



## 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).

**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:**

Bob Cook (handbells), Linda Lupton (ASL), Mark & Lauren Ladd (scripture readers), Alice Rutherford (scripture reader), Mayflower Quartette, Jesse Wittman (string bass), Mike Kessler (drums)

DECEMBER 6, 2020

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

11:00 A.M.

**WE GATHER**

GATHERING MUSIC

HANDBELL INTROIT      O Come, O Come Emmanuel

WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

CANDLE LIGHTING

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

I Believe in the Sun

Meagan Johnson  
& Mayflower Quartette

OPENING SONG #

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

*NCH*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

**WE PROCLAIM**

MUSIC FOR ALL AGES

This Little Light of Mine

Linda Lupton  
& Alice Rutherford

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 7:1-14  
Matthew 1:1-15

Mark & Lauren Ladd  
Alice Rutherford

SERMON

Advent of Love

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

INTERLUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. Baker

## WE RESPOND

TIME OF PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

SPECIAL MUSIC

In the Stillness

Meagan Johnson, solo

JOYS and CONCERNS

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

PASTORAL PRAYER and PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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.

CELEBRATING HOME COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

## WE GO

CLOSING HYMN #131

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

*NCH*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

I Believe in Love

Miller

POSTLUDE

Winter's Retreat

Baker, Oprisko

*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 on Zoom**

**TODAY! Outdoor Vespers, 4:30-5:00pm** – Each Sunday afternoon, 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: *Outdoor vespers will not be held if the temperature is below 50, it is raining, OR the winds are above 20 mph.*

**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. *Please note this is a different Zoom link from others used by FC:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84830474505?pwd=Ny9oeE84a0lpcTUrWHU2dUhFVUZZQT09>

**Zoom Vespers Service - Tuesdays, 7:00-7:30 p.m.** - With lessening daylight and colder weather, we are exploring ways to continue the fellowship we have shared the past few months. On Tuesdays, we will meet at 7 pm for a half hour on Zoom, to be together virtually.

**Wellness Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. (Zoom)** – On Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, join us as we *draw near* to God, as we nurture ways we can connect with one another, connect with God, and connect within ourselves in body, mind, and spirit. This Zoom will be recorded and posted on the FC Facebook page and website.

**Spiritual Support Group** – Thursdays from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

**The Mission of the Month for December: The Christmas Fund** - United Church of Christ congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. Thank you! For more information, go to: <https://www.pbucc.org/index.php/christmas-fund-home>. To contribute to this effort, write a check to First Congregational, and designate Christmas Fund in the Memo line, or go to <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>.

**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.

**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)

### This Week at First Congregational

Sunday, Dec 6	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, Dec 6	11:00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent/Communion Worship (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, Dec 6	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Coffee Hour
Sunday, Dec 6	4:30 p.m.	Outdoor Vespers
Tuesday, Dec 8	5:00 p.m.	Soul Care w/ Pastor Sarah
Tuesday, Dec 8	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Vespers
Wednesday, Dec 9	10:30 a.m.	Wellness Wednesday
Wednesday, Dec 9	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Thursday, Dec 10	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group
Saturday, Dec 12	10:00 a.m.	Food Drive
Sunday, Dec 13	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, Dec 13	11:00 a.m.	Third Sunday of Advent Worship (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, Dec 13	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Coffee Hour
Sunday, Dec 13	4:30 p.m.	Outdoor Vespers

**\*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

### Isaiah 7:1-14

<sup>1</sup> In the reign of Ahaz ben-Jotham ben-Uzziah, ruler of Judah, the city of Jerusalem was attacked by Rezin, ruler of Syria, and Pekah ben-Remaliah, ruler of Israel. But they were not able to conquer it. <sup>2</sup> When word came to the House of David that Syria had allied itself with Ephraim, the heart of Ahaz and the people shook, as the trees of the forest shake in the wind. <sup>3</sup> YHWH said to Isaiah: "Go with your son Shear-jashuby and meet Ahaz at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the Fuller's Field road, <sup>4</sup> and say, 'Take care to remain calm and do not fear; do not be intimidated by Rezin and Syria, or by ben-Remaliah—they're just two smoldering sticks of firewood—<sup>5</sup> or because Syria and Ephraim and ben-Remaliah have plotted to ruin you, saying, <sup>6</sup> "We will invade Judah and terrorize it and seize it for ourselves, and set up ben-Tabeel as its ruler.'" <sup>7</sup> "Thus says YHWH: This will not stand, it will not be! <sup>8</sup> "The capital of Syria is Damascus; the chief of Damascus is Rezin. <sup>9</sup> The capital of Ephraim is Samaria; the chief of Samaria is ben-Remaliah. But within sixty-five years, Ephraim will be crushed, and no longer a nation. If you do not stand by me, you will not stand at all." <sup>10</sup> Once more YHWH spoke to Ahaz and said, <sup>11</sup> "Ask for a sign from YHWH your God; let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky!" <sup>12</sup> But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not put YHWH to a test!" <sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, "Listen, O House of David! Is it not enough for you to weary those around you, must you also weary my God? <sup>14</sup> Therefore, the Holy One will give you a sign: This young woman will become pregnant and will give birth. You will name the child Immanu-El.

Priests for Equality. *The Inclusive Bible* (pp. 741-742). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.

## Matthew 1:1-16

<sup>1</sup> THIS IS THE FAMILY RECORD OF JESUS THE CHRIST, descendant of David, descendant of Abraham: <sup>2</sup> Abraham begot Isaac; Isaac begot Jacob; Jacob begot Judah and his sisters and brothers; <sup>3</sup> Tamar and Judah begot Perez and Zerah; Perez begot Hezron; Hezron begot Ram; <sup>4</sup> Ram begot Amminadab; Amminadab begot Nahshon; Nahshon begot Salmon; <sup>5</sup> Rahab and Salmon begot Boaz; Ruth and Boaz begot Obed; Obed begot Jesse; <sup>6</sup> and Jesse begot David, the ruler. Bathsheba—who had been the wife of Uriah—and David begot Solomon; <sup>7</sup> Solomon begot Rehoboam; Rehoboam begot Abijah; Abijah begot Asa; <sup>8</sup> Asa begot Jehoshaphat; Jehoshaphat begot Joram; Joram begot Uzziah; <sup>9</sup> Uzziah begot Jotham; Jotham begot Ahaz; Ahaz begot Hezekiah; <sup>10</sup> Hezekiah begot Manasseh; Manasseh begot Amon; Amon begot Josiah; <sup>11</sup> Josiah begot Jeconiah and his sisters and brothers at the time of the Babylonian captivity. <sup>12</sup> After the Babylonian captivity, Jeconiah begot Shealtiel; Shealtiel begot Zerubbabel; <sup>13</sup> Zerubbabel begot Abiud; Abiud begot Eliakim; Eliakim begot Azor; <sup>14</sup> Azor begot Zadok; Zadok begot Achim; Achim begot Eliud; <sup>15</sup> Eliud begot Eleazar; Eleazar begot Matthan; Matthan begot Jacob; <sup>16</sup> Jacob begot Joseph, the husband of Mary. And from her Jesus was born.

Priests for Equality. *The Inclusive Bible* (pp. 2203-2204). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



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