



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**“Praise!”
Rally Sunday
15th Sunday After Pentecost
September 13, 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
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.*

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

In the midst of frustrations, loss, loneliness and sadness, it is important to take time to praise our God of love, grace, and justice. This praise helps turn our minds and hearts away from our own struggles and, instead, grounds us in the core of our being—our God and Creator. So, on this Rally Sunday, when we give thanks for our children and their teachers, and we prepare for the upcoming year, it is right to give God thanks and praise. This service of praise follows a slightly different format than what we're used to and begins with songs of praise.

BELLS/CHIMES

OPENING PRAISES

“10,000 Reasons” (Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul) (insert)

“This is Amazing Grace”

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 150)

One: Praise God! Praise God in all holy places;

Many: Praise God in the mighty heavens!

One: Praise God for Their acts of power;

Many: Praise God for Their surpassing greatness!

One: Praise God with the sounding of the trumpet,

Many: Praise God with the harp and lyre,

One: Praise God with timbrel and dancing,

Many: Praise God with the strings and pipe,

One: Praise God with the clash of cymbals,

Many: Praise God with resounding cymbals!

One: Let everything that has breath praise our God.

Many: Praise God!

HYMN OF PRAISE #161 (verses 2, 3, 6)

“Amen”

(Brandon will sing the solo and we sing the chorus)

COLLECT PRAYER

One: Please join me in prayer.

Many: Blessed God, our Creator. All of creation sings praises to you! The trees lift their branches, the birds lift their voices, the grasses waive in the wind, and the lake waves crash upon the shore. Accept our voices as part of this great symphony, oh God, so that we may be unified will all of the world in joy. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“God on the Mountain”

CHURCH FAMILY VIDEO

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 103:1-13 NRSV (pg. 542)

NEW TESAMENT LESSON

Romans 15: 7-13 NRSV (pg.1035)

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

SUNG PRAISE #236

“Hallelujah”

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

FRESH PERSPECTIVES

“Praise!”

Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“I Will Praise Him”

RECOGNITION OF TEACHERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD’S 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 PRAISE #277

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

(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

“What A Friend We Have in Jesus”

Arranged by Chuck Byam

**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).*

CREDITS

- Unless otherwise listed all hymns and responses come from the New Century Hymnal, CCLI #3091058, #20709045
- **10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord, Oh My Soul)**
(Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin, 2011, © 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **This is Amazing Grace**
(Jeremy Riddle, Josh Farro, Phil Wickham, © 2012 Phil Wickham Music (Admin. by BMG Rights Management [c/o Music Services, Inc.]), Seems Like Music (Admin. by BMG Rights Management [c/o Music Services, Inc.]), Sing My Songs (Admin. by BMG Rights Management [c/o Music Services, Inc.]) WC Music Corp. (Admin. by Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.), Bethel Music Publishing, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **Amen**
(Giuseppe Fortunino Francesco Verdi, Public Domain, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **Go on the Mountain**
(Tracy Dartt, © 1976 Manna Music, Inc. (Admin. by ClearBox Rights, LLC, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **Hallelujah**
(Brenton Brown, Brian Doerksen, © 2000 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire), Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing (Integrity Music, David C Cook, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **I Will Praise Him**
(Margaret J. Harris & Joseph Linn, Public Domain, © 1979 Lillenas Publishing Co., CCLI #2091058, #20709045)
- **Holy, Holy, Holy**
(John Bacchus Dykes, Peter King, Reginald Heber, Reuben Morgan, © 2001 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful**
(Les Presses de Taizé, words 1986, © 1991 GIA Publications, CCLI #3091058, #20709045)
- **What A Friend We Have in Jesus** – Adaptation
(Arranged by Chuck Byam, Jr)

SUNDAY ROSTER

Liturgist - Troy Arient

Fresh Perspective - Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage

Virtual Coordinator – Chad Frost

Music Coordinator – Brandon Frost

Organist – Chuck Byam

10,000 REASONS (BLESS THE LORD, O MY SOUL)

Chorus

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul
Worship Your holy name
Sing like never before, O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name.**

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the even- ing comes.
2. You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
3. And on that day when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending;
Ten thousand years and then forevermore!

THIS IS AMAZING GRACE

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger
The King of Glory, the King above all kings
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace

This is unfailing love

That You would take my place

That You would bear my cross

You lay down Your life

That I would be set free

Oh, Jesus, I sing for

All that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter
The King of Glory, the King of Glory
Who rules the nations with truth and justice
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance
The King of Glory, the King above all kings

This is amazing grace

This is unfailing love

That You would take my place

That You would bear my cross

You lay down Your life

That I would be set free

Oh, Jesus, I sing for

All that You've done for me

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain

Worthy, worthy, worthy

This is amazing grace

This is unfailing love

That You would take my place

That You would bear my cross

You lay down Your life

That I would be set free

Oh, Jesus, I sing for

All that You've done for me

All that You've done for me

(Verses 2, 3, 6)

Amen, Amen

161

African-American spiritual

Mark 3:7-10; Luke 2:7, 46-47; Rom. 6:6-10

Congregation/choir

A - men, a - men, a - men, a - men,

Solo

1 O see the lit-tle ba-by ly-ing in a man-ger
 2 See Je-sus in the tem-ple talk-ing to the el-ders;
 3 See Je-sus at the sea-shore preach-ing to the peo-ple,
 4 See Je-sus on the cross bear-ing all my sins
 5 Yes, Je-sus died to save us, rose on Eas-ter morn-ing,
 6 We're sing-ing Al-le-lu-ia! Je-sus is my Sav-ior,

(Congregation/choir)

a - men! A - men,

on Christ-mas morn-ing. (2 See)
 how they all mar-veled! (3 See)
 — heal-ing all the sick ones! (4 See)
 in bit-ter ag-o-ny! (5 Yes,)
 and lives for-ev-er! (6 We're)
 who lives for-ev-er!

a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men!

Holy. Holy. Holy

4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

- 1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Saints a - dore you tru - ly,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though we know but dim - ly,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God the Al - might - y!

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing we praise your maj - es - ty.
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 Though the eyes of hum - an - kind your glo - ry may not see,
 All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!

Ho - ly, ho - ly ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim bow be - fore you on - ly,
 You a - lone are ho - ly, you a - lone are wor - thy,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 From the be - gin - ning, God e - ter - nal - ly.
 Per - fect in power, in love and pur - i - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!