



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 “pryground” 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: You may reach out to Pastor Sarah for Pastoral Care. She may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (admin) is in office 9-12 on Thursday, meeting with Pastor Sarah 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. Dr. Sarah Lund (she/her), Preacher

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Mayflower Singers

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

William Kelso, Liturgist

October 29, 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

FANFARE

Glory, Glory, Glory!

P. Sosa

PRELUDE

Pass It On

K. Kaiser

INTROIT

The Wonders of God's Love

Mayflower Singers

Entering Into the Sacred

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE #39

Enter My Heart

Sing! Prayer and Praise

*SHARING THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:36-40

William Kelso

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers



This is what the Spir-it is say-ing to the church-es: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE Joy to the World: Wonders of God's Love

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF REFLECTION

Pass It On

(see insert)

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Hallowed Hour of Prayer

Mayflower Singers

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

I Will Choose Christ

T. Booth

*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 #454 Lord, I Want To Be a Christian *New Century Hymnal*

*BENEDICTION
Blessing

BLESSING SONG There Is Room For All Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE Carry the Light D. Moylan
Music for Sending Forth

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

Constitution & Bylaws Revision: For the past several months, a small team has been working on a full revision of First Congregational's Constitution and Bylaws. We are now ready to review with the congregation, get your feedback, and address any questions or concerns. A draft document will be available in the Narthex, or can be accessed at the following links. Please plan to attend one or all of the following events where we will review the proposed document:

Sunday, 10/29, noon - Pitchin lunch

Wednesday, 11/1, 7 pm - Discussion on Zoom

If you have comments about the proposed document that you are not able to share at the above events, please contact Wendy Baldwin, Steve Coomer, or Steve Leatherman.

Cards to Our Church Family – Please sign the cards on our “card stand”, for those celebrating birthdays, or in need of prayers.

Food Donations to Northside Pantry – Help those with hunger insecurity by bringing donations of canned or boxed food, and place in the baskets in the Narthex.

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. Contact Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@fcindy.org, or 386-478-9012.



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! Our current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Just Peace Covenant, and the recipients are Exodus Refugee, Peace Learning Center, Family Promise, and Faith in Indiana. 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, October 31	11:30 AM	WISE team meeting
Tuesday, October 31	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Wednesday, November 1	7:00 PM	Constitution and Bylaws Discussion (Zoom)
Thursday, November 2	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, November 2	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group
Saturday, November 4	9-12	MHCNS Indoor Work Day
Sunday, November 5	10:00 AM	Adult Education
Sunday, November 5	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)
Sunday, November 5	12:15- 12:45 PM	Family Room Playdate

Today's Scriptures

Matthew 22:36-40

“Teacher, which commandment of the Law is the greatest?”

Jesus answered:

“ ‘You must love the Most High God

with all your heart,

with all your soul and

with all your mind.’

“That is the greatest and first commandment.

The second is like it:

‘You must love your neighbor as yourself.’

On these two commandments the whole Law is based—and the Prophets as well.”

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



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