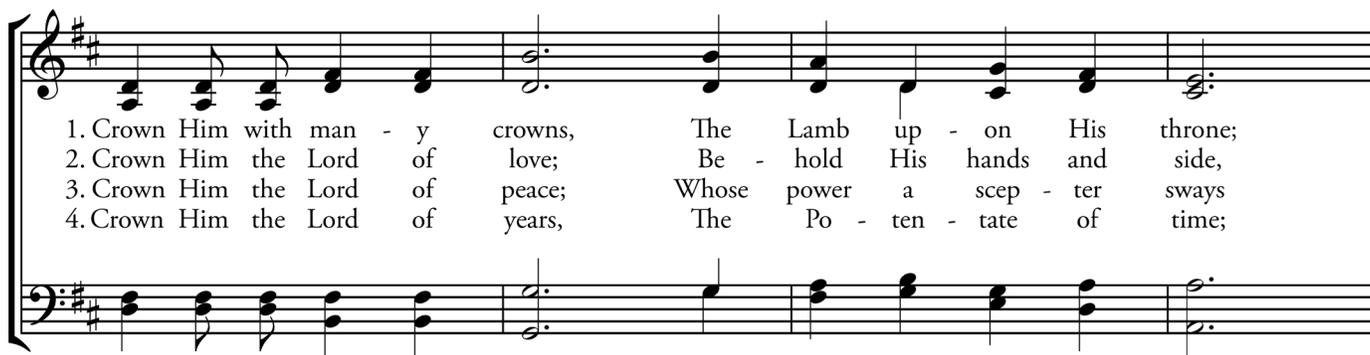
*Want to give online? Please scan this QR code link, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve leaflet:*



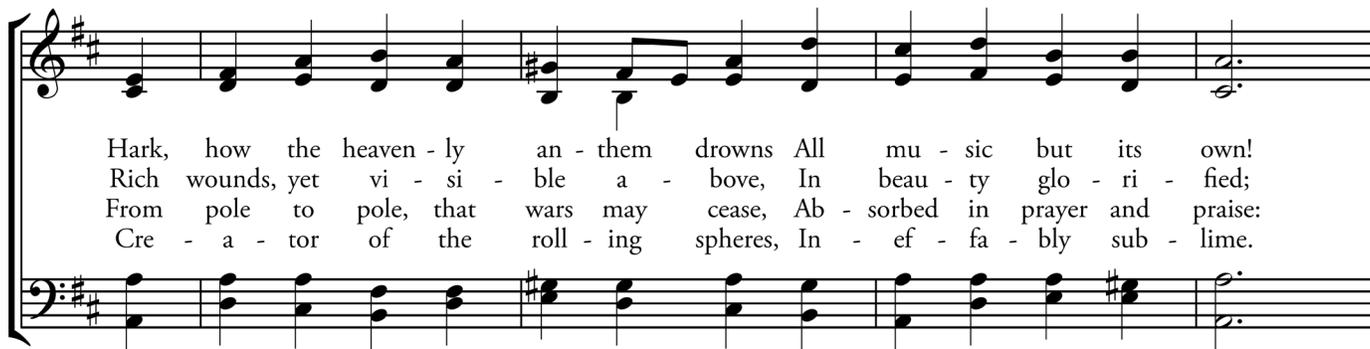
#### MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Ahrens

Designated gifts go to support **CUE Seminaries of the United Church of Christ**. The CUE Seminaries (Chicago, United, and Eden) play a vital role in the theological education and preparation of members in discernment and pastoral leaders in the United Church of Christ and the larger church. Thank you for your generosity.



