



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP AT ELEVEN
AUGUST 30, 2026
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

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

Adagio from Sonata No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn, 1845

ENTER TO WORSHIP

Leslie Fulford

Leader: Majestic One, You are our light and our salvation—

People: We reach out a hand to You, we need Your touch!

Leader: Do right by us, God, we walk in Your integrity.

People: We trust in You without wavering.

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

*Leader: Teach us Your ways, God who is Love,

People: Your ways of listening, of inter-being, of justice, and loving-kindness.

Leader: Let us worship You in spirit and in truth.

People: Let us worship You in thought, word, and deed.

*OPENING HYMN

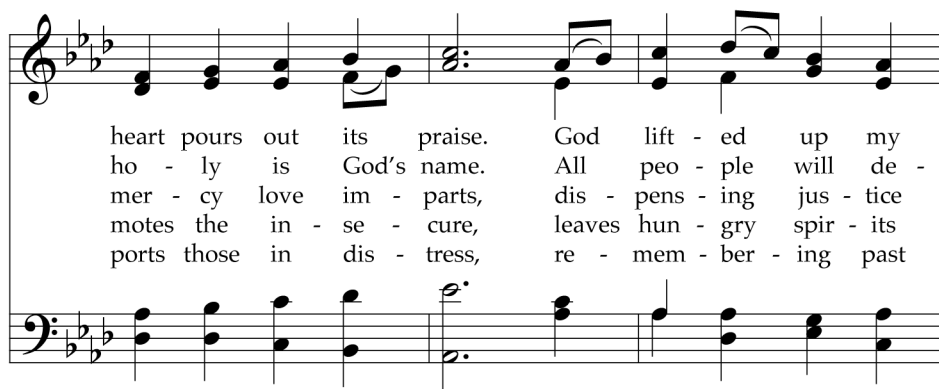
"My soul gives glory to my God"

Morning Song, Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

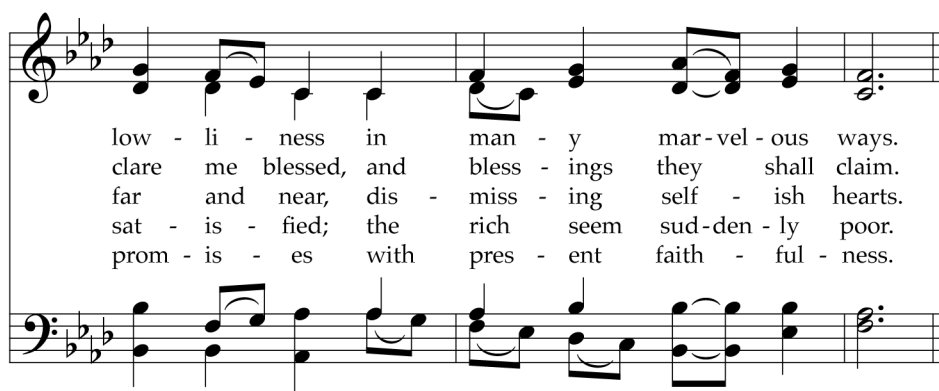
Miriam Therese Winter, 1979, rev. 1987



1 My soul gives glo - ry to my God; my
2 My God has done great things for me: yes,
3 From age to age to all who fear, such
4 Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
5 Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -



heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
ho - ly is God's name. All peo - ple will de -
mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past



low - li - ness in man - y mar - vel - ous ways.
clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
sat - is - fied; the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

*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.

** 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.*

Leader: Loving God,
You call us to turn away from our own selfish interests,
to take up our cross, and to follow after You—
to find our lives by giving them up to Your greater purpose.
So we come before You this morning with open hearts and open hands,
eager to hear Your Word, and eager to know Your will.

**People: Through the power of Your Holy Spirit,
move within us and among us as we worship.
Open our eyes to Your presence;
open our ears to Your call,
open our hearts to one another.
And then send us back out into the world,
to live and work as Your faithful disciples.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord,
Amen.**

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12:19-21

Mrs. Fulford

Leader: A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans, the twelfth chapter.

