



## 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

@FirstCongregationalUCCIndy

**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 hybrid worship service. We invite guests to fill out a visitor card found in the pew holder. Whether you choose to join us online or in-person, we believe we are called together 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.**

**\*Disclaimer:** Today's worship service is being live-streamed. While the focus will be on the worship leaders, anything you say or do may be on film. If you have any questions or need to ensure you are not on camera for your safety or other reasons, please speak with Pastor Sarah. [PastorSarah@fcindy.org](mailto:PastorSarah@fcindy.org)

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

## **We celebrate our church staff:**

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle

External Communications Manager/Office Admin, Cassidy Hall

Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker

Media Technician, Ben James

**We celebrate our church leadership:**

Senior Councilors: \*Larry Eckel, Steve Coomer, Judy Fletcher  
Clerk: Janet Selby  
Treasurer: Jim Lootens  
Financial Secretary: Sue Chapman  
Just Peace Intern, Spenser Churchill

**We celebrate our worship leaders today:**

Mayflower Singers  
Musicians, Steve and Gini Coomer  
Preacher, Rev. Nathan Day Wilson

**April 24, 2022** **11:00 A.M.**

PRELUDE	Largo (from Opera Xerxes)	Handel (piano only)
WELCOME		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
MISSION MOMENT	Peace Learning Center	Tim Nation, Director
MISSION MOMENT		Bread for the World
MUSIC	Bread for the World	Mayflower Singers
OPENING SONG	Morning Has Broken	

THE PEACE

Spenser Churchill

**WE PROCLAIM**

SONG OF PREPARATION #547    Amazing Grace v. 1, 5    *New Century Hymnal*

SERMON                      Would you go to THAT party? Rev. Nathan Day Wilson

**WE RESPOND**

OFFERING

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from who all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Holy City

Adams

PASTORAL PRAYER (from Enfleshed)

Loving One, fervently you search for the neglected and forgotten. When the hungry are left without access to food, while others are feasting, we pray for you to unsettle us. Do not let us rest in misplaced priorities. Do not let us be wasteful with our resources. May the Spirit of Christ be our guide. Amen.

## 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.

## WE GO

CLOSING SONG #252    Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us    *New Century Hymanl*

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

POSTLUDE

Alleluia

Mozart

## CALLS to SERVE

*“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8*

**Abiti Paper Recycling Bin:** Say goodbye to the large bin in our parking lot, since it will be disappearing sometime in the next few weeks. It has been treated as a dumpster in the past few years, with the latest incident involving a chain link fence. We encourage you to recycle, so please use other opportunities – if you need help finding another Abiti bin, contact Wendy Baldwin.

**Remember the Northside Pantry:** Last year, through special food drives, our church donated almost 3000 lbs of food and supplies to the Northside Pantry. They are VERY appreciative of our gifts, especially since the need is growing. Please remember to bring donations to the church when you can; our giving is actually down from a year ago. Also useful are paper or plastic bags, since they use 1000 each week - Thanks for helping to serve this valued ministry!

**Shameless Storytelling Retreat:** Sign up today for the Shameless Storytelling retreat in the church narthex. About the retreat: This Spring, as we celebrate the season of Resurrection, we have an opportunity to unburden ourselves of shame and affirm our sacred worth. At our [Shameless Storytelling retreat](#), we will use writing as a tool to unpack and let go of the shame we carry. Led by Rev. Lance Mullins!

Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>: Today we welcome back guest preacher, Rev. Nathan Wilson! Rev. Wilson serves World Council of Churches.

**Hybrid: In-Person and Zoom Adult Education at 10:00 a.m.** – On Sunday mornings, join us on In-Person or on Zoom for a gathering time for faith formation.

**Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom)** – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being. Contact Pastor Sarah at [pastorsarah@fcindy.org](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy.org), or 386-478-9012.

**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 by mailing your check to the church or through online giving at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

**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)

### **How to Access our Zoom Gatherings**

Please contact our office admin to join Zoom Gatherings: [cassidy@fcindy.org](mailto:cassidy@fcindy.org)

### **A NOTE FROM YOUR MUSIC DESIGNER:**

For years I've performed as a pianist/entertainer in many restaurants and clubs. One of the classic practices in this profession is taking requests. Well, I'd like to bring this tradition to

the church. As I've lived within the lines of our music licensing for the church during the pandemic since we've now been online, it has been a blast for me to utilize my arranging skills by simply reworking hymns into orchestral pieces with my stamp and style applied. I would like to get a list of everyone's top 5 favorite hymns along with your permission to list your name in the bulletin as "requested by..." I think this would be a fun way together as a church to feel like the everyone is part of the creation of the services. Please email me your requests and permissions *(or if you prefer to be anonymous)* to [sbaker@seanbaker.com](mailto:sbaker@seanbaker.com).  
—Sean Baker

## GIVING

*We seek to love and to share our joy.*

*We offer care, give thanks and praise, when Christ is present among us all.*

*We know the world's a mission field, needing forgiveness, justice and hope.*

**Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Just Peace Covenant.**

Our current outreach recipients: Exodus Refugee, Peace Learning Center, Family Promise, and Faith In Indiana.

## THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Sunday, April 24	10:00 AM	Hybrid Adult Education (In-Person and Zoom)
Sunday, April 24	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB) (Dial-in after 2 PM) Guest Preacher: Rev. Nathan Day Wilson
Sunday, April 24	12:30 PM	Rev. Worth Hartman Retirement Celebration in Mayflower Hall
Thursday, April 28	11:45 AM	Women's Lunch Bunch
Thursday, April 28	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, April 28	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)

## Today's Scripture

### Luke 15:11-24

He added, “A man had two sons. The younger of them said to their father, ‘Give me the share of the estate that is coming to me.’ So the father divided up the property between them. Some days later, the younger son gathered up his belongings and went off to a distant land. Here he squandered all his money on loose living. “After everything was spent, a great famine broke out in the land, and the son was in great need. So he went to a landowner, who sent him to a farm to take care of the pigs. The son was so hungry that he could have eaten the husks that were fodder for the pigs, but no one made a move to give him anything. Coming to his senses at last, he said, ‘How many hired hands at my father’s house have more than enough to eat, while here I am starving! I’ll quit and go back home and say, “I’ve sinned against God and against you; I no longer deserve to be called one of your children. Treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ With that, the younger son set off for home. “While still a long way off, the father caught sight of the returning child and was deeply moved. The father ran out to meet him, threw his arms around him and kissed him. The son said to him, ‘I’ve sinned against God and against you; I no longer deserve to be called one of your children.’ But his father said to one of the workers, ‘Quick! Bring out the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Take the calf we’ve been fattening and butcher it. Let’s eat and celebrate! This son of mine was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and now he’s found!’ And the celebration began.

A Word of God that is still speaking,  
Thanks be to God.

*Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.*



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