



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**“Holy Ground”
13th Sunday After Pentecost
August 30, 2020
10:30 a.m. Facebook Live 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
Rev. Dr. Virginia Schiefelbein, Preacher
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.*

MOMENT FOR CENTERING

GREETING

One: The grace of 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

(Borrowed and adapted with permission from Rev. Kaji S. Douša, Copyright 2020 Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100)

One: We who dwell in the shelter of the Most High

Many: Seek God, our Creator, here.

One: We who come to be inspired and changed

Many: Seek God's Spirit here.

One: We who know how little we know

Many: Seek God's Word here.

One: Wherever we are on this day, let us find our Triune God.

Many: Amen.

OPENING HYMN (insert)

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

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

COLLECT PRAYER

(Borrowed with permission from Rev. Kaji S. Douša, Copyright 2020 Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100)

One: Please join me in prayer.

Many: God, you are made known to us in the rustling wind that blows, in the blazing fire that does not consume, in the face of the good, in the deep of the unknown. We meet you here. We accept your greeting. We welcome your inspiration. We await the change you have in store for us. Draw us in to you. Inhabit our spirits. Focus our attention. Bring us to you – you who are already with us. Help us to be as you would have us be. Through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, here and everywhere, now and always. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

(public domain #4357689, CCLI #2091058, #20709045)

FRESH PERSPECTIVES

Rev. Dr. Virginia Schiefelbein

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 3:1-12 (NRSV) (pg. 49)

GOSPEL LESSON

John 4:19-26 (NRSV) (pg. 969)

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE #283

“Spirit of the Living God”

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

(Daniel Iverson, 1935, CCLI #2091058, #20709045)

HOMILY

“Holy Ground”

Rev. Dr. Virginia Schiefelbein

MUSICAL REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S PRAYER

(Since our services are posted publicly on Facebook, we ask that you either leave people unnamed in your prayer requests [ex: prayers for a friend who is in his last stages of life] or that you obtain permission from anyone you wish to name in prayer.)

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

CLOSING HYMN (insert)

“Here I Am, Lord”

(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.

(Les Presses de Taizé, words © 1986, 1991, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)

BELLS/CHIMES

MOMENT OF BEAUTY

POSTLUDE

“What A Friend We Have in Jesus” - Adaptation”

(Arranged by Chuck Byam, Jr)

**Please join us for a Zoom coffee hour after the service. Grab a coffee or your favorite beverage and a snack and join the Zoom call using the link sent in the email with this bulletin (or in the link sent through the Thursday Pause).*

- Unless otherwise listed all hymns and responses come from the New Century Hymnal, CCLI #3091058, #20709045

SUNDAY ROSTER

Liturgist - Troy Arient

Homily – Rev. Dr. Virginia Schiefelbein

Fresh Perspective - Rev. Dr. Virginia Schiefelbein

Virtual Coordinator – Chad Frost

Music Coordinator – Brandon Frost

Organist – Chuck Byam

All Creatures of Our God and King 22

Unison

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us
 2. O rush-ing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n a-
 3. O flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your God to
 4. And all for-giv-en ten-der hearts, for-giv-ing oth-ers, take your

Harmony *Unison*

sing; Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en
 long, O praise God, Al-le - lu - ia! O ris-ing morn, in praise re-
 hear, Al-le - lu - ia, Al-le - lu - ia! O blaz-ing fire who lights the
 part, sing prais-es, Al-le - lu - ia! You who long pain and sor-row

Refrain (Harmony)

beam, O sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam,
 joice, you lights of eve-ning find a voice, O praise God,
 night, pro-vid-ing warmth, en-hanc-ing sight,
 bear, praise God, who knows your ev-'ry care.

Unison

O praise God, Al-le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu - ia, Al-le-lu - ia!

(Chalice Hymnal, #1503, CCLI #2091058, #20709045)

Exodus 3:1-12**New Revised Standard Version**

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. **3** Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." **4** When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." **5** Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **6** He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, **8** and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. **9** The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. **10** So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." **11** But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" **12** He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

John 4:19-26**New Revised Standard Version**

¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Here I Am, Lord



1 I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my
 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my
 3 I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the



peo - ple cry. All who dwell in dark and sin
 peo - ple's pain. I have wept for love of them,
 poor and lame. I will set a feast for them,



my hand will save. I who made the stars of night,
 they turn a - way. I will break their hearts of stone,
 my hand will save. Fin-est bread I will pro - vide



I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my
 give them hearts for love a - lone. I will speak my
 till their hearts be sat - is - fied. I will give my



light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I
 Word to them. Whom shall I send?
 life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain



am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have



heard you call - ing in the night. I will



go, Lord, if you lead me. I will



hold your peo - ple in my heart.