



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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



FirstCongregationalUCCIndy



FCINDY DOT ORG

www.fcindy.org
317.257.5397

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46240

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome to your Spiritual Home!

We celebrate being a Just Peace making, Green for care of Creation, and WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) for mental health church, with an Open and Affirming covenant supporting the LGBTQAAL+ community.

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.

We welcome all who worship with us today and include **all ages** in our hybrid worship service. We invite guests and members to fill out a Welcome/Prayer card found in the pew holder, and put it in the offering plate. Children are invited to play quietly in the “playground” at the front of the church, or use a “Quiet Bag” found in the Narthex.

***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 please speak with our minister.

Pastoral Care: Sabbatical Pastors, the Rev. Diane and the Rev. Jerry Zehr will be available for Pastoral care July–October. You can reach them in the following ways:

Diane: dianezehr@gmail.com • 317-414-1047

Jerry: Jerryzehr1@gmail.com • 317-551-8455

In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (admin) is in office 9-12 on Thursday, meeting with the Zehrs by appointment.

Out of concern for community health, we request that you remain up to date with your vaccinations. Mask as needed. Please stay home if you feel unwell.

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Rev. Diane Zehr (she/her), Preacher
Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director
Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader
Mayflower Singers
Mike Kessler, Percussion
Jacob Smith, String Bass
Handbell Choir
Gini Coomer, Piano Soloist
Aurelia Glennan-March, Viola Soloist
Ben James (he/him), Media Technician
Steve Coomer, Liturgist

The rainbow candle on the altar is a symbol of the spiritual bond of love during this sabbatical season. We hold Pastor Sarah, her family, our staff, sabbatical pastors, lay leaders, and congregation in prayer that we might all be filled with the light of spiritual joy. Amen.

July 30, 2023

11:00 AM

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

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Last Uns Erfreuen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE #35

No Matter

Sing! Prayer and Praise

SPECIAL MUSIC

Meditation
The Infant Paganini

C.S. Morrison
Mollenhauer

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE	Psalm 96:11-12	Steve Coomer
MESSAGE	Celebrate Creation	Rev. Jerry Zehr
*SONG OF REFLECTION #31	All Things Bright and Beautiful	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>

WE RESPOND

SPECIAL MUSIC	O Lord of Light Who Made the Stars <i>(Sarum Plainsong)</i>	Powell
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PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC	Precious Lord, Take My Hand	T. Dorsey
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OFFERING

INTERLUDE	Come Sunday	D. Ellington
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*DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

*SONG OF SENDING #209 A Song Must Rise *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

*BENEDICTION
Blessing

POSTLUDE For the Beauty of the Earth arr. Baker
Music for Sending Forth

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

Sunday Mornings at 10:00 AM – Several options are available on Sundays before worship. Join our Adult Ed group for thoughtful study and discussion (upstairs at church). Or go to choir practice to rehearse for that morning's singing; all skill levels welcome!

Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom) – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being.



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our WISE Covenant. Our current outreach recipients are: UCC Mental Health Network, The Julian Center, and the Trevor Project. Gifts of single dollars, or those designed to Covenant Outreach, are divided evenly to these groups, unless otherwise specified. Also, your pledge or undesignated gifts are greatly appreciated to support the mission and ministries funded by First Congregational's operating budget. You can place gifts in the offering plate, mail a check to the church, or give online at www.fcindy.org

Mental Health Support:

The 988 Lifeline: 988 is now active across the United States. (call or text) **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI.ORG):** information and referral services: 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) **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

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Tuesday, August 1	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Thursday, August 3	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)
Friday, August 4	10:00 AM	WISE Team Meeting
Sunday, August 6	10:00 AM	Adult Education
Sunday, August 6	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)

Today's Scripture

Psalm 96:11-12

Let the heavens be glad; let the earth rejoice;
Let the sea roar and all that it holds!

Let the fields exult and all that is in them!
Let all the trees of the forest sing for joy

ONE: A Word of God that is still speaking.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

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



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