



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



EASTER DAY
WORSHIP AT 11 A.M.
APRIL 5, 2026

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.

PRELUDE

Final, Op. 21

César Franck, 1890

Solemn Entry

Richard Strauss, 1909

INTROIT

Joseph Noyon, arr. Gerre Hancock, 1991

Christus Vincit

*Christus vincit,
Christus regnat,
Christus imperat!
Gloria Patri, et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio,
et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.*

Christ has conquered,
Christ our sovereign,
Christ reigns forevermore!
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and forevermore,
world without end. Amen.

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Mary Anne Jacobson

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

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

*Leader: Rejoice heavenly powers! Sing choirs of angels!

People: Jesus Christ our light, is risen!

Leader: Sound the trumpet of salvation!

People: Rejoice, O earth in shining splendor. Alleluia!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN
"Jesus Christ is risen today"

Easter Hymn, Lyra Davidica, 1708
Lyra Davidica, 1708

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day,
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 But the pains which he en - dured,
4 Sing we to our God a - bove,

our tri - um-phant ho - ly day,
un - to Christ, our heaven-ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured.
praise e - ter - nal as God's love.

who did once up - on the cross,
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
Now a - bove the sky he's King,
Praise our God, ye heaven-ly host,

suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
where the an - gels ev - er sing.
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*WELCOME AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Becky David

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.

**When you return to your seat, please find the blue Welcome notebook at the end of the pew, sign it and pass it on to your neighbor so we many greet one another by name.*

*INVOCATION

Rev. young chang

Leader: God of miracles, God of second chances, God of rebirth,
You have not abandoned us to death! Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Open the eyes of our hearts, Lord,
that we can see You as we meet you on the road.
Stay with us a while, hold our hand, and feed us Your word.

People: **Let us raise our voices in celebration!**
Christ is risen! Alleluia!
Teach us Your ways and show us Your love
Your forgiveness, Your resurrection, Your connection with us
And through You, our connection with one another.
In the name of the Risen Christ we pray, Amen.

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

The Sewanee Service, Malcolm Archer



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.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Leslie Fulford & Melissa Kulwicki

THE HEBREW LESSON

Jeremiah 31:1-6

Mary Anne Jacobson

Leader: A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah, the thirty-first chapter.

The people who survived the sword
 found grace in the wilderness;
 when Israel sought for rest,
 the Lord appeared to him from far away.
 I have loved you with an everlasting love;
 therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.
 Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
 O virgin Israel!
 Again you shall take your tambourines,
 and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.
 Again you shall plant vineyards
 on the mountains of Samaria;
 the planters shall plant,
 and shall enjoy the fruit.
 For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
 in the hill country of Ephraim:
 "Come, let us go up to Zion,
 to the Lord our God."

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL HYMN

Engelberg, Charles Villiers Stanford, 1904

"We know that Christ is raised and dies no more"

John Brownlow Geyer, 1967, alt.

Capo 3: (D) (Asus) (A) (A/G) (D/F#)
 F Csus C C/B^b F/A

1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
 2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
 3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
 4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

(D) (A) (D) (E7) (A)
 F C F G7 C

Em - braced by death he broke its fear - ful hold,
 Re - born we share with him an Eas - ter life
 The Spir - it's pow - er shakes the church of God.
 as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

(Am) (D) (G) (Em) (Bm)
 Cm F B^b Gm Dm

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
 as liv - ing mem - bers of a liv - ing Christ.
 Bap - tized we live with God the Three in One.
 The u - ni - verse, re - stored and whole, will sing:

1-3 4
 (Em) (D) (Asus) (A) (Em) (D)
 Gm F Csus C Gm F

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

Rev. David

Leader: A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. David

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. young chang

THE OFFERTORY

To give online, please scan this QR code:



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. David

Cash and designated checks go to **One Great Hour of Sharing**, which joins our hearts with God's by providing decisive aid when disaster strikes, and by helping refugees rebuild their lives. Gifts strengthen struggling communities with basics like education, health care, tools, seeds and wells. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Richard Webster, 1996

"Awake, arise, lift up your voice"

Christopher Smart (1722-1771)

Awake, arise, lift up your voice,
let Easter music swell;
rejoice in Christ, again rejoice,
and on his praises dwell.

O, with what gladness and surprise
the saints their Saviour greet;
nor will they trust their ears and eyes
but by his hands and feet:

Those hands of liberal love indeed
in infinite degree,
those feet still free to move and speed
for millions and for me.

*Victimae Paschali laudes,
immolent Christiani,
Agnus redemit oves,
Christus innocens patri,
reconciliavit peccatores.*

His enemies had sealed the stone
as Pilate gave them leave,
lest dead and friendless and alone
he should their skill deceive.

