



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

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.

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
Just Peace Intern, Allison Welz
Media Technician, David Clark

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Alice Rutherford, Steve Coomer, Larry Eckel
Clerk: Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey
Treasurer: Jim Lootens
Financial Secretary: Cheryl Dillenback

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Quartette

Plymouth Players

Allison Welz

Elizabeth Price, Liturgist



December 5, 2021

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE	In Water We Grow	Wren, Schalk
INTROIT	Water	Mayflower Quartette
WELCOME		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
CANDLE LIGHTING INTROIT		Mayflower Quartette
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE		Elizabeth Price
OPENING SONG #117	Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>

MOMENT OF PEACE

MEDITATION

All Earth Is Waiting

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:18-25

Elizabeth Price

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

SERMON

Be Encouraged: God of the Water of Life is With Us
Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

ADVENT MONTAGE

WE RESPOND

COMMUNION SONG

As We Gather at Your Table

Mayflower Quartette

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERLUDE

O Little Town of Bethlehem

arr. Baker

PASTORAL PRAYER

Holy One, you are the water of life. Your Spirit fills us, sustains us, and never fails us. As the candles burn this second Sunday of Advent, may we also shine with your love and be filled with the water of life. 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

WE GO

CLOSING SONG #131 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear *New Century Hymnal*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Rejoice!

Mayflower Quartette

POSTLUDE

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

arr. Baker

CALLS to SERVE

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

TODAY! Adult Education at 10:00 a.m. – On Sunday mornings, join us on Zoom for a gathering time for faith formation.

Coffee Hour on Zoom – Immediately following the service we will gather on the church Zoom for Coffee Hour!

Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom) – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being. Contact Pat Larracey at plainandfancy1963@att.net, or 317-625-6801, or Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@fcindy.org, or 386-478-9012.

The Hat & Mitten Tree and Giving Tree are returning this year!

The Hat & Mitten Tree and Giving Tree are returning this year! Please bring your donations of hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to the narthex Hat & Mitten Tree to benefit Exodus Refugee. In the parlor the Giving Tree is available for donations of gift cards for clients of Indiana Youth Group, Damien Center, and Trinity Haven. See the December Colony for types of gift cards recommended for these groups. **Because Marion County is orange again, the trees will still be available for drop-offs at any time. Please have all donations at the church by December 19 to allow a timely delivery to the recipients.**

REMINDER: CALLING ALL WRITERS, POETS, AND THINKERS!

The FC Indy Blog is here, “Pew Reflections”: Please email your submissions to Cassidy (cassidy@fcindy.org) anytime to be shared on the blog on any topic. We are accepting prayers, meditations, poems, prose, short stories, and more! Questions about what the blog is or how it functions? Check out <http://fcindy.org/blog/newblog/> or email Cassidy.

Publications - Bulletins, Sermons, Epistles, and Colony are all available on our website: 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/>

Members In Need Fund - The Members In Need Fund is available to support financial needs for any of our church family who find themselves in need. All requests for financial support will be confidential and your privacy will be honored and respected. To request funds for you or your family, please contact Pastor Sarah by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

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.

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

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

Please contact our office admin to join Zoom Gatherings: cassidy@fcindy.org

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 Open and Affirming Covenant. We have been an Open and Affirming Church since 1994.

Our current outreach recipients: Indiana Youth Group, Damien Center, and Trinity Haven



THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Sunday, December 5	10:00 a.m.	Adult Education (ZOOM)
Sunday, December 5	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB) (Dial-in only at 2pm)
Sunday, December 5	After Service	Coffee Hour on Zoom after the service ends
Tuesday, December 7	All Day	Pastor Sarah's Day of Prayer
Wednesday, December 8	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
Thursday, December 9	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, December 9	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)
Friday, December 10	7:00 p.m.	Blue Christmas (Zoom)
Sunday, December 12	10:00 a.m.	Adult Education (ZOOM)
Sunday, December 12	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB) (Dial-in only at 2pm)
Sunday, December 12	After Service	Coffee Hour on Zoom after the service ends

Today's Scripture




Romans 8:18-25

Indeed, I consider the sufferings of the present to be nothing compared with the glory that will be revealed in us. All creation eagerly awaits the revelation of the children of God. Creation was subjected to transience and futility, not of its own accord, but because of the One who subjected it—in the hope that creation itself would be freed from its slavery to corruption and would come to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that from the beginning until now, all of creation has been groaning in one great act of giving birth. And not only creation, but all of us who possess the firstfruits of the Spirit—we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

In hope we were saved. But hope is not hope if its object is seen; why does one hope for what one sees? And hoping for what we cannot see means awaiting it with patient endurance.

(The Inclusive Bible. Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition)



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