



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*No matter who you are, or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

www.fcindy.org
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Indianapolis, IN 46240

@FirstCongregationalUCCLIndy

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

Alice Rutherford

Gini Coomer

Pastor Carol Sowle

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

7:00 P.M.

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

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

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

STILLNESS

OPENING PRAYER OUT OF THE STILLNESS

MUSICAL MEDITATION

OPENING

Pastor Carol Sowle

SCRIPTURE

Amos 5: 21-24

RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 51:1-17

The congregation speaks antiphonally - right side, then left side

(R) O God, have mercy on me!

Because of your love and your compassion,
wipe away my faults;

(L) wash me clean of my guilt;
purify me of my sin!

(R) For I am aware of my faults,
and have my sin constantly in mind.

(L) I sinned against you alone,
and did what is evil in your sight.

(R) You are just when you pass sentence on me,
Blameless when you give judgment.

(L) I was born in guilt, in sin,
conceived in sin—

(R) yet you want truth to live in my innermost being.
Teach me your wisdom!

(L) Purify me with hyssop until I am clean;
wash me until I am purer than new-fallen snow.

(R) Instill some joy and gladness into me;
let the bones you have crushed rejoice again.

(L) Turn your face from my sins,
and wipe out all my guilt.

(R) O God, create a clean heart in me,
put into me a new and steadfast spirit;

(L) do not banish me from your presence,
do not deprive me of your holy spirit!

(R) Be my savior again, renew my joy,
keep my spirit steady and willing.

(L) and I will teach transgressors your ways,
and sinners will return to you.

(R) Save me from bloodshed, O God, of my salvation—

and my tongue will proclaim your justice.
(L) Open my lips, YHWH,
and my mouth will declare your praise.

**All: Sacrifice gives you no pleasure;
were I to present a burnt offering,
you would not have it.
My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
you will not scorn this crushed and broken heart.**

RESPONSE Mayflower Singers

SERMON Pastor Carol Sowle

RESPONSE Mayflower Singers

INVITATION TO RECEIVE ASHES Pastor Carol Sowle

IMPOSITION OF ASHES Mayflower Singers

CLOSING PRAYER Scott Semester, Gini Coomer, and Alice Rutherford

*CLOSING HYMN #263 Open Our Eyes (See Back of Bulletin)

*BENEDICTION Pastor Carol Sowle

RESPONSE Mayflower Singers

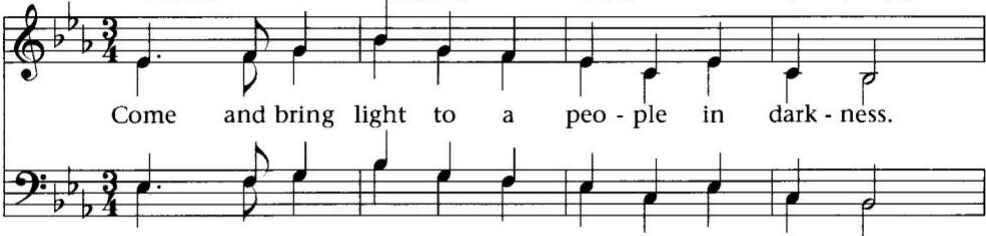
MUSIC FOR SENDING FORTH

SERVICE

263

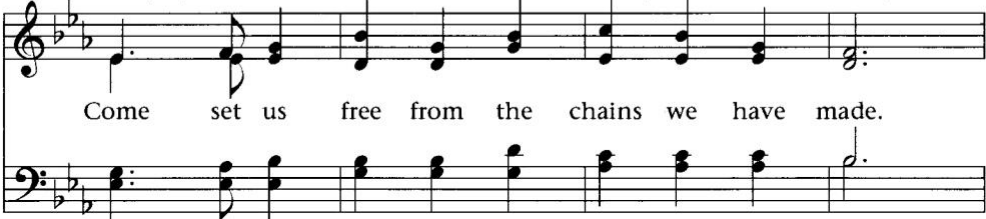
Open Our Eyes

Capo 1 *Refrain*
 Eb2(D2) Gm(F#m) Ab(G) Fm7(Em7) Bb(A)



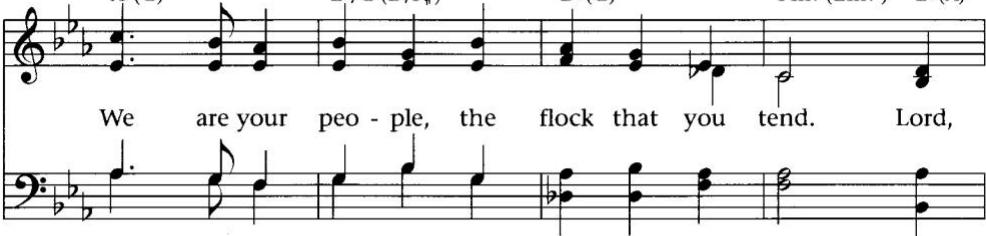
Come and bring light to a peo - ple in dark - ness.

Eb2(D2) Gm(F#m) Ab(G) Bb(A)



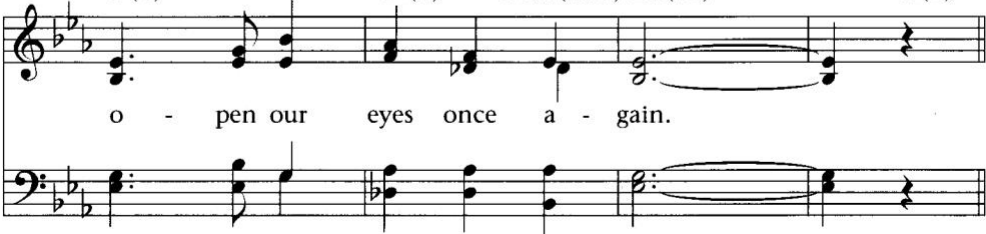
Come set us free from the chains we have made.

Ab(G) Eb/G (D/F#) Db(C) Fm7(Em7) Bb(A)



We are your peo - ple, the flock that you tend. Lord,

To stanzas; final time to Coda
 Eb(D) Db(C) Bbm7(Am7) Eb2(D2) Eb(D)



o - pen our eyes once a - gain.

Gm/D(F#m/C#) Cm(Bm) Gm/Bb(F#m/A) Ab(G) Gm(F#m)

1 To the ones bro - ken - heart - ed:
 2 To the vic - tims of vio - lence:
 3 When a col - or di - vides us: O - pen our eyes.
 4 To those full of life's sor - row:
 5 To those suf - fer - ing ill - ness:

Fm(Em) Gm(F#m) Ab(G) Bb(A)

To the plight of the poor:
 To the ones who seek jus - tice:
 When the dark - ness sur - rounds us: O - pen our eyes.
 To the needs of the low - ly:
 To those trapped by ad - dic - tion:

Ab(G) Eb/G(D/F#) Gb2(F2) Cbmaj9(Bbmaj9)

To the in - no - cent chil - dren:
 To those sit - ting in pris - on:
 When we choose to look else - where: O - pen our eyes.
 To the ones who seek peace: —
 To those lost or for - got - ten:

Db(C) Abm/Cb (Gm/Bb) Ab/Bb (G/A) Bb(A) *Refrain*

Teach us com - pas - sion and love.

Coda Abmaj7(Gmaj7) Db(C) Bbm7(Am7) Eb2(D2) Eb(D)

O - pen our eyes once a - gain.