



## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*No matter who you are, or  
where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!*

[www.fcindy.org](http://www.fcindy.org)  
317.257.5397

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46240

@FirstCongregationalUCCLndy

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Welcome to your spiritual home! We celebrate being a Just Peace making, Green for care of Creation, WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) for mental health church with an Open and Affirming covenant supporting the LGBTQAAI+ community since 1994.**

We welcome first time guests and include **all ages** in our worship service. We believe we are called by Jesus to be a transforming presence for God in the world. We are a place to **belong**, a place to **heal** and a place to **love**. **At First Congregational we recognize God as a loving, creating, all-encompassing Spirit who is not limited by usual human boundaries. Therefore, we practice the use of inclusive, expansive, and non-gendered language when speaking of and to God.**

**Pastoral Care:** Pastor Sarah may be reached at  
(386)478-9012 or [pastorsarah@fcindy.org](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy.org).

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**We celebrate our church staff:**

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund  
Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle  
Office Administrator, Shannon Abbott  
Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker  
Student Pastor, Cassidy Hall

**We celebrate our church leadership:**

Alice Rutherford, Moderator  
Larry Eckel, Vice Moderator  
Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Clerk  
Jim Lootens, Treasurer  
Cheryl Dillenback, Financial Secretary

**We celebrate our worship leaders today:**

Student Pastor Cassidy Hall, Worship Leader  
Mayflower Quartette  
Jesse Wittman  
Mike Kessler

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**National Suicide Prevention Hotline:** 1-800-273-TALK (8255) (press 1 for veterans, 2 for Spanish)

**National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)** Information HelpLine provides information and referral services. 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) and [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).

**The Trevor Project hotline** offers support for LGBTQIA+ youth and families struggling with mental health challenges at 1-866-4-U-TREVOR (488-7386) and [www.theTrevorProject.org](http://www.theTrevorProject.org)

SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

11:00 A.M.

## WE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC Hymn Medley

INTROIT Metta Prayer

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

CALL TO WORSHIP Student Pastor Cassidy Hall

The Spirit is a force of love, wild and creative:

**She tears down the walls of our hearts, and builds up courage from within.**

The Spirit is a practice of freedom:

**She is daring and audacious. She nurtures gentle strength.**

That our hope may thrive and justice be our aim,

**come, Spirit of Christ, and rise among us.**

OPENING PRAYER Student Pastor Cassidy Hall

Holy One, our source of life and love, build up our faith. May we dare to believe things can be done differently. May we be willing to take necessary risks for others. May we persevere through our mistakes and missteps. With joy as our companion and wisdom as our guide, we place our trust in you. Amen.

OPENING HYMN #575 O for a World (vs. 1,2) *New Century Hymnal*

THE PEACE Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*Share with those around you a sign of Christ's peace.*

## WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE Philippians 2:1-13 Student Pastor Cassidy Hall

SERMON "Hope How? Hope Now!" Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

## WE RESPOND

HYMN#575

O for a World (vs. 3,4)

*New Century Hymnal*

INTERLUDE

Love and Justice

Goudy, arr. Baker

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

*We invite those who desire to share a joy or concern.*

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (from UCC Book of Worship)

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Hear our prayer, O God.

## WE GO

CLOSING HYMN #575

O for a World (vs. 5)

*New Century Hymnal*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

As the whole earth groans for freedom, we will find our way through practices of love. Love that is generous. Love that is bold. Love that is reciprocal and risky. Love that does not abandon nor neglect, but is fulfilled in the joy of giving and receiving. Seeking liberation for all life, let us go and live with faith.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Be Still and Know

POSTLUDE

Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove

arr. Baker

*Following worship, everyone is invited for Coffee Hour via Zoom.*

## **CALLS to SERVE**

*"Here am I; send me!" Isaiah 6:8*

**TODAY! Coffee Hour, immediately after worship** - (See Zoom link under "This Week...")

**TODAY! Book Buzz, 12:30 p.m.** - Grab your lunch and join in the conversation focusing on chapters 2 through 4 of "I'm Still Here" and Austin Channing Brown's school experiences as a Black woman, a lot of discussion on fitting in and not fitting in, and expectations around that, both on trying to fit in and on trying to make space for others to join (school choice, affirmative action, diversity focus, even emotional trips to visit the lynching museum). These informal discussions are open to all, so drop in on any session that might interest you, whether you have read the book or not. (See Zoom link under "This Week...")

