



# First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Ubuntu: I Am Because We Are  
Juneteenth & Father's Day  
June 19, 2022  
10:30 a.m. Service**

*Believing that every person is a child of God invested with worth and dignity,  
and believing that every person is a recipient of God's grace,  
we at First Congregational United Church of Christ, Grand Ledge,  
aspire to mirror God's unconditional love by declaring that we are  
an Open and Affirming congregation.*

**Taken from Our Church's Open and Affirming Statement**

Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage, Pastor  
Larry Patterson, Office Administrator  
Sue Sackett & Ben Sackett, Custodian  
Rev Demphna Krikorian, Christian Educator  
Rev. John Baumgartner, Pastor Emeritus

Darlene Banks, Bell Choir Director  
Chuck Byam, Organist & Accompanist  
Brandon Frost, Choir Director  
Nicole Finney, Child Care  
David Wee, Video Operator

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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. As you enter the sanctuary, please share your offering in the offering plate by the door. We ask that you social distance from others not in your family or pod.*

*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.*

### 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 & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### BELLS/CHIMES

Grand Ringers

#### INTROIT

“We Sing On”  
(LanSingOut Chorus)

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As a deer longs for flowing streams of water, our souls reach out to seek our God.

**Many: Where is our God? In the cleansing of the rain, in the refreshing of a pool, in the predictability of a faucet.**

One: With glad shouts and songs of thanksgiving, our voices lift toward our God.

**Many: Where is our God? In the melody of voices raised in concert, in the stillness of silence, in the cacophony of spontaneous praise.**

One: As deep calls to deep, we come to worship the Living God.

**Many: Where is our God? In the echoes of our prayers, in the reverence of bowed heads, in the hope of raised faces. The Holy One is with us.**

#### \*OPENING HYMN #391

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”

#### \*GATHERING PRAYER

One: Please join me in prayer:

**Many: Holy Wisdom, we hear you calling us to gather and to hope in your name. Ignite sacred courage in us to proclaim the good news of justice from the comfort of the sanctuary to the public witness of the city gates. Inspire a compelling vision of a gracious, beloved, and empowered community that propels us to confront inequities, challenge privilege, and participate in your creative work in our time. Renew our hope for humanity so that we might rejoice in this inhabited world and delight in our siblings. Amen.**

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**Child of joy, our dearest treasure,  
God’s you are, from God you came.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,  
Live as one who bears Christ’s name.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalms 22:19-28 NRSV (540)

But you, O Lord, do not be far away!  
O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!  
Save me from the mouth of the lion!  
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
You who fear the Lord, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
For he did not despise or abhor  
the affliction of the afflicted;  
he did not hide his face from me  
but heard when I cried to him.  
From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.  
May your hearts live forever!  
All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him.  
For dominion belongs to the Lord,  
and he rules over the nations.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Galatians 3:23-29 NRSV (985-986)

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be reckoned as righteous by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

One: Words from the past, made new for us today.  
**Many: Thanks be to God.**

**Every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.  
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.**

HOMILY

“Ubuntu: I Am Because You Are”  
(Rev. Dr. Laua Miller-Purrenhage)

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“Because of Who You Are”  
(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.]*

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

OFFERING MOMENT

*(For those of us meeting in person, you are invited to place your offering in the offering plate in the back of the sanctuary. For those of you worshipping at home, 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))*

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*DEDICATION PRAYER

One: Please join me in the prayer of dedication.

**Many: We give you thanks, God Our Help, for the abundance of the gifts you  
have planted in us as seeds that we may share in bloom. May these  
offerings be received and magnified for your glory.**

\*CLOSING HYMN #402

“De Colores”

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

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

**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

Grand Ringers

POSTLUDE

“Thank You Lord”  
*(Chuck Byam)*

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  - **We Sing On**  
(Written by Peter Hobson-Morse, recorded by the LanSingOut Chorus)
  - **In the Midst of New Dimensions**  
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## SUNDAY ROSTER

**Liturgist** – Sue Sackett

**Fresh Perspective** – Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage

**Homily** – Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage

**Virtual Coordinator** – David Wee

**Sound Board** - Charlynn Walker

**Choir Director** - Brandon Frost

**Pianist/Organist** – Chuck Byam

**Crucifer** – Karen Walker

**Usher** – Fay Schroeder

**Greeter** – Charlene Avery

**Special Music** – LanSingOut Chorus

## In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,  
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,  
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,  
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,  
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?  
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.  
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.  
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

*Refrain*  
 Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4 G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity" for a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference (United Methodist).

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain  
 Julian Rush, 1985  
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994



# De colores

(Sing of Colors)

*Mexican folk song*

*Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1995*

1 De co - lo - res, de co - lo - res se vis - ten los  
 1 Sing of col - ors, sing of col - ors that o - ver the  
 2 Sing, re - joic - ing! Ev - ery crea - ture that breathes raise a

cam - pos en la pri - ma - ve - ra. De co -  
 hills in pro - fu - sion are spring - ing; Sing of  
 song to the God of cre - a - tion. Sing, re -

lo - res, de co - lo - res son los pa - ja - ri - tos que vie - nen de a -  
 col - ors of the birds that fly out - side my win - dow their can - ti - cles  
 joic - ing! Sing to God who so ear - nest - ly cares, who has of - fered sal -

fue - ra. De co - lo - res, de co -  
 sing - ing; Sing of col - ors, in the  
 va - tion. Sing the good news! Sing the

lo - res es el ar - co i - ris que ve - mos sa - lir, Y por  
 rain - bow's bright col - ors God's prom - ise of hope we re - call; Sing of  
 love of the Sav - ior re - flect - ing the col - ors of all. Man - y

e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co - lo - res me gus - tan a  
 col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who cre - at - ed us  
 col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that tell us God's love to re -  
 mí, Y por e - so los gran - des a - mo - res de mu - chos co -  
 all. Sing of col - ors that make up the earth and give thanks to the  
 call. Man - y col - ors that shine from God's face, man - y col - ors that

lo - res me gus - tan a mí.  
 God who cre - at - ed us all.  
 tell us God's love to re - call.