Your love must be sincere. Hate what is evil and cling to what is good. Love one another with the affection of sisters and brothers. Try to outdo one another in showing respect. Don't grow slack, but be fervent in spirit: the One you serve is Christ. Rejoice in hope; be patient under trial; persevere in prayer. Look on the needs of God's holy people as your own; be generous in offering hospitality. Bless your persecutors—bless and don't curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same attitude toward everyone. Don't be condescending to those who aren't as well off as you; don't be conceited. Don't repay evil with evil. Be concerned with the highest ideal in the eyes of all people. Do all you can to be at peace with everyone. Don't take revenge; leave room, my friends, for God's wrath. To quote scripture, "'Vengeance is mine, I will pay them back,' says our God." But there is more: "If your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them drink. For in doing so, you will heap burning coals upon their heads." Don't be overcome by evil, but overcome evil by doing good.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The congregation joins in singing the entirety of the Psalm.

Each measure of the chant corresponds to one half-verse of the Psalm, with notes changing at the | symbol.



1. Bless the Lord, O my | soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy | Name.
2. Bless the Lord, O my | soul,
and forget not all his | benefits.
3. He forgives all your | sins
and heals all your | infirmities;
4. He redeems your life from the | grave
and crowns you with mercy and loving- | kindness;
5. He satisfies you with | good things,
and your youth is renewed like an | eagle's.
6. The Lord executes | righteousness
and judgment for all who are op- | pressed.
7. He made his ways known to | Moses
and his works to the children of | Israel.
8. The Lord is full of compassion and | mercy,
slow to anger and of great | kindness.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 4:23

The Choir introduces the Alleluia, which is then repeated by the Congregation.

Following the verse, all repeat the Alleluia.



Verse: Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom
and cured every disease among the people.

*THE GOSPEL

Luke 8:42b-48

Rev. young chang

Leader: A reading from the Gospel according to Luke, the eighth chapter.

As Jesus moved along, the crowd almost crushed him. In the crowd was a woman who had suffered from hemorrhages for twelve years, and had found no one who could heal her.

She came up behind Jesus and touched the fringe of his cloak, and immediately the bleeding stopped. "Who touched me?" Jesus asked.

When no one nearby responded, Peter said, "Rabbi, it's the crowd pressing around you."

But Jesus said, "Someone touched me. I felt power leave me."

When the woman realized that she had been noticed, she approached in fear and knelt before him. She explained in front of the crowd why she had touched him and how she had been instantly healed. Jesus said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace."

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. young chang

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. young chang

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

*HYMN

Julion, David Hurd, 1974

"Come and seek the ways of Wisdom"

Ruth Duck, 1993



1. Come and seek the ways of Wis - dom, she who danced when earth was new,
2. Lis - ten to the voice of Wis - dom, cry - ing in the mark - et place.
3. Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture all who seek re - birth.



fol - low close - ly what she teach - es, for her words are right and true.
Hear the Word made flesh a - mong us, full of glo - ry, truth, and grace.
Spi - rit - guide and close com - pan - ion, bring to light our sa - cred worth.



Wis - dom clears the path to jus - tice show - ing us what love must do.
When the word takes root and rip - ens, peace and right - eous - ness em - brace.
Free us to be - come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

THE OFFERTORY

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



MISSION INVITATION

Rev. young chang

“If you have more than enough material possessions and see your neighbors in need yet close your hearts to them, how can the love of God be living in you?” –1 John 3:17

Out of gratitude to God and in keeping with our mission and values, every week our offering goes to support a vanguard humanitarian organization. This week, cash and designated gifts go to support **The Largest Table**. Every Wednesday, for more than twelve years, volunteers provide food for individuals and families in the community who are in need. This program transitioned to grab-and-go lunches during COVID in the Spring of 2020. The First Church meal team gathers on the third Wednesday of each month to make and pack up to 100 lunches. Your gifts will help purchase the supplies for our meal team to support this feeding ministry. Thank you for your generosity.

You can use the QR code to donate to both this week’s mission and to First Church! If you are giving by cash or check and would also like to give something to First Congregational Church, please ask one of our deacons for an envelope and mark it accordingly. Thank you so much for your consideration and generosity. Any amount significant to you is significant to us.

“Put the entire tithe into the storehouse so there be food in my house! Put me to the test, says Yahweh Omnipotent, and see if I do not open windows in the sky and pour so much blessing on you that you cannot contain it!” –Malachi 3:10

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The Lord's Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte, 1935

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.

