



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP AT SEVEN  
APRIL 2, 2026  
MAUNDY THURSDAY

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

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.

*Please use this time for quiet preparation for worship.*

VOLUNTARY

*Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele*, BWV 654

J.S. Bach, ca. 1732

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Ronald Jenkins

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

**People: And also with you.**

*Please stand as you are able. (\* indicates congregation standing)*

\*Leader: In the growing darkness we gather.  
Our lenten journey has brought us here.  
Jesus our teacher and Lord, sets before us  
A towel, a bowl, bread, a cup.

**People: He gives us an example and a commandment ever new:  
To love one another as he has loved us.**

Leader: This is how everyone will know we are his disciples,

**People: When we love one another.**

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“Soul, adorn yourself with gladness”

*Schmücke dich*, Johann Crüger, 1649

Johann Franck, c. 1649; tr. Composite

1 Soul, a - dorn your-self with glad - ness; leave the gloom-y haunts of  
2 Sun, who all my life does bright-en; light, who does my soul en-  
3 Je - sus, source of last-ing plea - sure, tru - est friend and dear-est

sad - ness. Come in - to the day-light's splen - dor; there with  
light - en; joy, your won-drous gift be - stow - ing; fount, from  
trea - sure, peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in -

joy your prais-es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace un - bound-ed  
which all good is flow - ing; at your feet I cry, my Mak - er,  
to all life ex - pand - ing; hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you,

this a - maz - ing ban-quet found - ed; Christ, though heaven-ly,  
let me be a fit par - tak - er of this bless - ed  
love in - car - nate, I a - dore you; wor - thi - ly let

high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.  
food from heav - en, for our good, your glo - ry giv - en.  
me re - ceive you and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

\*INVOCATION

Rev. Becky David

Leader: We have gathered, O God, in answer to your mandate that we love one another as you have loved us in Jesus of Nazareth. We gather as disciples awaiting a word of assurance and promise. We seek protection from all who insist on conformity to their narrow points of view. We seek empowerment at the table of remembrance and celebration.

People: **We long to love as we have been loved,  
to serve as Christ has served among us,  
to live lives of thanksgiving that fulfill our vows to you and to one another.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*KYRIE ELEISON

*The Sewanee Service, Malcolm Archer, 2010*

Musical score for Kyrie Eleison in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. A '2' is written above the first staff. The lyrics are: Lord, have mer cy, Lord, have mer cy, Lord, have mer cy, Christ, have mer cy, Christ, have mer cy, Lord, have mer cy, Lord, have mer cy, Lord, have mer cy.

\*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*The Sewanee Service, Malcolm Archer, 2010*

Musical score for Gloria in Excelsis in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-migh-ty God and Fath - er, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fath-er, Lord, God, Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
 sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are seat-ed at the right hand of the  
 Fath-er: re-ceive our prayer. For you a-lone are the  
 Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the Most High,  
 Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spi-rit, in the glo-ry of God the  
 Fath-er. A-men, A-men.

*Following the Gloria, the organs are silenced until the Great Vigil of Easter.*

**\*WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. jessica young chang

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

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

**THE EPISTLE**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Mr. Jenkins

Leader: A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians, the eleventh chapter.

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exultemus et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.  
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

Where charity and love abide, there is God.  
The love of Christ hath joined us into one.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in him.  
Let us fear and let us love the living God.  
And let us love each other in sincerity of heart.

\*GOSPEL

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Rev. young chang

Leader: A reading from the Gospel according to John, the thirteenth chapter.

