

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 is caring for her family's medical needs February 17-24th and during this time you can reach Rev. Worth Hartman at worthgrover@sbcglobal.net or 317-417-0806

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)

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Judy Fletcher, Steve Coomer, and Bob Cook

Clerk: Alice Rutherford Treasurer: Jim Lootens

Financial Secretary: Sue Chapman Building Manager: Wendy Baldwin

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Singers

Scott Semester, Worship Song Leader

Nancy Dickinson, Liturgist

Rev. Elizabeth Price, Guest Preacher

Pastor Carol Sowle, Worship Leader

February 19, 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 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light Thomerson, arr. Baker

INTROIT Seraphic Hymn A. Howard

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Carol Sowle

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from enfleshed)
We gather in the presence of an Extravagant God—
who spreads out the lushness of the cosmos,
and blessed our becoming.

Nancy Dickinson

We gather today changed by moments of Awe—
the wonder we witness calls us to the work of mutuality,
for we are siblings on our beautiful, heartbroken planet home.

Let us praise the God of Transformation—
They are creative in Their Way-Making Love!

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 182 We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding New Century Hymnal

THE PEACE Noah Giddings

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

RESPONSIVE PSALM (Back of Bulletin)

Scott Semester

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE Matthew 17:1-9 Nancy Dickinson

SERMON What Happens on the Mountain, Stays on the Mountain!

Rev. Elizabeth Price

*HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 184 O Wondrous Sight, O Vision Fair New Century Hymnal

WE RESPOND

OFFERING Pastor Carol Sowle

MEDITATION Hush! Martin, arr. Baker

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God for all the love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER (adapted from enfleshed)

Wonderful Mystery, ground our bodies in the present moment, that we might experience your Love in ordinary and extraordinary ways. We desire not to be cynics, but to nurture the sense of wonder that was innate to us when we were children. Awaken our senses to the miracle of being alive. 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

*BENEDICTION Rev. Elizabeth Price

RESPONSE Peace I Leave with You, My Friends R. Repp

POSTLUDE Great Is Thy Faithfulness arr. Baker

CALLS to SERVE

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

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

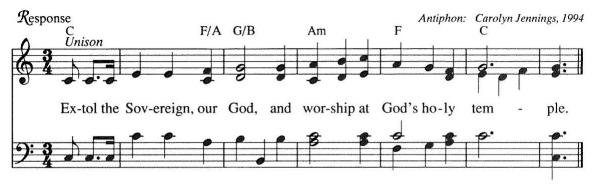
GIVING

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.

Psalm 99



 \mathcal{R}

¹God is ruler; let the peoples tremble! God sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

²God is great in Zion; God is exalted over all the peoples.

³Let them praise your great and áwesome name. Holy is God!

⁴Mighty Ruler, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵Extol the Sovereign our God; worship át God's footstool.

Holy is God! R.

⁶Moses and Aaron were among God's priests,

Samuel also was among those who called on God's name.

They cried to God, and God answered them.

⁷God spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept God's decrees, and the statutes that God gave them.

⁸O Sovereign our God, you ánswered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger óf their wrongdoings.

⁹Extol the Sovereign our God, and worship at God's holy mountain; for the Sovereign our God is holy.
R

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Sunday, February 19	10:00 AM	Adult Ed (In-Person Only)
Sunday, February 19	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person,
		YouTube, FB)
Sunday, February 19	After Worship	Special Coffee Hour
Tuesday, February 21	1:00 PM	Staff Meeting
Tuesday, February 21	Cancelled	Circle Book Club Moved to March
		21
Tuesday, February 21	4:30 PM	WISE Team Meeting
Thursday, February 23	11:45 AM	Women's Lunch Bunch
Thursday, February 23	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, February 23	9 AM -12	In-Person Office Hours
Thursday, February 23	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up on a high mountain to be alone with them. And before their eyes, Jesus was transfigured—his face becoming as dazzling as the sun and his clothes as radiant as light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said, "Rabbi, how good that we are here! With your permission I will erect three shelters here—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah!" Peter was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. Out of the cloud came a voice which said, "This is my Own, my Beloved, on whom my favor rests. Listen to him!" When they heard this, the disciples fell forward on the ground, overcome with fear. Jesus came toward them and touched them, saying, "Get up! Don't be afraid." When they looked up, they did not see anyone but Jesus. As they were coming down the mountainside, Jesus commanded them, "Don't tell anyone about this until the Chosen One has risen from the dead "

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

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