*DOXOLOGY

Old 100th

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, all creatures here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

COMMUNITY NOTICES - DEPART TO SERVE

Melissa Kulwicki

Leader: Let us depart with a heart to serve.

People: Thanks be to God.

*CLOSING HYMN

"Tell out, my soul"

Woodlands, Walter Greatorex, 1916

Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1961



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
 2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
 3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
 4 Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
 Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
 Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
 Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
 his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
 Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
 Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - joice.
 his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
 the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
 to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

BENEDICTION

Rev. young chang

VOLUNTARY

Allegro assai vivace from Sonata No. 1

Felix Mendelssohn, 1845

Please be seated for the voluntary.

Thank you for attending worship this morning. We hope that you have found peace and grace here and invite you to return often. If you would like more information or have any questions about First Church, please ask one of our pastors or anyone wearing a name tag. We would be delighted to assist you.

† THE FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God and with gratitude for all First Church volunteers by the Flower Fund.

† PLEASE JOIN US IN PARISH HALL FOR COFFEE HOUR, hosted by the Bliss Neighborhood Care Circle, led by Susan Brooks and Jack Drake.

† GREETING AT THE EXITS

Rev. young chang — Narthex (Broad Street entrance)

Ms. Kulwicki — East Door (Ninth Street entrance by the Church Office)

Mrs. Fulford — West Door (Cleveland Avenue entrance by the Chapel)

† PERMISSIONS AND COPYRIGHTS

All scripture readings used in today's service are from *The Inclusive Bible*.

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"Tell out my soul." Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1961. © 1962, ren. 1990 Hope Publishing House. All rights reserved.

LEADERSHIP IN TODAY'S LITURGY

The Rev. jessica young chang, *preacher*

Leslie Fulford, *liturgist*

Melissa Kulwicki, *worship leader*

Joshua Stafford, *organist*

Sebastian Kulwicki, *soloist*

Pat Patterson, *livestream ministry*



Enter to Worship Depart to Serve

August 30, 2026

This Week at First Church

Sunday, August 30

- 9 a.m. Worship Service and
Holy Communion (Parish Hall)
- 10 a.m. First Serves (Classroom)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour (Parish Hall)
MERJ/Faith Choice Ohio Kit Building
(Parish Hall)

Monday, August 31

- 7 p.m. House & Grounds Mtg
(Classroom C & Zoom)

Tuesday, September 1

- 7 p.m. Communications & Technology Mtg (Teams)
Justice & Mercy Mtg (Classroom C & Teams)
Personnel Mtg (Teams)

Wednesday, September 2

- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministers Education & Supervision
Mtg (SM Office)
- 7 p.m. Book Club (Zoom)

Thursday, September 3

- 6 p.m. Church Vitality Mtg (Zoom)
First Church Ringers Rehearsal (Bell Rm)
- 7 p.m. Choir Rehearsal for Brahms Requiem
(Parish Hall)

Sunday, September 6

- 9 a.m. Worship Service and
Holy Communion (Parish Hall)
- 10 a.m. Adult Faith Formation (Classroom C)
Family Playground Time (Playground)
- 11 a.m. Worship Service (Sanctuary)

Calendars for Laundry Love

Laundry Love is again collecting calendars for the year 2027. There is a box in the education wing marked for Laundry Love Calendars. Last year the calendars were a hit with our Laundry Love community. All donations are appreciated!

Care & Share Kitchen Today, August 30, at 10 a.m.

WE'RE GLAD YOU ASKED!

What does C&SK stand for? Have you, or someone you know at FCC, ever needed a bit of help? You've/they've returned home after surgery or rehab; you/they aren't able to get to the grocery or prepare meals; you/they needed a little help to get by? C&SK's got you! The Care & Share Kitchen Ministry is here when you need it/them.

Join the team for a short planning meeting today, August 30 from 10-10:45 a.m. in the Stephen Ministry Room. We welcome your input. All are welcome. Stay tuned for how to request meals.

First Serves Today at 10 a.m.

First Serves is joining the Gladden Community House's Back to School Rally with supplies for our neighbors. Please help us support the students at the Gladden Community House by donating school supplies for their Back to School Rally. We have been collecting the following items as part of First Serves:

- folders
- notebooks
- pencils
- sharpeners
- glue sticks
- erasers
- markers
- coloring pencils

Please bring your donated items to Classroom D. We will pack the supplies for the Gladden Community House.