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord--and you are right, for that is what I am. So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

"Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. young chang

Loving God,  
 As Jesus took a basin and poured the water long ago,  
 we bring these basins of water before you.  
 Bless this water for washing,  
 and bless the feet of your servants too.  
 Wash away the stains and strains of this life, we pray,  
 that we may walk anew in the ways of Christ.  
 In true humility, we bend our lives in service to you.  
 Help us all, by your example, to grow in understanding:  
 how we are meant to serve rather than be served,  
 for love's sake.  
 In Christ we pray. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WASHING OF FEET

*There are chairs set in front of the first row of pews where you may wait your turn for the foot washing. Take your time, coming forward when you're ready. You may offer one or both feet to be washed by the pastor. Simply remove your shoe(s) and sock(s) as appropriate.*

ANTHEM AT THE WASHING OF FEET

*The People are invited to sing the antiphon during the anthem.*

I give you a new com - mand - ment, that you love  
 one an - oth - er as I have loved you.

After the Lord had risen from supper,  
 he poured water into a basin  
 and began to wash the feet of his disciples:  
 he left them this example.  
 Jesus said to his disciples:  
**I give you a new commandment,**  
**that you love one another as I have loved you.**

Lord, are you to wash my feet?  
 Jesus said to him in answer:  
 If I do not wash your feet,  
 you will have no share with me.  
 Jesus said to his disciples:  
**I give you a new commandment,**  
**that you love one another as I have loved you.**

The Lord Jesus, after eating supper with his  
 disciples, washed their feet and said to them:  
 Do you know what I, your Lord and Master,  
 have done for you?  
 I have given you an example,  
 that you should do like-wise.  
 Jesus said to his disciples:  
**I give you a new commandment,**  
**that you love one another as I have loved you.**

So he came to Simon Peter and Peter said to him:  
 Lord, are you to wash my feet?  
 Jesus said to him in answer:  
 If I do not wash your feet,  
 you will have no share with me.  
 What I am doing, you do not know for now,  
 but later you will come to know.  
 Lord are you to wash my feet?  
 Jesus said to him in answer:  
 If I do not wash your feet,  
 you will have no share with me.  
 Jesus said to his disciples:  
**I give you a new commandment,  
 that you love one another as I have loved you.**

If I, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet,  
 how much more should you wash each other's  
 feet? This is how all will know that you are my  
 disciples: If you have love for one another.  
 Jesus said to his disciples:  
**I give you a new commandment,  
 that you love one another as I have loved you.**

Let faith, hope, and charity, these three, remain  
 among you, but the greatest of these is charity.  
 Jesus said to his disciples:  
**I give you a new commandment,  
 that you love one another as I have loved you.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERTORY

Rev. David

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

David Hurd, 1993

“Love bade me welcome”

George Herbert, “The Temple,” 1633

Love bade me welcome: yet my soul drew back,  
 Guiltie of dust and sinne.  
 But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack  
 From my first entrance in,  
 Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning,  
 If I lack'd any thing.  
 A guest, I answer'd, worthy to be here:  
 Love said, You shall be he.  
 I the unkinde, ungratefull? Ah, my deare,  
 I cannot look on thee.  
 Love took my hand, and smiling did reply,  
 Who made the eyes but I?  
 Truth Lord, but I have marr'd them: let my shame  
 Go where it doth deserve.  
 And know you not, sayes Love, who bore the blame?  
 My deare, then I will serve.  
 You must sit down, sayes Love, and taste my meat:  
 So I did sit and eat.

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. David and Rev. young chang

Leader: Beloved in Christ, this is no ordinary meal, for Jesus himself has invited us,  
and in it we experience his presence:  
in the bread, in the sharing, and in one another.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Jesus' ministry was teaching and healing; it was also eating and drinking,  
with friends, with strangers, even with enemies.

The accusation against him was true: "He eats with sinners."

and so he invites us to dine with him, in love, in forgiveness, in community.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### \*SURSUM CORDA

*Plainsong*

The musical notation consists of three staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Leader, and the second and third staves are for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise."

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. David and Rev. young chang

Leader: Blessed are you, O God, Creator of the Universe,  
Infinite Love at the heart of all things.  
You have given us the gifts of earth and food,  
of life and blessing, and we thank you.  
As we bless this meal we thank you for all your gifts  
and praise you for all your blessings.

Holy God, Creator of this world and all that is to come,  
we give thanks for your mighty acts of mercy.