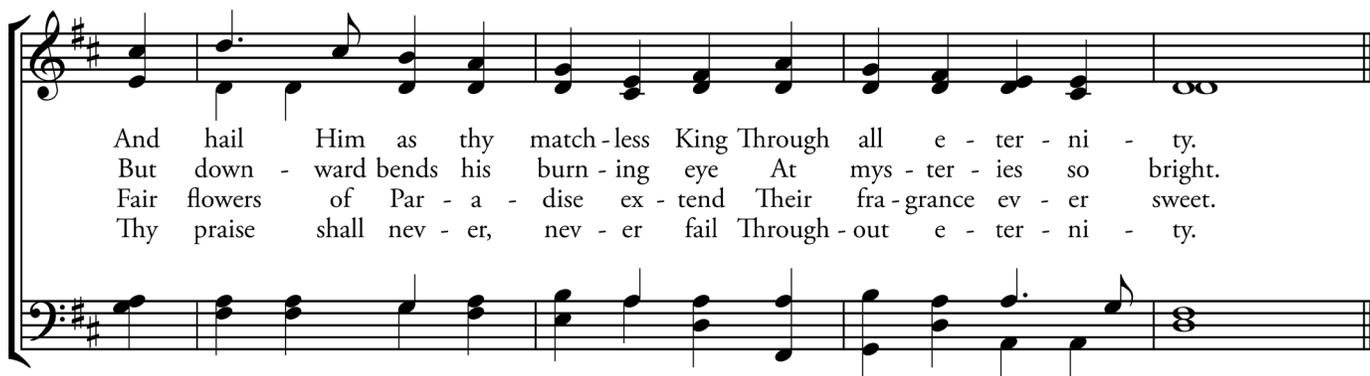
1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;  
 2. Crown Him the Lord of love; Be - hold His hands and side,  
 3. Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose power a scep - ter sways  
 4. Crown Him the Lord of years, The Po - ten - tate of time;



Hark, how the heaven - ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own!  
 Rich wounds, yet vi - si - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied;  
 From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Ab - sorbed in prayer and praise:  
 Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, In - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,  
 No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His reign shall know no end; And round His pierc - ed feet  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou hast died for me;



And hail Him as thy match - less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 But down - ward bends his burn - ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 Fair flowers of Par - a - dise ex - tend Their fra - grance ev - er sweet.  
 Thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail Through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

**Eat this bread. Drink this cup. Come to me and never be hungry.  
 Eat this bread. Drink this cup. Trust in me and you will not thirst.**

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Rev. Ahrens

**We give you thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Mr. Williams

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

**P: Thanks be to God.**

\* CLOSING HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today

*Easter Hymn*

**Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!  
Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!  
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!  
Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!**

\* BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

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# Enter to Worship Depart to Serve

May 29, 2022

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## This Week at First Church

- 5/29**  
9 a.m.           Worship (Parish Hall & Virtual)  
11 a.m.           Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)
- 5/30**  
Church Closed in  
Observance of Memorial Day
- 6/1**  
2 p.m.           Realm Meeting (Virtual)  
7 p.m.           Book Club (Virtual)  
Unsheltered Around First Church Mtg  
(Virtual)
- 6/2**               Oberammergau, Germany/Holy Land  
Trip Departs
- 6/4**  
10:30 a.m.      Sacred Earth (Outside Space)
- 

## Ukraine Quilt Auction

Member Claudia Glenn has contributed a handmade quilt to raise money to support Church World Service for Ukraine Support. Claudia grew up in Yorkshire, England in a creative family and took up quilting a few years ago. She came to Ohio in 2011. She and her husband, Jaime, are new to First Church and we are delighted that she can share her gifts in this way.

The auction is on Charity Auctions and will run from May 19 through June 3. You can see the quilt on display in the Education Wing breezeway.

Send questions to Rev. Emily Corzine at [ecorzine@first-church.org](mailto:ecorzine@first-church.org)

To place a bid and check back, click here:  
<https://www.charityauctionstoday.com/auctions/ukraine-quilt-32462>

## Sunday Stroll

Come take a Sunday stroll with us at Inniswood Metro Gardens on June 26, 2-4 p.m. We will meander through this beautiful park while enjoying good company and all that nature has to offer. Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes. There are multiple trails and all are classified as easy and less than one mile long. We will walk multiple trails so feel free to join us for all of them or just one. In the event of heavy rain or storms, the event will be rescheduled for a future date. Please be sure to register so you will receive any necessary email communication. Meet us at the garden's entrance area. We look forward to seeing you!

