



## 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 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)

## **Comeback Team: Messages from Church Council Regarding**

**Covid:** CAUTION: Marion County COVID-19 rates are increasing. **Masking encouraged.** (Church Council, 5/11/22). First Congregational urges vaccinations, encourages masking for those unvaccinated or those at risk, and staying home if feeling unwell. (Based on CDC guidelines and approved by Church Council, April 13, 2022)

For pastoral care needs while Pastor Sarah is away on vacation July 7-17, please contact the Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is [worthgrover@sbcglobal.net](mailto:worthgrover@sbcglobal.net) and his cell is (317) 417-0806.



SPECIAL MESSAGE

Letter Writing Invitation

Judy Fletcher

THE PEACE

Judy Fletcher

PASSING OF THE PEACE

All Earth Is Waiting

### WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Mathew 16:1-4

Judy Fletcher

RESPONSE #764



This is what the Spir-it is say-ing to the church-es: Thanks be to God!

The image shows a single line of musical notation on a five-line staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes.

SERMON

Nevertheless, God Persisted

Cassidy Hall

SONG #58

Waiting for the Touch of God *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

### WE RESPOND

OFFERING

MEDITATION

Colorful Creator

## DOXOLOGY #778

Praise God from whom 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

### PRAYER (From Enfleshed)

God of Multiplicity, you move fluidly among us without concern for boxes, binaries, or the bounds of doctrine. Wild and free, you reveal yourself in an abundance of forms. May your Spirit come and help us to perceive. 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.

## RESPONSE #769



Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in - cline you ear to us, and grant us your peace.

## CLOSING SONG #31

## All Things Bright and Beautiful

**WE GO**

## BENEDICTION

Cassidy Hall

## RESPONSE

Metta Prayer

Mayflower Singers

**CALLS to SERVE**

*“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8*

**"Patio Psalms and Prayers"** returns for the month of July while Adult Ed takes a break. At 10 am, bring your lawn chair, your sunglasses and meet on the patio to reflect together on a selected Psalm. This is a great opportunity to share with one another in an outdoor natural setting, although depending on the weather, we may meet inside. The selected Psalm will be noted each week in the epistle, and handouts will be available. Come for the psalm, come for the prayer, come for the pleasure of one another's company.

**A New Call to Action, Sunday July 17 & 24:** We will be writing letters in support of reproductive rights. State and local officials need to hear from YOU! Add your voice for justice! Help bring God's Just Peace to our world, our nation, and our community! Write a letter in the Narthex at your convenience.

**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 [FCIndy.org](http://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/>

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

**A NOTE ON OUR CURRENT COVENANT OUTREACH GIVING**

**Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our WISE Covenant (May – August)** Our current outreach recipients: The Julian Center, The UCC Mental Health Network, and The Trevor Project.



- **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 FC INDY:

Sunday, July 10	10:00 AM	Patio Psalms and Prayers
Sunday, July 10	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB) (Dial-in after 2 PM)
Thursday, July 14	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group

## Today's Scripture

### Matthew 16:1-4

The Pharisees and the Sadducees came and asked Jesus for a sign from heaven in order to test him.

He replied, “In the evening you say, ‘Tomorrow will be fair, for the sky is red.’ In the morning you say, ‘It will storm today because the sky is red and overcast.’ How is it that you can read the signs in the sky, but don’t know how to read the signs of the times? “It is an evil and unfaithful generation that asks for a sign, and you will get no sign from me—except the sign of Jonah.” Then he left them and went away.

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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