



WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 7, 2022

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 14

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

*Kyrie couplets from Messe pour les Paroisses
Plein chant du premier Kyrie, en Taille
Fugue sur les jeux d'anches
Récit de Chromhorne
Dialog sur la Trompette et le Chromhorne*

François Couperin

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Martha Worth

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: The Lord comes to us this day. Are you ready?

P: We are ready!

L: The Lord challenges us to be in ministries of peace and hope.
Are you ready?

P: We are ready!

L: Let us praise God who calls us to serve God by helping others.

P: Praise be to God who has given us hope and peace. Amen.

1. Guide me, O thou great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this bar - ren land; I am weak, but
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain whence the heal - ing stream doth flow; let the fire and
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious fears sub - side; death of death, and

thou art might - y, hold me with thy pow'r - ful hand: Bread of Heav - en, Bread of Heav - en,
 cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through: strong de - liv'r - er, strong de - liv'r - er
 hell's de - struc - tion, land me safe on Ca - naan's side: songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,

feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield, be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee, I will ev - er give to thee.

* INVOCATION

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens

L: God be with you.

P. And also with you.

L: Let us pray.

P: Grant to us, O God, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

* WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Rev. Heather Giffen

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

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah, chapter 1.

The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls or of lambs or of goats. When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more! Bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and calling of convocation—I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity. Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove your evil deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil; learn to do good; seek justice; rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: If your sins are like scarlet, will they become like snow? If they are red like crimson, will they become like wool? If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land, but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews, chapter 11.

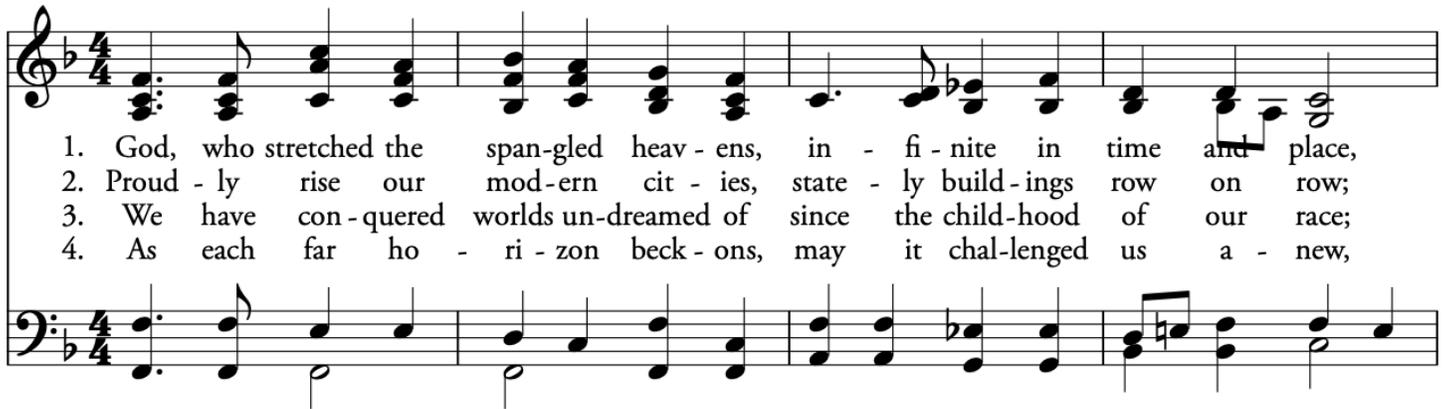
Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

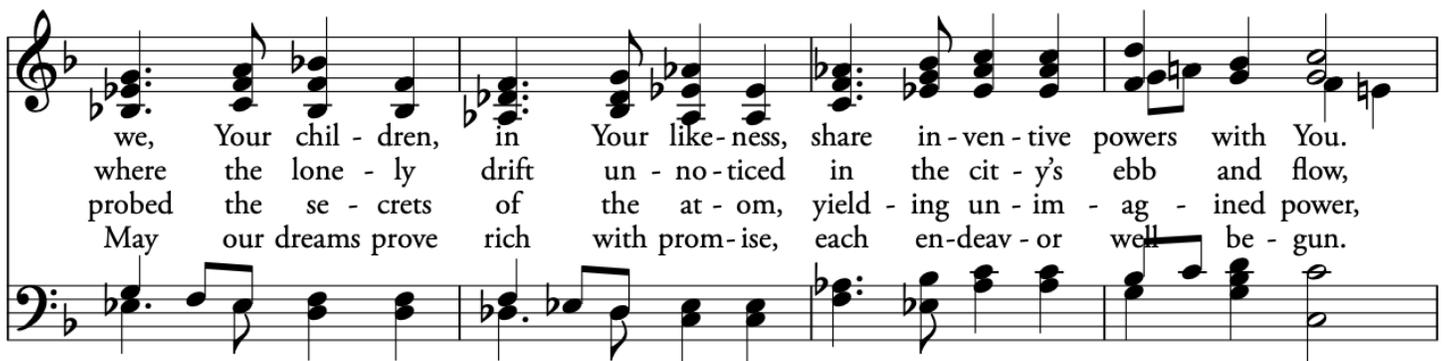
P: Thanks be to God.