Please register by Saturday, June 25!  
Register at : <https://conta.cc/3wh9H2c>

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## First Church Book Club

All are invited to the First Church Book Club. The next meeting is on June 1 at 7 p.m. by Zoom and the selection is *The Hospital: Life, Death, and Dollars in a Small American Town* by Brian Alexander. For more information and the Zoom link, contact Elaine Warren at [melainewarren232@gmail.com](mailto:melainewarren232@gmail.com).

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## Virtual Coffee Hour

The next Virtual Coffee Hour is Sunday June 5, at 10 a.m.

Zoom Meeting  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82160506973?pwd=d-Fl4dGlaC1NCZW5UbzE4WE5STHR1dz09>

Meeting ID: 821 6050 6973  
Passcode: 115473

## Global Mission Partner Rebecca Young, Indonesia

Rebecca Young serves with Artha Wacana Christian University in Kupang, Timor, Indonesia. The university was founded in 1985. 'Artha' is the Sanskrit word for purpose; 'Wacana' means word. Therefore, Artha Wacana Christian University means a university whose purpose comes from the word of God.

Ms. Young serves as an ethics instructor for graduate students in the Faculty of Theology. Her students consist mostly of pastors furthering their education as they continue to serve in local congregations across the western part of Timor Island. The core of her teaching is on the life of the church in the context of the people of Timor, their joys, and their struggles. In an area that has been devastated by a multi-year drought, as well as overfishing and pollution leading to depletion of the fishing industry, a particular focus is a care for the environment. Learn more about Global Ministries by visiting <https://www.globalministries.org/>

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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 <https://www.first-church.org/give/>, 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).

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For more information visit <https://www.cueseminaries.org>.

## Food Pantry Donations

Justice and Mercy is accepting canned and boxed foods. On the first Monday of each month, the food will be donated on a rotating schedule to either Broad Street Presbyterian Church Food Pantry (even months) or Gladden House (odd months). Both organizations are in need of canned fruits, vegetables, and meats. There will be baskets by the church office, by the entrance to the Education Wing, and one inside the front entrance of the church.

**Monday, June 6:** Donation will go to Broad Street Presbyterian Church. Thank you for your generosity.

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## Upcoming Mission Offerings

### May 29

June 5  
June 12  
June 19  
June 26

### CUE Seminaries

Strengthen the Church  
First Serves  
Heartland Conference Outdoor Ministries  
Jessie's World

## Keep in Prayer

**Members** Tom, Shelly, and Jordan Gies; Allison Lowery Palmer; Jim and Carol Woodard; Mitchell Dean; Jane Weddle; Rick Brant; Betsy Zahn; Rick Sayre; Grace Glaros; Janice White; Martha Huey; Barbara Knox; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter; and Pauline Fritz.

**Family and friends** Melissa Kulwicki's friend, Susan Fisher on the death of her husband, Steve Fisher; Annette McCormick's father, Charles McCormick; Steven Ferris's brother, Doug Ferris; Bob Quinichett's daughter, Susan Webster; Jim Lowe's brother, Greg Lowe; Stephanie Koscher's mother, Judy Young; Colleen Merrill; Amy Wagner's friend, Ken Burke.

**Those who mourn loved ones** family and friends of Richard Mason upon his passing; Eddie Anderson III, Eddie IV, Chutney, and family on the death of wife and mother, Tammy Anderson; and Alec Deitz and family on the death of his grandfather, the Rev. James Deitz.

The communities of Buffalo, NY, and Uvalde, TX, after the deadliest mass shootings of the year.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of Angola and Mozambique. We pray for Global Ministries worker Rebecca Young in Indonesia.

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  
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  
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 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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Scripture readings are the New Revised Standard Version. The Psalter reading is taken from the St. Helena Psalter. © Order of Saint Helena, used by permission.



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