

First Congregational United Church of Christ



Waiting for Tomorrow: The Parable of The Rich Fool
July 24, 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	Darlene Banks, Bell Choir Director
Larry Patterson, Office Administrator	Chuck Byam, Organist & Accompanist
Sue Sackett & Ben Sackett, Custodian	Brandon Frost, Choir Director
Rev Demphna Krikorian, Christian Educator	Nicole Finney, Child Care
Rev. John Baumgartner, Pastor Emeritus	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

“Come All You People”

(Chuck Byam)

Come All You People, Come and Praise Your Maker

Come All You People, Come and Praise Your Maker

Come All You People, Come and Praise Your Maker

Come Now and Worship the Lord

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather to rejoice in the Holy One.

Many: Revive us, O God, make us alive in Christ!

One: We assemble as people called to community by and with the Redeemer.

Many: Restore us, O God, make us alive in Christ!

One: We come open to the possibilities made new by the Creator.

Many: Revive us, O God, make us alive in Christ!

*OPENING HYMN #519 v. 1-3

“Not My Brother, Nor My Sister”

*GATHERING PRAYER

One: Please join me in prayer:

Many: Compassionate One, your love sustains us, molds us, and empowers us. May we dwell in that love as you dwell in us—faithfully, joyfully, and abundantly. Renew us as your people grounded in you and flourishing with you. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

FRESH PERSPECTIVES

“This Little Light of Mine”

(Demphna Krikorian)

This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Oh, this little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine

This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine

All around the neighborhood
I'm going to let it shine
All around the neighborhood
I'm going to let it shine
All around the neighborhood

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Proverbs 3:5-10 and 27-28 NRSV (575)

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge God,
and God will make straight your paths.
Do not be wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord and turn away from evil.
It will be a healing for your flesh
and a refreshment for your body.
Honor the Lord with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your produce;
then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.

Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,
when it is in your power to do it.
Do not say to your neighbor, “Go and come again;
tomorrow I will give it,” when you have it with you.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Luke 12:13-21 NRSV (949)

Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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

Many: Thanks be to God.

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

**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

“Waiting Until Tomorrow: The Parable of the Rich Fool”

(Rev. Dr. Laura Miller-Purrenhage)

MUSICAL REFLECTION

“I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

(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 Creator, 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 (harta3@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: God, our Companion, receive these gifts as seeds to be nurtured and
grown into new abundance, more possibilities, and gifts for your kingdom
on earth.**

*CLOSING HYMN #394 v. 1-4

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

*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

“Jesus I Love You”
(Chuck Byam)

CREDITS

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SUNDAY ROSTER

Liturgist – Sue Sackett

Fresh Perspective – Demphna Krikorian

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 – Leah Horn

Greeter – Sandy Sipes

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In Christ There Is No East or West

1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22

John Oxenham, 1908; alt.
St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987



1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mu - nion find;
3 In Christ is nei - ther Jew nor Greek, and nei - ther slave nor free;
4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;



But one com - mu - ni - ty of love through - out the whole wide earth.
God's ser - vice is the gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
For men and wom - en live in God, and all are kin to me.
One joy - ous, true com - mu - ni - ty through - out the whole wide earth.