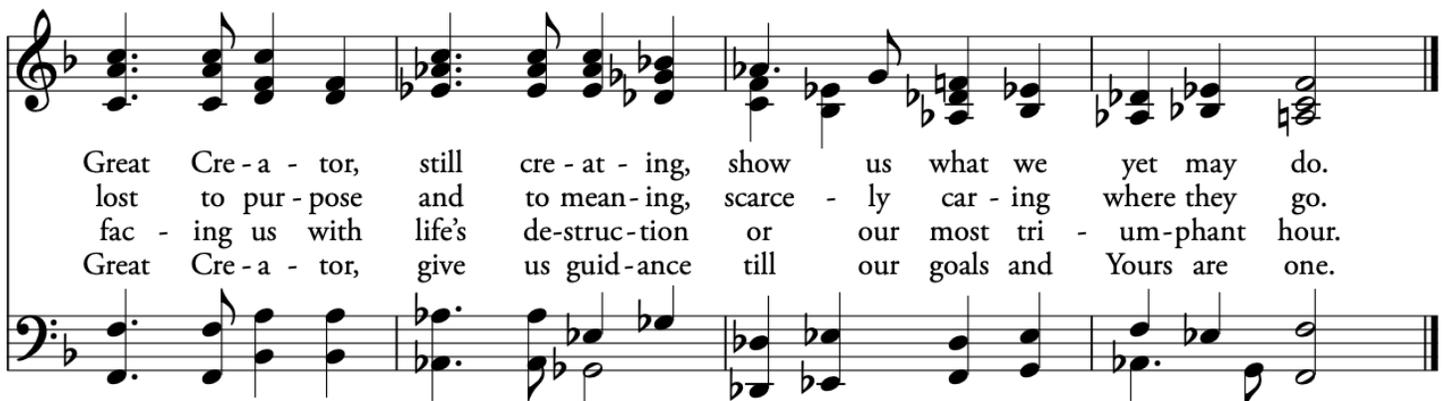
1. God, who stretched the span-gled heav - ens, in - fi - nite in time and place,
 2. Proud - ly rise our mod - ern cit - ies, state - ly build - ings row on row;
 3. We have con - quered worlds un - dreamed of since the child - hood of our race;
 4. As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal - lenged us a - new,



flung the suns in burn - ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space,
 yet their win - dows blank, un - feel - ing, stare on can - yoned streets be - low,
 known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing through un - chart - ed realms of space;
 chil - dren of crea - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring You.



we, Your chil - dren, in Your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with You.
 where the lone - ly drift un - no - ticed in the cit - y's ebb and flow,
 probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield - ing un - im - ag - ined power,
 May our dreams prove rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or well be - gun.



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
 lost to pur - pose and to mean - ing, scarce - ly car - ing where they go.
 fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
 Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and Yours are one.

A reading from the Gospel of John, chapter 12.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

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

P: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

“Water is Life”

Rev. Giffen

Part two of the six-part sermon series, “God’s Good Earth.”

A period of silence follows.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Ahrens

Good’s Good Earth Litany

L: Creator God of the Universe, have mercy,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On your waters, that they may be clear and sustain a diverse community of life,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On coral reefs, on the animals, plants, and fish that inhabit them,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On oceans deep teeming with life, on the open seas and all that travel upon them,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On rivers, bringing water to thirsty places,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On lakes and streams, hove to a diversity of life,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On ponds and marshes, cradles of life,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On your wetlands and estuaries, on rocky coasts and beaches,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On islands and atolls, on oases and all outposts of life,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On glaciers and ice fields, holding the delicate balances of water,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On storms, floods, and tempests, and all fearsome forces of weather,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On snow and hail, sleet and winter cold, and the dormant things that wait for spring,

P: Creator, have mercy.

