



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

“What is Christian Leadership”

21st Sunday After Pentecost

October 25, 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

Ben Banks, Preacher

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.*

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

(Adapted from Psalm 27)

One: God is our light and our salvation, the strength in our lives!

Many: There is no one and nothing that can cause us fear.

One: For in times of trouble, God watches over us, cares for us, and guides us.

Many: Even though we may feel surrounded by enemies, God gives us confidence.

One: We seek to dwell in the house of God all the days of our lives.

Many: We believe that we will behold the beauty and goodness of God.

One: So, wait for God. Be strong and let your heart take courage!

Many: We wait for our God!

OPENING HYMN #436 (verses 1-3)

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

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

COLLECT PRAYER

One: Please join me in prayer.

Many: Beloved and Sovereign God, we turn to you in these difficult times, for guidance, for a sense of security, and for peace. Please grant us the wisdom and courage that we need, especially as we choose our next leaders, so that we may make the best decisions, particularly for those most in need. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“We Are One Lord”
(Chuck Byam and Chad Frost)

FRESH PERSPECTIVES

Ben Banks

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Proverbs 16:18-19 NRSV (pg. 587)

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 20:25-28 NRSV (pg. 898)

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.

HOMILY

“What is Christian Leadership”

Ben Banks

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“He Will Carry You”

(Judy Nielsen)

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Chuck Byam

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 #539

“Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant”

(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 - Adaptation”

(Arranged by Chuck Byam, Jr)

CREDITS

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(#00118, One License #732777-A, Contributors: Jacques Berthier, Taize, Tune: ©1986, 1991, Les Presses de Taize, GIA Publications, Inc., agent Text: ©1986, 1991, Les Presses de Taize, GIA Publications, Inc.)
- **What a Friend We Have in Jesus** - Adaptation
(Arranged by Chuck Byam, Jr)

SUNDAY ROSTER

Liturgist - Troy Arient

Fresh Perspective – Ben Banks

Homily – Ben Banks

Stewardship Moment- Chuck Byam

Virtual Coordinator – Chad Frost

Music Coordinator – Brandon Frost

Organist – Judy Nielsen

Pianist - Chuck Byam

- For information regarding the UCC's response to the wildfires in the west, see:
 - <https://www.ucc.org/news/west-coast-fire-evacuations-take-toll-on-ucc-churches-camps-and-their-communities-09162020>
 - <https://www.ucc.org/2020-wildfires>
- If you're struggling to find hope amidst all of the troubles of our world right now, one source that maybe be helpful is this: <https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/>

(Verses 1-3)

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Proverbs 16:18-19**New Revised Standard Version**

¹⁸Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

¹⁹It is better to be of a lowly spirit among the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Matthew 20:25-28**New Revised Standard Version**

²⁵But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ²⁶It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; ²⁸just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

539

Richard Gillard, 1977; alt.

Rom. 12:9-18; Col. 1:24-29

1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser-vant, let me be as Christ to you?
2 We are pil-grims on a jour-ney, we are trav-ersers on the road;
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad-ow of your fear;
4 I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
5 When we sing to God in heav-en we shall find such har-mo-ny,

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The melody is primarily composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some chords. The lyrics are aligned with the notes, with some lines starting on a half note and others on a quarter note.

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.
We are here to help each oth-er go the mile and bear the load.
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
I will share your joy and sor-row till we've seen this jour-ney through.
Born of all we've known to-gether of Christ's love and ag-o-ny.

(repeat stanza 1)

The second system of music continues the melody from the first system. It includes the same treble and bass staves. The lyrics continue, with the final line of the stanza followed by the instruction "(repeat stanza 1)".