



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 19, 2022

The Second Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 7

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

Adagio (Symphony VI)

Charles-Marie Widor

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Jenny Provenzano

Leader: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

** Then all stand.*

L: Break down the barriers that divide us, O Lord.

P: Tear down the walls of hostility and fear.

L: Melt the barbed wire of anger and hatred.

P: Breathe new life into your people, O God.

L: For we are called to newness in Christ Jesus.

P: We are all brothers and sisters through God's love.

L: Come, let us worship the God who removes obstacles from our paths.

P: Let us praise God who seeks to unite us in peace. Amen.

* OPENING HYMN

Dear Lord, Creator good and kind

Repton



1. Dear Lord, Cre - a - tor good and kind, For - give our fool - ish ways;
 2. In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, Be - side the Sy - rian sea,
 3. Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, Till all our striv - ings cease;
 4. Breathe through the heats of our de - sire Thy cool - ness and thy balm;



Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind, In pur - er lives thy ser - vice find,
 The gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, Let us, like them, with - out a word
 Take from our souls the strain and stress, And let our or - dered lives con - fess
 Let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; Speak through the earth - quake, wind, and fire,



In deep - er rev - erence praise. In deep - er rev - erence praise.
 Rise up and fol - low thee. Rise up and fol - low thee.
 The beau - ty of thy peace. The beau - ty of thy peace.
 O still small voice of calm! O still small voice of calm!

* INVOCATION

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

L: God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: O God, may we have perpetual love and reverence for your holy name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

L: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Let us greet one another with the sign of Christ's peace.

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 65.

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, “Here I am, here I am,” to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine’s flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, “Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.” These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors’ iniquities together, says the LORD; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions.

Thus says the LORD: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, “Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,” so I will do for my servants’ sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

P: Thanks be to God.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians, chapter 3.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

P: Thanks be to God.

1. O Sav - ior, let me walk with thee in low - ly paths of ser - vice free;
 2. Teach me thy pa - tience, still with thee in clos - er, dear - er com - pa - ny,
 3. In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the fu - ture's broa - dening way,

tell me thy se - cret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 in peace that on - ly thou canst give, with thee, O Sav - ior, let me live.

THE GOSPEL

Luke 8:26–39 (N.T. p. 68)

Rev. Ahrens

A reading from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 8.

Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”— for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss. Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

L: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

P: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Clothed and in His Right Mind”

Rev. Ahrens

A period of silence follows.

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 **UCC Heartland Conference Outdoor Ministries**. Outdoor Ministries, centered at Temples Hills Camp and Conference Center, provides opportunity to explore God and build friendships in the great outdoors. Support for this ministry helps people engage their faith in new ways. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY

Benedictus: Chromhorne en Taille (*Messe pour les Paroisses*)

François Couperin

* PRESENTATION HYMN 591

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

Rev. Samuelson

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.
P: **Thanks be to God.**



1. O Christ, the great foun - da - tion On which Your peo - ple stand
 2. Bap - tized in one con - fes - sion, One church in all the earth,
 3. Where ty - rants' hold is tight - ened, Where strong de - vour the weak,
 4. This is the mo - ment glo - rious When He who once was dead



To preach Your true sal - va - tion In ev - ery age and land.
 We bear our Lord's im - pres - sion, The sign of sec - ond birth:
 Where in - no - cents are fright - ened, The righ - teous fear to speak,
 Shall lead His church vic - to - rious, Their cham - pion and their head.



Pour out Your Ho - ly Spir - it To make us strong and pure,
 One ho - ly peo - ple gath - ered In love be - yond our own,
 There let Your church a - wak - ing At - tack the powers of sin,
 The Lord of all cre - a - tion His heaven - ly king - dom brings,



To keep the faith un - bro - ken As long as worlds en - dure.
 By grace we were in - vit - ed, By grace we make You known.
 And, all their ram - parts break - ing, With You the vic - tory win.
 The fi - nal con - sum - ma - tion, The glo - ry of all things.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Ahrens

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G Minor, BWV 542

J.S. Bach

Please be seated for the Postlude

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God by Frank and Sue Cook in honor of their wedding anniversary.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS TODAY:

Broad Street: Rev. Ahrens

Education Breezeway: Rev. Corzine

Education Wing Door: Rev. Samuelson

LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY

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

The Rev. Emily Krause Corzine, *liturgist*

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson, *liturgist*

Jenny Provenzano, *liturgist*

James E. Bobb, *guest organist*

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

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Enter to Worship Depart to Serve

June 19, 2022

This Week at First Church

6/19

9 a.m. Worship (Parish Hall & Virtual)

11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)

6/21

7 p.m. Church Council Mtg (Virtual)

6/22

12 Noon Lunch Bunch (Carfagna's)

2 p.m. Realm Mtg (Virtual)

7 p.m. Unsheltered Around First Church
(Virtual)

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>

First Serves Returns

First Serves returns on the 4th Sunday of the month. On June 26 a.m., in between 9-11 a.m. services, come and help prepare Car Kit Blessing Bags for homeless in our community. We'll have all the supplies, just come and help. Our goal is 100 kits. Place to be determined (Playground or Education Wing Hallway, weather dependent). Contact Rev. Emily Corzine (ecorzine@first-church.org) for more information.