First Church Book Club Wednesday, September 2, at 7 p.m.

Come enjoy lively conversation and get to know other church members at the First Church Book Club as we discuss *Paper Girl: A Memoir of Home and Family in a Fractured America* by Beth Macy (set in Urbana, Ohio) on Zoom.

Questions? Want to receive book club emails? Please call Kathy Reed at 614-442-7742.

Lunch Bunch Correction

Thursday, September 10, at 12 Noon

It was previously announced this Lunch Bunch would be on a Wednesday. That was in error. Please join others from First Church on **Thursday, September 10**, at Katalina's on High Street in the heart of Clintonville.

This Little Cafe has Lots of Local Goodness™, is Home of The Original Pancake Balls™, and offers so much more. The food is homemade with attitude... Latin-leaning and Southern slanted... it's filled with friends & flavor galore so come join us!

Reserve your place on Realm.



Please Save the Date!

Sunday, September 20

First Church Engagement Fair Party in Parish Hall following worship

Come celebrate our meaningful projects and activities on Sunday, September 20, in Parish Hall, following each worship service.

Learn about our mission projects and explore opportunities for service that speak to your heart! See the many ways we work in the community and within our church family. From small discussion groups to "done in a day" projects to serving on a committee or commission, you'll find opportunities for connection and service at the Fair.

Tasty food will be served! You can visit our First Church FREE Store and snag First Church items, including books, t-shirts, water bottles, and more. You can obtain a First Church name tag and connect with folks you see in worship but might not have talked with yet, putting names with faces. We'll celebrate our mission activities, community, and friendships!

Justice & Mercy Missions

Upcoming missions will be:

August 30 - The Largest Table

Sept. 6 - Coalition of Immokalee Workers

Sept. 13 - FCC Unsheltered Ministry

Sept. 20 - Good Samaritan Fund

Keep in Prayer

Members Matt Stevens and Jim Velo; Jane Weddle; Lynn Wallich; Victor John; Mary Day Fewless; Ramona Moenter; Jane Ward; Grace Glaros and family; Beverly Halbe; Francille Firebaugh; Nancy Burba; John Carter; Clinton Brown; Dan Axt.

Family and friends Kevin Salem's uncle, Harold Allen and niece, Clare Salem; Vicki Lyden's sister, Connie Dolder; Leslie Fulford's sister, Kim Barth, and brother-in-law, Al Fulford; Pat Patterson's friend, Cindy Shealy; Jenny Provenzano's mother, Joyce Beitzel; Melissa Kulwicki's father, Jack Blandi, and her mother-in-law, Beverly Kulwicki; Rev. Becky David; David Wyatt's uncle, Richard Hendrix Wyatt; Rev. Jess Young Chang's friend Rev. Steve Swisher's mother Barbara Swisher; Kathy Reed's cousin, Barbara Works; Malini Peter's friend, Usha Rangarajan; Susan Brooks' friends, Marti and Ned Timmons; Dakotah Saunders' friend, Trisha; Susie Loik's daughter, Kelly and son, Laeric; Janice Taft's cousin, Teri Williams; Shelly Gies' father, Robert Simms and brother, Mike Simms; Jason Harrell's mother, Sherry Harrell; and Matt Myers' sister, Erin Myers.

Those who mourn Wendy Reber and family on the death of her husband, Robert Reber; and Jim Griffin on the death of his friend, Randelle Bowman.

We keep Stephen Ministers in prayer as they care for our church members.

We keep our Search Committee and our Future Pastor in our prayers.

In the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle, we pray for the people and churches of Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Senegal. We also pray for our UCC partner, the Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola.

Sacred Earth Eco Tip

Wondering how to get rid of an old mattress?

Mattress stores have their biggest sales during the Labor Day weekend. If you're in the market and buy a new mattress you will probably need to get rid of your old mattress.

SWACO accepts dry, free of excessive staining, free of bedbugs, and without mold or mildew at the SWACO Recycling Center, 2566 Jackson Pike.

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

Senior Deacon: Dayna McCrary

Deacons: Fubara Braide, Stella Braide, Camilla Curren, Kelly Dodd, Sandra Geronimo, Dean Hafez, 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: Nathaniel Powell

Communications and Technology Commission-elect:

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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