O Dead arise! O Friendless stand
by seraphim adored!
O Solitude again command
your host from heaven restored.

*PRESENTATION HYMN

Old 100th

“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow”

arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1953

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all creatures here be - low;
 Praise Ho-ly Spi-rit ev - er - more; Praise Tri-une God whom we a - dore.
 A - men.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. young chang

Leader: Let us pray,

We praise you O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our lives be proof of that good news. Let all our words and actions, our love and service bear witness to your resurrection power.

People: Amen.

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. David

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 Christians who wish to know the presence of Christ and to share in the community of God's people.

*SURSUM CORDA

Plainsong

Leader: The Lord be with you. And also with you.
 People: Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
 Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: God, you are before all things;
 You are beyond all things;
 And in the midst of all things and all peoples you have made yourself known.

In Israel's ancient codes and prophetic oracles,
 in stories of women and men,
 of communities and nations seeking identity,
 feeling their strength, and struggling with their weakness
 you have made yourself known.

In Jesus of Nazareth,
 in compassion for the outcast,
 forgiveness for the fallen,
 hope for the poor and hungry;
 in his life poured out for others
 broken in rejection and disdain, restored to new life through resurrection,
 you have made yourself known.

Therefore we join our praises with countless men and women before us,
 disciples and apostles, saints and martyrs,
 acclaiming your power in goodness and your might in compassion,
 as we sing:

*SANCTUS

The Sewanee Service, Malcolm Archer, 2010

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

Leader: We greet the one who comes in your name,
 your true light, your true love,
 the bread of compassion, the wine of renewal.

As he broke bread before the brokenness of his death,
 as he poured out wine before his blood was poured out on the cross,
 as he gave his life in acts of goodness,
 as he invited all to the feast of new hope,
 so come to us, God of Jesus, in your love.

Come to us, Spirit of our Lord of love,
and let the bread and wine before us bear your life to our life,
nourish us with his vision of hope, and unite us in one body of peace.

Nourish us with your brokenness,
Renew us with your poured out life,
Empower us with your powerlessness,
that we may take root in your risen life and bear fruit in your world.

**People: You are our life;
You are our hope;
You are our peace;
And we praise you.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Leader: My friends, all is ready. The gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION ANTHEM

"Now the green blade riseth"

Bob Chilcott, 2020

John Macleod Campbell Crum, 1928

Now the green blade riseth, from the buried grain,
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

In the grave they laid Him, Love whom men had slain,
Thinking that never He would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Thy touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. young chang

People: God of Creation and new life, thank you for the gift of this banquet. May we who have shared it be nurtured and moved more fully toward wholeness and may all who hunger and thirst be filled. We ask this in the name of Jesus the resurrected One. **Amen.**

SENDING OF HOME COMMUNION

Rev. young chang

Leader: My brothers and sisters,
you are sent to bring the Word of God
and the Bread of Life from this assembly
to the sick and friends at home.
Go to them with our love and our prayers
in the name of Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Melissa Kulwicki

Leader: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

People: Thanks be to God.

*CLOSING HYMN
 "The strife is o'er"

Victory, Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1591
 Latin hymn, c. 1695; trans. Francis Pott, 1861

Refrain (before stanza 1 and after stanza 4)

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

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; the vic - to -
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their
 3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped; Christ ris - es
 4 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed thee, from death's dread

ry of life is won; the song of tri - umph
 le - gions hath dis - persed: let shouts of ho - ly
 glo - rious from the dead: all glo - ry to our
 sting thy ser - vants free, that we may live, and

has be - gun.
 joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
 ris - en Head!
 sing to thee:

*BENEDICTION

Rev. David

POSTLUDE

Grand choeur dialogué

Eugène Gigout, 1881

Please be seated for the Postlude.

PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

The following is printed and/or livestreamed under permission of OneLicense #A-717661. All rights reserved.

“We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.” Words: John Brownlow Geyer, 1967. © 1982 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow.” Music: Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1953. © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

LEADERSHIP IN TODAY’S LITURGY

The Rev. Becky David, *co-celebrant and preacher*

The Rev. Jessica Young Chang, *co-celebrant*

Mary Anne Jacobson, *liturgist*

Leslie Fulford, *worship leader*

Melissa Kulwicki, *worship leader*

Jason Harrell and Henry Wade, *vergers*

Stefan Duga, *crucifer*

Neal Brower and Aarav Peter, *torchbearers*

Joshua Stafford, *director and organist*

James E. Bobb, *organist*

Aran Cunningham, *livestream ministry team member*

FIRST CHURCH CHOIR

Soprano: Cindy Adcock, Marti Baumer, Candy Cummings, Sharon Ferguson, Rose Kandel, Ramona Moenter, Emily Riggin, Megan Smith, Lissa Wade