Lunch Bunch

June 22, 12-1 p.m.

Carfagna's Kitchen, 1440 Gemini Place,
Columbus, OH 43240

Who wants lunch? Who needs groceries? Let's do both together at Carfagna's Italian Market near Polaris on June 22 at 12 p.m.! We will meet at the restaurant for lunch to share a delicious meal and a friendly conversation. And, since this restaurant is in a grocery store, feel free to pick up some essentials on your way out! Mark your calendars and sign up via the link provided on or before June 20. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there! Mangia!

Register at <https://onrealm.org/TheFirstCongreg/Registrations/Registrants/bf0483fc-223e-46a3-8d11-aea7013375a3?congregantView=true&engagement=true&hideNav=false&rt=955128cb-e1da-11ec-bf80-02e28fdccc9d>

Time Out Tuesday

June 28, 6-7 p.m.

Gemut Biergarten, 734 Oak Street,
Columbus, OH 43205

Looking for new ways to meet and connect with other church members? Please join us on June 28 at 6 p.m. for Time out Tuesday! We will meet for a casual meal and conversation on the patio at Gemut Biergarten. Come for the company and to enjoy this beautiful historic building that was one of the original Columbus firehouses! Mark your calendars and sign up via the link provided on or before June 25. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you there!

Register at <https://onrealm.org/TheFirstCongreg/Registrations/Registrants/1f3130d4-2023-4170-8ee1-aea7013626d4?congregantView=true&engagement=true&hideNav=false&returnUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fonrealm.org%2Fevents%2F1f3130d4-2023-4170-8ee1-aea7013626d4%2Fmeetings%2F927aca28-b417-4b59-afae-aea7013626d6&rt=22b9d768-e1e5-11ec-ae23-02dd061fa0d7>

Happy Birthday, Twink!

Beloved First Church member Rupert “Twink” Starr will celebrate his 100th birthday July 16, 2022! We would love for his First Church friends to join in the celebration by recording a short video greeting or message to Twink, and uploading it to <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1119uCxDAAdLDdGkVl-w6kW5P-gVF8x1BXRc?usp=sharing>. The deadline for submissions is Sunday, July 10.

You may also mail cards to Twink in care of the church (444 E. Broad St, Columbus, Ohio 43215), and we will be sure to pass those along. If you have any questions or need assistance, please email Melissa Kulwicki at communications@first-church.org.

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.

Designated gifts go to the **UCC Heartland Conference Outdoor Ministries**, centered at Temple Hills Camp and Conference Center, provide the opportunity to explore God and build friendships in the great outdoors. Support for this ministry helps people engage their faith in new ways. Thank you for your generosity

To learn more visit <https://www.facebook.com/OutdoorMinistriesHeartlandConferenceUCC/>

Keep in Prayer

Members Jim Lowe; Beth Gelfius; Jim and Carol Woodard; Rick Brant; Betsy Zahn; Grace Glaros; Janice White; Martha Huey; Barbara Knox; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter; and Pauline Fritz.

Family and friends Jim Lowe’s brother, Greg Lowe; Melissa Kulwicki’s niece, Alivia Scruggs; Annette McCormick’s father, Charles McCormick; Steven Ferris’s brother, Doug Ferris; Bob Quinichett’s daughter, Susan Webster; Stephanie Koscher’s mother, Judy Young; Colleen Merrill; Amy Wagner’s friend, Ken Burke.

Those who mourn loved ones including David Holt on the death of his mother, Elaine Holt; Annette McCormick on the death of her uncle, Kenneth Fanning; Melissa Kulwicki’s cousin, John Williams, on the death of his wife, Wendy Williams; and the communities of America continuing to suffer from mass shootings.

We pray for Mr. Mark Williams and family while he is on sabbatical.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we lift the people and churches of Malawi and Zambia. We pray for Global Ministries worker Jeff Mensendiek in Japan.

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.

Global Mission Partner Jeff Mensendiek, Japan

Jeffrey Mensendiek serves with Kwansei Gakuin University in Tokyo, Japan. Mr. Mensendiek has worked with the United Church of Christ in Japan for over 22 years. The church in Japan is a minority church, as only one percent of the population is Christian. In this environment, the church is one of many sub-cultures that is discriminated against because it goes against the norms. He is now working as chaplain at Kwansei Gakuin University. Some of the challenges facing the church in Japan are:

- Passing on the faith to the next generation
- Discrimination as a minority people
- Internal division within the church over theological differences
- The ongoing nuclear disaster (protecting life in the face of powers who deny the dangerous truth)
- Being a prophetic voice against increasing nationalism and militarism
-

To learn more about Global Ministries visit Global Mission Partner visit <https://www.globalministries.org>

Upcoming Mission Offerings

June 19	Heartland Conference Outdoor Ministries
June 26	Jessie's World

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.
(*On sabbatical through September 11, 2022*)
Interim Director of Christian Education Rev. Joanna Samuelson
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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