



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 (church admin) and Pastor Sarah are in office Thursdays from 9am-12.

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.

Masks can be found in the narthex.

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Rev. Sarah Lund (she/her), Preacher

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Mayflower Singers

Jacob Smith, String Bass

Mike Kessler, Percussion

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Rev. Lance Mullins, Liturgist

February 4, 2024

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 To God Be the Glory (*My Tribute*) Crosby, Crouch

INTROIT Glory! Glory! Glory! Mayflower Singers
Entering Into the Sacred

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE #6 Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good *New Century Hymnal*

*SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

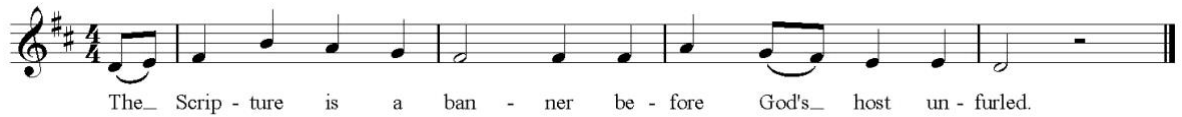
People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTUE Isaiah 40:28-31 and Mark 1:29-35 Rev. Lance Mullins

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers



The Scrip - ture is a ban - ner be - fore God's host un - furled.

MESSAGE Where Does Your Strength Come From? Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

WE RESPOND

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG #332 As We Gather at Your Table *New Century Hymnal*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION I Come to the Garden Alone

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 Sweet Hour of Prayer! What a Friend We Have in Jesus

*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

*BENEDICTION

Blessing

BLESSING SONG

Glory! Glory! Glory!

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

By Gracious Powers

D. Bonhoeffer, H. Hobbs

Music for Sending Forth

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

Mardi Gras and "Souper" Bowl Pitch-In and Fun: Sunday, 2/11, following worship! Let's have some food, fellowship, and fun before the Lenten season begins! Bring a dish and participate in various activities for all ages. Also, please bring cans of soup for donating to the Northside Pantry. If you have some Mardi Gras beads around the house, bring them in. Hope you can come!

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

Ash Wednesday: Join us on Feb. 14 for an Ash Wednesday soup dinner at 6pm followed by worship service at 7pm with guests from St. Peter's UCC in Carmel.

Clearing Out "Stuff" Our church building contains lots of "stuff" that has collected over the years. We want to clear out that which is no longer needed, and can use your help. We will have work sessions on Saturday, 2/10, and 2/17, from 9:30-noon. If you would like to help, but Saturdays are not good for you, please contact Wendy Baldwin about your interest. Also, we are hoping to sell some of our unwanted treasures - please let Wendy know if you have experience with online selling, or other ways to find homes for some of our discoveries.

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 is on Pause: Please contact Pastor Sarah for support and prayer.

Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! Our current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Just Peace Covenant that includes support for the following organizations: Exodus Refugee Immigration, the Peace Learning Center, and Family Promise.



Gifts of single dollars, or those designated to Covenant Outreach, are divided equally 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 in 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, February 6	All Day	Pastor Sarah Day of Prayer
Tuesday, February 6	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Wednesday, February 7	7:00 PM	Trustees
Thursday, February 8	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Friday, February 9	6:30 PM	NAMI Support Group
Friday, February 9	6:30 PM	Youth Group
Saturday, February 10	9:30 AM	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, February 11	10:00 AM	Adult Education
Sunday, February 11	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)
Sunday, February 11	After Worship	Mardi Gras (and Super Bowl) Pitch-in & Fun

Today's Scripture

Isaiah 40:28-31

Do you not know? Have you not heard?
YHWH is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
This God does not faint or grow weary;
with a depth of understanding that is unsearchable.
God give strength to the weary,
and empowers the powerless.
Young women may grow tired and weary,
young men may stumble and fall,
but those who wait[†] for YHWH
find a renewed power:
they soar on eagles' wings,
they run and don't get weary,
they walk and never tire.

Mark 1:29-35

Upon leaving the synagogue, Jesus entered Simon's and Andrew's house with James and John. Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told Jesus about her. Jesus went over to her, took her by the hand and helped her up, and the fever left her. Then she went about her work. After sunset, as evening drew on, they brought to Jesus all who were ill and possessed by demons. Everyone in the town crowded around the door. Jesus healed many who were sick with different diseases, and cast out many demons. But Jesus would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew who he was. Rising early the next morning, Jesus went off to a lonely place in the desert and prayed there.

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



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