**Soul Care with Pastor Sarah: Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.** - Join us for our weekly "Soul-Care with Pastor Sarah" a time for church members to check-in and to pray together. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84830474505?pwd=Ny9oeE84a0lpcTUrWHU2dUhFVUZZQT09>

**Outdoor Vespers Service – Tuesdays, 6:30-7:00 p.m. – Note the new time and place.** Each Tuesday evening, you can join us on the church patio for a quiet time to be together, ponder scripture, and share our joys and concerns. Bring a chair and face mask as we spend some precious time with one another, and practice our love by keeping distant and wearing face coverings. Note: if the weather is threatening, the event will be cancelled, since we cannot run into the building to take cover.

**NEW! Wellness Wednesdays, 10:30–11:30AM (See Zoom Link below)** – Next Wednesday, September 30th, we will cultivate our intellectual wellness through a conversation of group discernment regarding what wellness looks like for you, how you are cultivating your mental, physical, spiritual, and intellectual wellness, and what ways FC can offer you support in your wellness. This conversation will not be recorded for the sake of confidentiality; however, a brief pre-recorded wellness practice will be provided via email, on the website, and on the church facebook page.

**Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health Conditions, Challenges, and Wellness - Every Thursday, 5 - 6pm (See Zoom link below)** Led by Pastor Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund and Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey - We openly invite anyone seeking spiritual care for their well-being. We covenant with care givers for those with mental illness, those needing renewal, are burned-

out, fearful, emotional, stigmatized or having disorders — all is confidential. You do not have to be alone with your struggles or journey.

**Publications** - Bulletins, Sermons, Epistles, and Colony are all available on our website: [www.fcindy.org](http://www.fcindy.org)

**Continue Your Support of First Congregational UCC** - Please continue supporting the mission and ministries of your local church at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

**FC Emergency Fund** - The FC Emergency Fund is available to support housing, food, and medical needs for any of our church family who find themselves unemployed or underemployed due to Covid-19 impacts. To request funds for you or your family, please contact Pastor Sarah by email [pastorsarah@fcindy.org](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy.org) or cell (386) 478-9012. To make a donation, send a check to the church with "emergency fund" on the memo or make a donation on the church website.

### This Week at First Congregational

|                    |            |   |
|--------------------|------------|---|
| Sunday, Sept 27    | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday Adult Class                            |
| Sunday, Sept 27    | 11:00 a.m. | Sunday Worship (YouTube, Facebook, & Dial In) |
| Sunday, Sept 27    | 12:00 p.m. | Coffee Hour (immediately after worship)       |
| Sunday, Sept 27    | 12:30 p.m. | Book Buzz                                     |
| Tuesday, Sept 29   | 1:00 p.m.  | Worship Design Team                           |
| Tuesday, Sept 29   | 5:00 p.m.  | Soul Care with Pastor Sarah                   |
| Tuesday, Sept 29   | 6:30 p.m.  | Outdoor Vespers Service                       |
| Wednesday, Sept 30 | 10:30 a.m. | Wellness Wednesday                            |
| Thursday, Oct 1    | 1:00 p.m.  | Men's Lunch                                   |
| Thursday, Oct 1    | 5:00 p.m.  | Spiritual Support Group                       |
| Thursday, Oct 1    | 7:00 p.m.  | Calling Circle                                |
| Sunday, Oct 6      | 9:30 a.m.  | Sunday Adult Class                            |
| Sunday, Oct 6      | 11:00 a.m. | Worship (YouTube, Facebook, & Dial In)        |
| Sunday, Oct 6      | 12:00 p.m. | Coffee Hour (immediately after worship)       |

\*All events are on Zoom unless indicated otherwise.

## How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTK5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

Meeting ID: 926 449 4206 Password: 7171

If you click on the URL, you should not need to enter in the Meeting ID and Password.

To dial in by phone: +1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID 926 449 4206, Password 7171.

## Today's Scripture

### Philippians 2:1-13

<sup>1</sup> If our life in Christ means anything to you—if love, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness or sympathy can persuade you at all—<sup>2</sup> then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing that would make me completely happy. <sup>3</sup> There must be no competition among you, no conceit, but everybody is to be humble: value others over yourselves, <sup>4</sup> each of you thinking of the interests of others before your own. <sup>5</sup> Your attitude must be the same as that of Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Christ, though in the image of God, didn't deem equality with God something to be clung to— <sup>7</sup> but instead became completely empty and took on the image of oppressed humankind: born into the human condition, found in the likeness of a human being. <sup>8</sup> Jesus was thus humbled—obediently accepting death, even death on a cross! <sup>9</sup> Because of this, God highly exalted Christ and gave to Jesus the name above every other name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee must bend in the heavens, on the earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God: Jesus Christ reigns supreme! <sup>12</sup> Therefore, my dear friends, you who are always obedient to my urging, work out your salvation with fear and trembling, not only when I happen to be with you, but all the more now that I'm absent. <sup>13</sup> It is God at work in you that creates the desire to do God's will.

*Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2593-2594). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.*



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