Alto: Janet Axt, Allison Ellenberger, Marcy Essig, Jennifer Fry, Nancy Loy, Sandra Mathias, Judy Smith, Jan Wade

Tenor: Neal Brower, Geoffrey Gear, Jim Griffin, Greg Halbe, Sebastian Kulwicki, Nathaniel Powell

Bass: Al Adcock, Jack Drake, Stefan Duga, Ronald Jenkins, Ryan Jones, Barry Moenter, Robert Moreen, David Stang, Julius Tabery

EASTER INSTRUMENTALISTS

Trumpets: William Bailey, Tony Philipp

Horn: Nora Lemmon

Trombone: Jessica Sneeringer

Bass Trombone: Todd Cunningham

Timpani: Amelia Duplain

THE EASTER DEDICATIONS

*The list is headed by the names and dates of those senior ministers
who served this church with distinction and devotion.*

William H. Marble 1852–1856	Irving Maurer 1918–1924
John M. Steele 1856–1857	McIlyar H. Lichliter 1924–1942
Henry B. Elliott 1858–1860	Boynton Merrill 1943–1959
Edward P. Goodwin 1860–1867	Chalmers Coe 1960–1983
George W. Phillips 1868–1871	Dale B. Rosenberger 1985–1002
Robert G. Hutchins 1872–1882	Robert Tschanen-Moran 1993–1998
Washington Gladden 1882–1918	Timothy C. Ahrens 2000–2024
Carl S. Patton 1911–1917	

*We give thanks for all the associate ministers and all staff members
through the years who have served with distinction and devotion.*

In celebration of the music and ministry at First Church by Laurie Baer

In celebration of the Resurrection and in loving memory of my parents and my brothers by Marti Baumer

In memory of our parents by Mark and Melanie Brown

In memory of Melanie's sister, Kathryn Erskine, by Mark and Melanie Brown

In honor of the First Church Ringers by Ellen and Pete Boriin

In celebration of family and friends by Bev and Bert Cook

In loving memory of MaryLea Davis and Paul and Charlotte Jenkins by Will Davis and Ron Jenkins

In loving memory of Jim Decker by Will Davis and Ron Jenkins

In memory of my parents, Arlene and Bill Ellenberger

In loving honor of my mother, Carolyn Mackey by Christine Farquhar

In celebration of Elsie and Alice Farquhar on the occasion of their fifth birthday by Christine Farquhar

In celebration of Joshua Stafford for all of the music he shares with all of us by Melva Fisher

In memory of G. Dene Barnard by Jennifer Fry

In memory of Wally Giffen and other family members by Sarah Giffen

In memory of loved ones by Nancy Gilson Braverman

In gratitude for the First Church office staff by Nancy Gilson Braverman

In celebration of the music and ministry at First Church by Dan Harkins

In celebration of all those who gather to worship at First Church this Easter Day, by Barbara Johannes Clapham

In memory of Siegfried and Gisela Garbe by David and Rose Kandel

In memory of Harry N. Kandel, Sue Ellen Kandel, and Sheryl Elizabeth Loeffler by David and Rose Kandel

In memory of my parents, Rev. Charles Livingston and Mildred Whistler Livingston, and my son, Tony Goff, by Nancy Livingston

In memory of parents Edwin and Ruth Busey, and Paul and Elsie Leidheiser by Paul and Melody Leidheiser

In celebration of grandchildren Jesse, Quinn, Ava, Caleb, and Hannah by Paul and Melody Leidheiser

In memory of Lynn Roseberry by Sandra and Joel Mathias

In memory of Rollie and Marilyn Rausch, Elmer, Evelyn, and Kevin Moenter, and Tom Huss by Ramona and Barry Moenter

In celebration of the birth of nephew Aubrey DeWind Nassau, by David Nassau

In memory of my grandmother, Nina Buel, and aunt, Margerite Buel, by Pat Patterson

In thanksgiving for family, friends, and all who live our hearts through music by Marti Rideout

In memory of Arlene and John Reynolds and Paul Flocken by Annette Salser and Lou Flocken

In memory of my mother, Mary Ann Schultz, an organist for many years at her Lutheran Church in Primghar, Iowa by Hugh Schultz

In memory of Edward and Betty Ryan and Charles and Julia Wagner by Amy, Bill, Katie, and Charles Wagner

In memory of Elizabeth Rider Miller by her children by Melissa Warheit

In memory of George Warheit by his children by Melissa Warheit

In memory of loved ones by Marty and Gerry Worth



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

444 E Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio

614-228-1741

www.first-church.org | home@first-church.org