



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

Donna Wenzel, Liturgist

November 12, 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

Sheep May Safely Graze

J. S. Bach

INTROIT

Come Sweet Justice

Mayflower Singers

Entering Into the Sacred

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF INVOCATION #588 Let Justice Flow Like Streams *New Century Hymnal*

*SHARING THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER


SCRIPTURE

Amos 5:18-24

Donna Wenzel

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers



The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!

A musical staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff: "The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God!"

MESSAGE

Seeking God's Justice

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF REFLECTION

Let There Be Peace On Earth

(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

Mayflower Singers

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

Ave Verum Corpus

W. A. Mozart

*DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

**We give to you what is your own,
Whatever here those gifts may be.
All that we have is yours alone.
We give it back most gratefully.**

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

*SONG OF SENDING #170 We Share a Hunger *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

*BENEDICTION

Blessing

BLESSING SONG

The Peace of the Earth

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

Let There Be Peace on Earth

arr. Baker

Music for Sending Forth

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

Youth Group, Friday November 17th! Join the FC Indy Youth Group meeting each Friday from 6:30-8:30PM. We will have pizza and games and be a safe space for middle school and high school students.

TODAY: Annual 1857 Society Foundation Dinner and Buzz, November 12, 2023; 12:45 PM to 2:00 PM in the Mayflower Room; Lunch will be provided (catered). We will cover the value to First Congregational of members providing a legacy gift to First Congregational Church; the ease in setting it up and we will have a speaker covering a financial topic of interest to many. RSVP to Randy Walker 317-796-2081; voice or text

Pastor Sarah PCRC Meeting Open to all Members: November 19, 2023; 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM; The Pastor Sarah PCRC team will meet in the Library and will utilize the FCC Zoom account to open the meeting to members of the church. (Church Zoom)

During the month of November, Adult Ed will turn its attention to the wisdom of Indigenous peoples and their deep relationships with all of creation. We will explore the Land Back movement that is gaining momentum from Indigenous peoples around the world, with support from non Indigenous people as well. This is a tough topic to explore, but a necessary one. It is not just about restoring justice. At its core, it is about restoring creation - and perhaps saving the very planet we all depend on. Come with open hearts and minds to consider this important topic together.

Nov 19 - YouTube video "How US corporations poisoned this Indigenous Community"

Nov 25 - YouTube video "How the Land Back movement might help save the Planet"

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. *****This group will meet for the last time on November 30th**



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! Our current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Open and Affirming Covenant. **We have been an Open and Affirming Church since 1994.** Our current outreach recipients: Indiana Youth Group, Damien Center, and Trinity Haven



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:

Monday, November 13	10:00 AM	Library Team Meeting
Tuesday, November 14	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday, November 14	3:30 PM	Worship and Faith Meeting
Wednesday, November 15	7:00 PM	Church Council
Thursday, November 16	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, November 16	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group
Friday, November 17	6:30-8:30 PM	Youth Group in the Mayflower Room
Sunday, November 19	10:00 AM	Adult Education
Sunday, November 19	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)
Sunday, November 19	1:00 PM	Pastor Sarah's PCRC

Today's Scripture

Amos 5:18-24

You who wish for the Day of YHWH to come—why do you want it? What will the Day of YHWH mean to you? It will be a day of darkness, not light!

It will be like running from a lion only to meet a bear, or like getting home safe at last, only to get bitten by a snake hiding in the corner!.

Rest assured: the Day of YHWH will be darkness, not light. It will all be gloom, without a single ray of light.

I despise and reject your feasts!

I am not appeased by your solemn assemblies!.

When you offer me burnt offerings,

I reject your oblations, and refuse to look at your sacrifices of fattened cattle!

Spare me the racket of your chanting!

Relieve me of the strumming of your harps!

Instead, let justice flow like a river,

and righteousness flow like an unfailing stream.

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



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