L: On mists and fog silently watering the ground,
P: **Creator, have mercy.** (The Episcopal Church)

THE OFFERTORY

To give online, please scan this QR code link, or see additional instructions in the Depart to Serve leaflet:



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. Giffen

Designated gifts go to support **Honor the Earth**, which provides help to Native Americans and surrounding communities to help them live sustainable lives without damaging the environment. As a unique national Native initiative, Honor the Earth supports utilizing wind and solar power and planting gardens, as well as advocates for policies against pipelines and deforestations. Their mission is to create awareness and support for Native environmental issues and to develop needed financial and political resources for the survival of sustainable Native communities. Honor the Earth develops these resources by using music, the arts, the media, and Indigenous wisdom to ask people to recognize our joint dependency on the Earth and be a voice for those not heard. Thank you for your generosity.

VOLUNTARY

Benedictus-Chromhorne en Taille

Couperin

* PRESENTATION HYMN 375

God of all good, stanza 1

Toulon



God of all good, our gifts we bring to You;
Use them Your ho - ly pur - pose to ful - fill;
To - kens of love and pledg - es brought a - new,
That our whole life is of - fered to Your will.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

We practice open communion: Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome at the Lord's table.

* INVITATION

Rev. Ahrens

Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. This table is for all people who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, and on the eve of death, Jesus gathered the disciples for the feast of Passover. Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Rev. Giffen

Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, recalling Christ's suffering and death, rejoicing in Christ's resurrection, and awaiting Christ's return in victory. We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labor. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service on behalf of all people. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit on this bread and wine, on our gifts, and on us. Strengthen your universal church that it may be the champion of peace and justice in all the world. Restore the earth with your grace that is able to make all things new.

Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives for ever. Amen.

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

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.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Please come forward as directed by the Deacons to receive the common elements for communion. If you are worshipping online, you are invited to gather elements of communion in your home. Please hold the elements until you are directed to partake together. Sealed and separated gluten-free elements are available in the center basket.

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

The bread is broken and the wine is poured as visible and audible reminders of the sacrificial self-giving of Jesus Christ. These actions call to mind the cost as well as the joy of Christian discipleship.

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Take and eat, this is the body of Christ, broken for you. **Amen!**

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Take and drink, this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you. **Amen!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Ahrens

L: Let us pray.

P: We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

L: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

P: **Thanks be to God.**

* CLOSING HYMN

The Thirsty Cry for Water

Lyrics: Herman Stuempfle, Jr.

Tune: Morning Song

Cm Fm Eb Ab Db Eb Fm Cm Fm

1. The thirs - ty cry for wa - ter Lord: the
 2. The cup of wa - ter poured in love the
 3. But help us al - so hear the cry of
 4. And come to us, O ris - en Christ, our

Db Eb7 Ab Bbm Ab Ab Db Eb Ab

hun - gry plead for bread. And ma - ny long to
 pangs of thirst will still. The bread of earth you
 hun - gery, thirs - ting hearts for liv - ing wa - ter,
 rest - less souls re - lieve, and sat - is - fy our

Eb7 Bbm Ab Db Eb Bbm Eb Fm

rise a - gain, where hope, cast down, lies dead.
 bid us share the fam - ished child can fill.
 bread of life your grace a - lone im - parts.
 star - ving hearts that we may rise and live.

♩=88-96

Text: God's Good Earth Tune: Morning Song

Music: Harmonization © 1943, 1961, 1985 Church Pension Fund. Used by permission.

* BENEDICTION

Rev. Giffen

POSTLUDE

Dialogue sur les grands jeux

François Couperin

Please be seated for the Postlude

Please place the used communion cup in the designated containers at each exit as you leave worship.

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mary Weaver by Charlie Weaver.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS

Rev. Giffen – Broad Street

Rev. Ahrens – Education Wing breezeway

Rev. Samuelson – Education Wing door

LEADERSHIP IN THE LITURGY

The Rev. Heather Giffen, *tri-celebrant and preacher*

The Rev. Dr. Timothy C. Ahrens, *tri-celebrant and worship leader*

The Rev. Joanna Samuelson, *tri-celebrant and worship leader*

Martha Worth, *liturgist*

Jefferson McConnaughey, *guest organist*

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

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Enter to Worship
Depart to Serve

August 7, 2022

This Week at First Church

- 8/7**
9 a.m. Service of Morning Prayer
(Parish Hall & Virtual)
10 a.m. Virtual Coffee Hour (Virtual)
Coffee Sales (Education Wing)
11 a.m. Worship (Sanctuary & Virtual)
- 8/8**
7 p.m. Trustees Mtg (Virtual)
- 8/9**
5:30 p.m. Budget and Finance Mtg (Virtual)
7 p.m. Executive Committee Mtg (Virtual)
- 8/10**
2 p.m. Realm Mtg (Virtual)
7 p.m. Unsheltered Discussion (Virtual)
- 8/11**
7 p.m. Security Team Mtg (Virtual)
- 8/13**
12 Noon Ice Cream Social
(Topiary Park, 480 E. Town St.)