People: **You brought Creation out of chaos, light out of darkness.  
You formed us in your image  
and breathed into us the breath of life.**

Leader: You made your Covenant with us, to be our God.

People: **You condemn the powers that oppress us,  
and set free your beloved people.**

Leader: Even when our love fails, you remain steadfast.

People: **You love us and redeem us  
and bring us up out of slavery  
in the life, death and resurrection of Christ.**

Leader: You deliver us from our imprisonment in ourselves  
and restore us to your beloved community.

**People:** In your Spirit you make us one body,  
and draw us to your table as sisters and brothers.

**Leader:** For the gift of community, we give you thanks.

**People:** We ask your blessing for each person gathered here,  
and for those whom we do not see—

**Leader:** For all your saints, known to us and unknown, we give thanks  
and pray that in this meal we may be made one.  
As the grains of wheat are gathered and made into one loaf,  
so in this meal we are one in the love of Jesus, the Body of Christ.  
And so with all your Beloved, we praise you with one voice:

## SANCTUS

*New Plainsong*, David Hurd, 1981

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and  
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**Leader:** Blessed is Jesus, your Christ, who comes in your name,  
who embodies your love among us,

**People:** **who gives himself to us for heavenly food.**

**Leader:** Jesus taught us of the Realm of your grace,  
the banquet of your generous love.

**People:** **He healed our bodies, our souls, our relationships,  
and set us free from our fear.**

**Leader:** On the night in which he gave himself for us,  
he gathered his beloved for a meal.

**People:** **In the midst of fear and isolation he made a community.**

**Leader:** In the face of injustice he showed generosity.

**People:** **Against the powers of evil he shared love.**

**Leader:** Amidst our betrayal he gave a feast of self-giving.

We remember on that same night he took bread, blessed it and gave it to his disciples,  
saying, this is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, blessed it and gave it to his friends saying,  
this is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many.

Do this in memory of me.

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS

from Jan L. Richardson

Leader: Let us bless the bread

**People: that gives itself to us with its terrible weight, its infinite grace.**

Leader: Let us bless the cup

**People: poured out for us with a love that drenches, that makes us anew.**

Leader: Let us gather around these gifts simply given and deeply blessed.

**People: And then let us go bearing the bread, carrying the cup,  
laying the table within a hungry world.**

Leader: All is ready. The gifts of God for the people of God.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. David

“Jesus, remember me”

*Remember Me*, Jacques Berthier, 1981

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

Remembering that in the past God has always been active in seeking the salvation of his people, let us bring to him now our prayers for ourselves and for others.

Lord we thank you for the fellowship we share with your people throughout the world as we remember the last meal Jesus ate with his disciples. Let your church follow his example of love and service so that his message of salvation might reach those around us. *Refrain.*

Lord we pray for all those who today, like your people in Egypt long ago, are oppressed and treated unjustly by those in power who abuse their authority. We pray that arrogance and cruelty may give way to humility and a kindness that seeks not to crush but to serve and nurture the weak and vulnerable. *Refrain.*

Lord we pray for our families and friends and for the communities in which we live and work. We thank you for the celebrations and festivals which we share together. Help us also to look outwards and to care for those who are on the fringes of our society and excluded from our communities. *Refrain.*

Lord we pray for all who are suffering today and carrying the burdens of sickness, grief, anxiety or guilt. We pray that you will guide them towards freedom, wholeness and faith in you as a loving God who seeks to serve us and save us if only we will let you. *Refrain.*

Heavenly Father, you have always been active in seeking the salvation of your people. Hear our prayers today and use them and us in your saving work both in our lives and in the lives of those for whom we pray in the name of your Son, our Servant and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen. *Refrain.*

Leader: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**People: 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 STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*The stripping of the altar, which involves removing all ornaments, linens, and paraments, is a symbolic act that mirrors Christ's own experience of being stripped of his garments and subjected to suffering and death. This final act of the Maundy Thursday service prepares us to move more deeply into the Passion of Christ on Good Friday.*

*All depart in silence.*

### LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S LITURGY

The Rev. Jessica Young Chang, *preacher*

The Rev. Becky David, *worship leader*

Ronald Jenkins, *liturgist*

Jason Harrell, *verger*

Jim Griffin, *crucifer*

Ryan Jones and Aarav Peter, *torchbearers*

The First Church Choir

Joshua Stafford, *organist and director*

Mike Kennedy, *livestream ministry*

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“Jesus, remember me” Words: Taizé Community, 1981. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1981. © Words and Music 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). All rights reserved.

