



# First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**“The Rock of Mothering”**

**5th Sunday of Easter**

**May 10, 2020**

**10:30 a.m. Virtual Service**

*Following Jesus, our mission is to serve God  
by building an inclusive community where uplifting worship  
and relevant messages deepen spirituality  
and inspire acts of justice, service, and compassion.*

***Our Church’s Mission Statement***

Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage, Pastor  
Linda Gooley, Reflection  
Jeannette Len, Office Administrator  
Nicole Finney, Child Care  
Sue Sackett, Custodian  
Rev. John Baumgartner, Pastor Emeritus

Judy Nielsen, Organist  
Darlene Banks, Bell Choir Director  
Brandon Frost, Choir Director  
Chuck Byam, Choir Accompanist

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## Welcome to First Congregational United Church of Christ!

*As you look over the bulletin, please notice that you are invited to read aloud **bold** text, and an asterisk (\*) indicates to please stand, as you are able. Our hymns are not announced, but are printed in the bulletin, so feel free to locate them ahead of time.*

*Helpful worship notes and information on the church can be found in the brochure by the hymnals.*

*Guests and visitors – a special welcome! Please fill out a “Welcome” card (in the pew pocket) and put it in the offering plate so we may send you a small gift.*

### GREETING

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

### INTRODUCTIONS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BELLS/CHIMES

### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Gracious Lord you are our rock

**Many: You are a Mother to us all**

One: God is our rock and our salvation

**Many: We shall not be shaken**

One: God’s love is steadfast

**Many: We give thanks and praise to the Lord**

### \*OPENING HYMN #426

*(please feel free to sing loud and strong from your place at home)*

“Oh God, Whose Steadfast Love”

### \*COLLECT PRAYER

One: Let us pray

**Many: Holy One, we come together this day celebrating the role that mothers have played in our lives. We thank you for the present love and the memories of our mothers and grandmothers. Open our hearts continually to your love through others. Keep us mindful of those for whom this is a difficult day. Help us to reach out to them. Jesus reminded his disciples that they always have a place in his heart and that there is a special place for them in God’s realm.**

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

### ANTHEM

“Hymn of Praise”

### SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (pg. 495)

### GOSPEL READING

1 Peter 2:2-10 (pg. 1104)

One: Words from the past, made new for us today.

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

SUNG RESPONSE #283

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**  
**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**  
**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!**  
**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

REFLECTION

“The Rock of Mothering”

Linda Gooley

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“Let It Be”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER

O Lord, our Rock, we stand upon you alone, and upon no other.  
Build our faith into a house made of living stones.  
We offer these prayers of compassion for our families and friends.  
Teach us anew that the foundation of life is love for you and for our neighbor.  
We pray for the community in which we live and work and learn.  
Offer us, O God, at least one clear opportunity to be of service to someone in need.  
Hear our prayers for those who are ill and who struggle to recover health and wholeness.  
In Christ the solid rock we pray. Amen.

OFFERING MOMENT

*Please give what you can, by mail or through prayers.  
If you have any questions, please reach out to Lynn Hart [hartacre3@aol.com](mailto:hartacre3@aol.com)*

\*CLOSING HYMN #403

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

*(please feel free to sing loud and strong from your place at home)*

\*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE.

“In the Lord I’ll be Ever Thankful” (sung once)

**In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful**  
**In the Lord, I will rejoice!**  
**Look to God, do not be afraid.**  
**Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**  
**Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.**

BELLS/CHIMES

POSTLUDE

“Happy Trails... Until We Meet Again”

- Unless otherwise listed all hymns and responses come from the New Century Hymnal

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**SUNDAY ROSTER**

**Reflection** - Linda Gooley

**Virtual Coordinator** - Chad Frost

**Music Coordinator** - Brandon Frost

**Piano/Keyboard** – Chuck Byam

**Liturgist** - Troy Arient

## O God, Whose Steadfast Love

Gen. 18:9-15; 1 Sam. 1:1-20; Luke 1:26-56; 2:1-7

James L. Haddix, 1986; rev. 1994

1 O God, whose stead-fast love true moth - er - hood has blessed;  
 2 Your prom - is - es, O God, so sure through-out the years,  
 3 In your great love, O God, full par - ent - hood is known:  
 4 May your house-hold of faith one fam - i - ly be - come,

who shields the in - fant small up - on its moth - er's breast:  
 have lived in moth - ers' hearts, have bloomed from moth - ers' tears.  
 a fa - ther mourns his child, a moth - er's strength is shown.  
 that love may be in - creased and none may be a - lone;

Em - brace us, too, O God, our God, and hold us in your  
 So Sar - ah laughed, and Han - nah wept, and sing - ing Mar - y  
 Let par - ents' faith - ful lives un - bind your love that through them  
 That moth - er's love and fa - ther's care and chil - dren's joy we

lov - ing arms, and hold us in your lov - ing arms.  
 se - crets kept, and sing - ing Mar - y se - crets kept.  
 we might find Christ's deep - er love for hu - man - kind.  
 all may share, and chil - dren's joy we all may share.

**Psalm 31:1-5****New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. <sup>2</sup> Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. <sup>3</sup> You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, <sup>4</sup> take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. <sup>5</sup> Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

**Psalm 31:15-16****New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>15</sup> My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. <sup>16</sup> Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

**1 Peter 2:2-10****New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>2</sup> Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup> Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and <sup>5</sup> like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup> For it stands in scripture:

a. "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." <sup>7</sup> To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," <sup>8</sup> and

b. "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. <sup>9</sup> But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

c. <sup>10</sup> Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.



## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Matt. 7:24-27; 1 Cor. 3:11; Heb. 6:19; Rev. 11:15

Edward Mote, c. 1834; alt.

1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je - sus' love and  
 2 When shad - ows veil my Sav-ior's face, I rest up - on un -  
 3 Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the  
 4 When Christ shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in

righteous-ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but  
 chang-ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ  
 Love be found, Dressed in God's right - teous - ness a - lone, fault -

*Refrain*

whol-ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an-chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;  
 then is all my hope and stay.  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.

all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink-ing sand.