Thank You!

This year, First Church was able to provide 150 backpacks (including school supplies) to the children and youth of Gladden Community House. Thank you for your generous spirits and giving hearts! There are additional backpacks available for the families and friends of First Church with a need. For additional information, please contact Rev. Joanna Samuelson at jsamuelson@first-church.org.

Champions of Justice

Who is your social justice champion?

Through September 1, those who make a contribution toward our goal of \$10,000 for the Social Justice Window, will have the opportunity to have the name of their hero placed on the wall by the west entrance.

Download a nomination form by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/championsofjustice>. Forms can be returned by mail to the church (444 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio, 43215) or emailed to home@first-church.org.

We look forward to celebrating your champions along with you!

Mask Update

A mask advisory was issued after Franklin County was moved to the high level of the CDC's data tracker for COVID-19 transmission. To protect yourself and others we encourage those attending in-person worship and events to follow the following guidance:

- . Wear a mask indoors and in crowded areas.
- . Stay up-to-date on all COVID-19 vaccines, including boosters.
- . Get tested if you have symptoms and before you gather.
- . Talk to your healthcare provider about additional precautions if you are at a high risk for severe illness.

The Covid Taskforce is following the guidance of the Columbus Public Health Department's latest Mask Advisory. We strongly encourage you to mask in indoor spaces. Medical grade masks will continue to be available at each entrance for all services. Thank you!

Reception for Rev. Emily Krause Corzine

Please join us on Sunday, August 14, following the 11 a.m. service, to celebrate the Ministry of Rev. Emily Krause Corzine. Rev. Emily has been a warm and generous pastor who has served us for seven and a half years as Associate Minister with her intelligence, deep faith, gentle spirit, sense of humor, creativity, and courage. Whits on Wheels, a local ice cream truck, will serve sweet treats as we gather near the playground to celebrate Rev. Emily, husband Jeff, daughter Camryn, and mother Cindy Krause.

Please register for this fun outdoor reception by visiting <https://onrealm.org/TheFirstCongreg/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NDE2NTI4NzQtZmM0ZS00Y2IyLTk0MDMtYWVvNjAwZTg1MWYw>

In the First Church tradition of a “purse” for departing staff, we will receive cash donations as a gift for Rev. Emily. Donations to this purse will be accepted on or before Monday, August 8, 2022. Please make your check payable to First Congregational Church with the memo indicating your gift to Rev. Emily Corzine. Checks may be placed in the Sunday offering plates or mailed to Annette McCormick, Business Administrator, First Congregational Church, 444 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215-3885.

We are also mindful of the empty shelves at Gladden Food Pantry. We ask all of you to drop off non-perishable food-stuffs and/or personal hygiene items that can be delivered immediately to our neighbors in need. This is a grand way to honor Rev. Emily’s ministry among us and our community.

Thank you for your generosity as we thank one who has been so generous with her time and talent to First Church as we work for issues of justice and mercy in our community and around the world.

“God’s Good Earth” Sermon Series

First Church’s current sermon is series entitled “God’s Good Earth.” The series is based on Anne and Jeffrey Rowthorn’s book “God’s Good Earth: Praise and Prayers for Creation,” which contains remarkable prayers, litanies, hymns with old tunes and new words, and more.

The Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens will “bookend” the series; he opened the series on July 31 and will preach again on the sixth Sunday, September 4. Additional preachers will bring their many gifts to the pulpit of First Church, and we will be blessed by their reflections.

“God’s Good Earth” Sermon Series

July 31 - Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens: “In the Beginning”

August 7 - Rev. Heather Giffen: “Water is Life”

August 14 - Rev. Emily Corzine

August 21 - Dr. Amy Acton

August 28 - Rev. Joanna Samuelson: “Grounded in the Promise”

September 4 - Rev. Dr. Tim Ahrens: “The Eighth Day of Creation”

We hope this series will reflect a deep yearning and support for God’s Good Earth.

Ice Cream Social at the PBJ & Jazz Concert

August 13, 12-1 p.m.