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

**Interim Senior Minister:** Rev. Becky David, M.Div.

**Interim Associate Minister:** Rev. Jessica Young Chang, M.Div.

**Minister of Music:** Joshua Stafford, M.M.

**Interim Director of Faith Formation:** Leslie Fulford

**Administrative Manager:** Amy Wagner

**Communications Manager:** Melissa Kulwicki

**Office Assistant:** Pat Patterson

**Business Administrator:** Annette McCormick

**Building and Grounds Superintendent:** Kevin Salem

**Custodians:** Alexis Wayne, Bill McCabe, Bob O'Brien

**Handbell Director:** Jennifer Fry

**Wedding Coordinators:** Amy Wagner, Shelly Gies, Margaret Cipriani, Denise Vogt

**Nursery Staff:** Miranda Brooks, Shelly Gies, Celecia Smith

**Commissioned Minister for Social Justice:** Tom Brownfield

**Commissioned Minister for Spiritual Formation and Direction:** Jacquelyn Dean

**Stephen Leader and Stephen Ministry Training Coordinator:** Wendy Kennedy

**Stephen Leader and Stephen Ministry Referrals Coordinator:** Susie Loik

**Stephen Leader and Stephen Ministry Communications, Media and IT Coordinator:** Annette McCormick

**Senior Deacon:** Dayna McCrary

**Deacons:** Fubara Braide, Stella Braide, Camilla Curren, Sandra Geronimo, Jason Harrell, Brian Kemp, Allison Lowery, Barbara Mason, Fran Panek, Gary Seigerst, Thomason Smith, Martha Worth

**Transition Team:** Jacquelyn Dean and Nancy Loy, co-chairpersons, Todd Cunningham, Rev. Becky David, Gregory Halbe, Susie Loik, Allison Lowery, Pavan Peter, Sarah Reed, Joshua Stafford

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Chairperson:** Frank Cook

**Trustees:** Matthew Bendick, David Hogrefe, Victor John, Melody Leidheiser (Secretary), Janet Miller, Sarah Reed, Hugh Schultz, Charlie Weaver

### CHURCH COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

**Moderator:** Sarah Reed

**Moderator-elect:**

**Treasurer:** Ramona Moenter

**Treasurer-elect:**

**Secretary:** Amanda Butler

**Secretary-elect:**

**Nominating Chair:** Gregory Halbe

### COMMISSIONERS

**Church Stewardship and Church Growth:** Stephen Sterrett

**Church Stewardship and Church Growth-elect:** Kathy Reed

**Church Vitality:** Antoinette Koolemans-Beynen

**Church Vitality-elect:**

**Communications and Technology Commission:** Mike Kennedy

**Communications and Technology Commission-elect:** Nathaniel Powell

**Faith Formation Commission:** Mariner Taft

**Faith Formation Commission-elect:**

**House & Grounds:** Eric Klintworth

**House & Grounds-elect:** Fran Panek

**Justice & Mercy:** James Lowe

**Justice & Mercy-elect:**

**Music, Arts & Heritage:** Jim Griffin

**Music, Arts & Heritage-elect:** Cheryl Hoskinson

**Member-at-Large:** Martha Wilson

**Personnel:** Neal Brower

**Personnel-elect:** Chris Brooks

**Youth Member-at-Large:**

## FIRST CHURCH IS A FAITH COMMUNITY

† Called together by God, the Creator, Redeemer, 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 God's love and justice between ourselves, and throughout the world.

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.

## 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

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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