



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 hybrid worship service. 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

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

Media Technicians, David Clark and 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 Quartette

Plymouth Players

Readers, Larry Eckel and Lauren Good

Liturgist, Sue Chapman

March 27, 2022

11:00 A.M.

GATHERING MUSIC

Good Enough

arr. Baker

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

THRESHOLD MOMENT

SONG

Good Enough

Mayflower Quartette

CALLING ON GOD

Based on Psalm 32

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Alice Rutherford

SONG #23

There is a Wilderness

New Century Hymnal

HONEST QUESTIONS, COMPASSIONATE RESPONSE

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Larry Eckel

THE PEACE

WE PROCLAIM

THE WORD IN MUSIC

There Is Room for All

Mayflower Quartette

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sue Chapman

SERMON

We Often Believe We are the Problem

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

WE RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Mayflower Quartette
Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Lauren Good

PASTORAL PRAYER (from Enfleshed)

God, you know us in the depths of our hearts. Our longings, our intentions, our places of struggle are all known to you. You meet us there with words of courage and deliverance. When fear or insecurity or ego beckon, do not let us be swayed in the direction of evil, but encourage us to trust in you. In Christ, 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 #417 This is a Day of New Beginnings *New
Century Hymnal*

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Good Enough Mayflower Quartette

POSTLUDE Good Enough arr. Baker

Worship Notes:

All liturgy and leader parts Marcia McFee © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough. Used and adapted with permission.

“Good Enough” theme song by Marsha Charles, Marcia McFee, Chuck Bell. Used with permission of Worship Design Studio.

“A Blessing for a Joyfully Mediocre Journey” from *Good Enough: 40'ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Used with permission. Purchase the book at www.katebowler.com/goodenough.

Music licenses: OneLicense

CALLS to SERVE

“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

Good Enough Tuesdays: Throughout Lent, join Pastor Sarah on Zoom for Good Enough Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM on March 29 and April 5.

TODAY! Ecclesiastical Council for Cassidy Hall: Sunday, March 27 at 1:00pm on the church zoom. Let us join in this time of discernment and prayer with Cassidy as she moves through the process to answer her call to be an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. This is an important moment in the life of our congregation and everyone is invited to pray and to attend the zoom meeting to show support and God’s love.

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, or 386-478-9012.

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/>

Acts of Kindness Fund - Members can make requests for use of this fund to assist themselves or others in our church family who might not ask for help. These gifts can help support financial needs, as well as help with ride-share transportation, shovel or plow snow, pay an unexpected expense, etc. Honoring the dignity of the recipient, all requests for use of this fund will be confidential, and privacy will be respected. To request funds or gifts, 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 Just Peace Covenant.

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

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Sunday, March 27	10:00 AM	Hybrid Adult Education (In-Person and Zoom)
Sunday, March 27	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB) (Dial-in after 2 PM)
Sunday, March 27	1:00 PM	Cassidy Hall's Ecclesiastical Council (Zoom)
Tuesday, March 29	6:30-7:30 PM	Lenten Study with Pastor Sarah (Zoom)
Thursday, March 31	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, March 31	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)

Today's Scripture

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Meanwhile, the tax collectors and the “sinners” were all gathering around Jesus to listen to his teaching, at which the Pharisees and the religious scholars murmured, “This person welcomes sinners and eats with them!” Jesus then addressed this parable to them: “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. Meanwhile the elder son had been out in the field. As he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the workers and asked what was happening. The worker answered, ‘Your brother is home, and the fatted calf has been killed because your father has him back safe and sound.’ The son got angry at this and refused to go in to the party, but his father came out and pleaded with him. The older son replied, ‘Look! for years now I’ve done every single thing you asked me to do. I never disobeyed even one of your orders, yet you never gave me so much as a kid goat to celebrate with my friends. But then this son of yours comes home after going through your money with prostitutes, and you kill the fatted calf for him!’ ‘But my child!’ the father said. ‘You’re with me always, and everything I have is yours. But we have to celebrate and rejoice! This brother of yours was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and now he’s found.’”

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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