Topiary Park

480 E. Town Street, Columbus, OH 43215

Calling all ice cream lovers! Calling all Jazz lovers! We are excited to announce that we are hosting an ice cream social at Topiary Park with live Jazz music! We chose this date for our ice cream social to coordinate with the PBJ & Jazz performance that's being hosted at the park by the Jazz Arts Group of Columbus. While you eat ice cream, you can listen and/or dance to the wonderful music of the late Jeanette Williams, a Columbus vocalist and jazz star, performed by her friends Thomas Carroll on guitar, Bobby Floyd on piano, Mary McClendon on voice, and Jim Rupp on drums. For this event, FCC will provide the ice cream and YOU bring your favorite topping to share. Bring the whole family and let's celebrate summer and church fellowship together!

Register by August 10 by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/fccicecream>

Take Me Out to the Ball Game At Huntington Park

Columbus Clippers vs. Iowa Cubs

Friday, September 2

First Pitch at 7:05 p.m.

Join a group from First Church for a Clippers Game. A block of tickets will be ordered. Reserve your place by Friday, August 12. The Donatos stand on the Left Field Concourse will offer a slice of pizza and soda for \$5

COST: \$8/per person. Register and pay at <https://onrealm.org/TheFirstCongreg/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NTQyZmY2ODUtMDIyNy00ZjdiLThkZDUtYWVkbMTAwZTQzMjVm>

Contact home@first-church.com for more information

Time Out Tuesday

Creekside Barrel & Boar

Tuesday, Aug 23

6 - 7 p.m.

121 Mill Street, Gahanna, OH, 43230

The next Time Out Tuesday is August 23, 6-7 p.m. at Creekside Barrel & Boar, 121 Mill Street, Gahanna, OH. Mark your calendars and feel free to reach out to other church friends/family and encourage them to join us! Register at <https://tinyurl.com/fcctimeouttuesdayaug>

Global Ministries

Rachel Pellett, Jamaica

Rachel Pellett serves with the United Church in Jamaica and Cayman Islands (UCJCI). UCJCI's vision is to touch lives, nurture disciples, and seek transformation through Jesus Christ. One of the many ways it lives out this calling is through the ministry of Pringle Home for Children.

Almost one hundred years old, Pringle Home continues to provide a loving and nurturing home for girls between the ages of eight and 18. Its mission is to provide safety and care in a family-oriented residential atmosphere where past hurts are healed and hope is restored. This enables the girls in their care to maximize their potential and fulfill their purpose. The home provides a physically safe, emotionally secure, and healthy home environment.

Ms. Pellett serves as Assistant Director, providing practical assistance and day-to-day support to the Director for the overall functioning of the home. Her three primary functions are: providing basic counseling to the girls; working closely with the House Mothers to ensure the physical, social, emotional, educational, medical, and spiritual well-being of the girls; and supporting the development of programs for the girls' care, protection, rehabilitation, and development.

Learn more at <https://www.globalministries.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@firstchurch.org.

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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 inside the front entrance of the church.

Keep in Prayer

Members Larry Dixon; Martha Huey; Tom Gies; Sarah Ahrens Stadie; Bob Davis; Marti Rideout; Twink Starr; Lola Edwards; Pat Liebchen; Rick Brant; Betsy Zahn; Janice White; Barbara Knox; John Carter and Mary Kay Beall Carter.

Family and friends Gretchen Atkinson’s cousin, Linda Lambeth; and Amy Wagner’s friend, Ken Burke.

Those who mourn loved ones the family of Margaret Browne; the family of Rev Dr. Sue Bertollette; Nancy Braverman and family on the death of her mother-in-law, Irene Braverman; and the communities of America continuing to suffer from 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 Cameroon, Central African Republic, and Equatorial Guinea. We pray for Global Ministries worker Rachel Pellett in Jamaica.

Please note that individuals will remain on the prayer list for three weeks, unless specified to clergy or staff.

Virtual Coffee Hour is Today Sunday, August 7, at 10 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82160506973?pwd=dFl4dGlac1NCZW5UbzE4WE5STHR1dz09>

-
Meeting ID: 821 6050 6973

Passcode: 115473

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
Custodian Jenkins Smith
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 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), Elizabeth Iannarino, Todd Jacobson, Victor John, Judy Smith, Christopher
Washington
Commissioners
Administration Dennis Secor
Administration-Elect Chris Glaros
Church Growth Steve Sterrett
Church Growth-elect
Church Vitality Kosby Carrico
Church Vitality-elect Wendy Kennedy
Education Margaret Graham
Education-elect
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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