



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

@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 our leadership.

A Message from our Church Council regarding COVID: While we navigate the continuing pandemic, we request that you remain up to date with your vaccinations. Mask as needed. Please stay home if you feel unwell.

–Church Council resolution of November 16th, 2022

Pastoral Care: Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.
In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (church admin) and Pastor Sarah are in office Thursdays from 9am-12.

We celebrate our church staff:

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund (she/her)

Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle (she/her)

External Communications Manager/Office Admin, Cassidy Hall (she/her)

Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker (he/him)

Media Technician, Ben James (he/him)

Just Peace Intern, Noah Giddings (he/him) s

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Judy Fletcher, Steve Coomer, and Larry Eckel

Clerk: Janet Selby

Treasurer: Jim Lootens

Financial Secretary: Sue Chapman

Building Manager: Wendy Baldwin

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Singers

Scott Semester, Worship Song Leader

Jesse Wittman, String Bass

Mike Kessler, Percussion

Liturgist, Rev. Lance Mullins

Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund

January 29, 2023

11:00 A.M.

*Please speak the **bold**-printed words in unison.*

Asterisk () indicates those who choose to may stand in body/spirit.*

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE

Ode to Joy

Beethoven, arr. Baker

INTROIT

Be Still and Know

Mayflower Singers

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from enfleshed)

When we hunger for justice and thirst for the liberation of all life...
When we want for collective flourishing with the entirety of your spirit...

Blessed are we, for our longings will birth the dreams of God.

When we weep with all the world's aches.

When we find ourselves filled with sorrow because of what is cruel, what is lost, what is forgotten...

Blessed are we, for God weeps through us.

God draws near wherever hearts are open.

Love, come and shape our understanding!

*OPENING SONG #11

Come On In!

Sing! Prayer and Praise

THE PEACE

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

ANTHEM

Grateful

Tomaszek, arr. Baker

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:1-12

Rev. Lance Mullins

RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

SERMON

The Vision Beautiful

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*HYMN #391

In the Midst of New Dimensions

New Century Hymnal

WE RESPOND

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

Come Sunday

Ellington

*DOXOLOGY

To you O God we here do raise
our song and gifts of thankful praise.
The Christmas Child protect from harm,
and keep all children safe and warm.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER (adapted from enfleshed)

Holy One, your Spirit moves in provocative ways. Though evil seeks false peace, you shake things up. You turn things upside down. You leave us surprised and inspired. When we are confronted by the radical nature of your love, do not let us push you away or remain unchanged. May we embrace discomfort with joy, that we might be friends of justice and companions to peace. 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

*CLOSING SONG #393 Blessed Be the Tie That Binds *New Century Hymnal*

WE GO

*BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

RESPONSE Glory! Glory! Glory! Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE All God's Chillun Got Rhythm Kahn, Kaper

CALLS to SERVE

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

TODAY! The Annual Meeting! Sunday, January 29th at 1:00 PM! All are welcome to join our Annual Meeting to learn about FC Indy over the past year.

Happening Soon: Join the WISE Team and Faith in Indiana!

We are working with Faith in Indiana to encourage the state legislature to fully fund mental health care in Indiana, especially the 988 call center to help those who call in due to mental distress or suicidality. **We invite you to attend a Rally to Support Mental Health at New Directions Church, 5330 E 38th St, Indianapolis, IN 46218 on Saturday, February 11 at**

1:30-3:30PM. [Click here for more info or to sign up!](#)

Questions? Contact Larry Eckel at lspeckel@comcast.net

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 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/> **Note:** Cash donations of \$1.00 or less are counted as donations to the current Covenant Outreach. Cash of \$5.00 or more should be put in pew envelopes with a designation of Pledge/Contribution, Covenant Outreach, or the specific charity. Unless designated, cash over \$5.00 will go to the church budget.

The 988 Lifeline: 988 is now active across the United States. This new, shorter phone number will make it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services. (Please note, the previous 1-800-273-TALK (8255) number will continue to function indefinitely.) Click below to learn more about 988.

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

GIVING

We seek to love and to share our joy.

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, January 29	10:00 AM	Adult Ed (In-Person Only)
Sunday, January 29	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)
Tuesday, January 31	1:00 PM	Staff Meeting
Thursday, February 2 nd	9 AM -12	In-Person Office Hours
Thursday, February 2 nd	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group

Today's Scripture

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on the mountainside, and after he sat down and the disciples had gathered around, Jesus began to teach them:

“Blessed are those who are poor in spirit:
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Blessed are those who are mourning:
they will be consoled.

Blessed are those who are gentle:
they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice:
they will have their fill.

Blessed are those who show mercy to others:
they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are those whose hearts are clean:
they will see God.

Blessed are those who work for peace:
they will be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted
because of their struggle for justice:
the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

“You are fortunate when others insult you and persecute you, and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice, for your reward in heaven is great; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way.”

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

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible. Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



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