



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)

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

Liturgist, Katie Booth

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

February 5, 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 Am the Light of the World

Strathdee, arr. Baker

INTROIT

Seraphic Hymn

A. Howard

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from enfleshed)

Katie Booth

We breathe out

and the earth breathes in.

We reach out for help

and a friend picks up our call.

We feel low when the months are long

and the winter sun warms our faces.

We grapple for purpose

and mutual care grounds us in the everyday holy.

God, you are a Web of Love.

You are the Swirl of Seasons Changing.

You are Inhale and Exhale.

And we all belong in your Cosmic Care.

*HYMN OF PRAISE No. 28 For the Beauty of the Earth *New Century Hymnal*

THE PEACE

Noah Giddings

One: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5:13-20

Katie Booth

RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

SERMON

Restoring Beauty

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*HYMN OF RESPONSE No. 584 I Am the Light of the World

*New Century
Hymnal*

WE RESPOND

OFFERING

MEDITATION

Come to Tend God's Garden

R. W. Williams

*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)

God of Mutuality, we long to be in right relationship. We yearn to honor the interdependence of the world around us. We long to thrive together and for Compassionate Relationship to exist all around us. Join our dream, Living God. Loosen our hearts for the determined work of Love. 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION As We Gather at Your Table Mayflower Singers

COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF SENDING FORTH No. 199 Go, Make a Diff'ence *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

WE GO

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

RESPONSE

Peace I Leave with You, My Friends

R. Repp

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

J. Fawcett

CALLS to SERVE

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

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, February 5	10:00 AM	Adult Ed (In-Person Only)
Sunday, February 5	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)
Sunday, February 5	12:15 PM	Playdate
Sunday, February 5	12:15 PM	Outreach and Service Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 7	1:00 PM	Staff Meeting
Thursday, February 9	9 AM -12	In-Person Office Hours
Thursday, February 9	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group

Today's Scripture

Matthew 5:13-20

“You are the salt of the earth. But what if salt were to lose its flavor? How could you restore it? It would be fit for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. “You are the light of the world. You don’t build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you? You don’t light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket, do you? No, you set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your Abba God in heaven. “Don’t think I’ve come to abolish the Law and the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. The truth is, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter of the Law, not even the smallest part of a letter, will be done away with until it is all fulfilled. That’s why whoever breaks the least significant of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. “I tell you, unless your sense of justice surpasses that of the religious scholars and the Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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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