



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

 @fc_indy  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 LGBTQAAI+ 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.

Accessibility: Please see an usher if you’d like a listening device. We also have a variety of fidgets in the prayground to support neurodiversity. Don’t hesitate to let an usher know if there’s something else you’re in need of!

Pastoral Care: You may reach out to Pastor Sarah for Pastoral Care, including home visits, hospital visits, home communion, prayer and conversation. She may be reached by text or phone at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org

In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (church admin) in office Thursdays. To meet, please contact her at cassidy@fcindy.org.

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. Dr. Sarah Lund (she/her), Preacher and Worship Leader

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director, Video Designer

Mayflower Singers

Gracelynn Norgaard, Flute

Reed Sprunk, Media

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Gini Coomer, Vision Moment

Carter Lund, Liturgist

May 25, 2025

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Morningstar

Gast, arr. Baker

INTROIT

Open Our Hearts

Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF INVOCATION #161

Open My Eyes

*Sing! Prayer
& Praise*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

VISION MOMENT

Gini Coomer

*How can the pastor and congregation work together
to build a vision to move forward?*

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE

Acts 16:9-15

Carter Lund

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

MESSAGE

Opening Our Hearts to Listen

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF REFLECTION #160

Listening Now

*Sing! Prayer
& Praise*

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION

Change My Heart, O God

E. Espinosa

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

My Shepherd Is the Living God

Sternhold, Watts

*DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

The Resurrection now has come.

Christ's justice work must still be done.

These gifts we bring are for that goal,

To share and care for every soul.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

*SONG OF SENDING Open My Eyes, That I May See (*back page*)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BLESSING SONG

Open Our Hearts

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

Called as Partner's In Christ's Service

arr. Baker

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

Youth Group TODAY, May 25th after worship!

Children's Faith Formation Class – After each Sunday's service, up front in the Playground, there will be a short Bible lesson for all children. Please grab a cup of coffee and visit while your children get together to learn about Jesus and the Old Testament stories that he knew.

Open Table Lunch Bunch: Join us after Worship on June 1st for the Open Table Lunch Bunch! This month, we will gather to meet in the Parlor after church where Pastor Sarah will be doing her book signing. We will then decide where to go for lunch.

PRIDE Parade 2025: Sign up to participate in this year's PRIDE Parade. Look for the rainbow sheet on the table in the vestibule. Include your name and contact info where you can receive text messages. Thanks! Bob Cook

Celebrating Pastor Sarah's new book! On Sunday June 1, 2025 after worship, gather in the Parlor for refreshments as we celebrate Pastor Sarah's new book, *Blessed Minds: Breaking the Silence About Neurodiversity*.

Pop-Up Coffee with Pastor Sarah at Lulus 2292 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN 46260: June 10, from 12:30-2:30pm.

Ways to Connect & Serve: Interested in participating with a small group at First Congregational? Check out the Connect & Serve cards in the pews, and take one with you, if you like! Looking for an activity that isn't there - contact Wendy Baldwin.

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.

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

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!



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: 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

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Acts 16:9-15

Then one night Paul had a vision. A Macedonian stood before him and said, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After this vision, we immediately made efforts to get across to Macedonia, convinced that God had called us to bring them the Good News. We put out to sea from Troas and set a course straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis; from there we went to Philippi, which is one of the bigger cities in Macedonia and a Roman colony, and spent a few days there.

On the Sabbath we went along the river outside the gates, thinking we might find a place of prayer. We sat down and preached to the women who had come to the gathering. One of them was named Lydia, a devout woman from the town of Thyatira who was in the purple-dye trade. As she listened to us, Christ opened her heart to accept what Paul was saying. After she and her household were baptized, she extended us an invitation: "If you are convinced that I am a believer in Christ, please come and stay with us." We accepted.

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



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Open My Eyes, That I May See

G D7 G

O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth you have for me;
O - pen my ears, that I may hear voi - ces of truth you send so clear;

5 B7 Em B7 Em A7 D7

place in my hands the won-der - ful key that shall un - clasp and set me free.
and while the wave - notes fall on my ear, ev - 'ry - thing false will dis - ap - pear.

9 G D7 G G7 C

Si-lent-ly now I wait for thee, re - ady, my God, your will to see. O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me,

15 D7 1.2. G 3. G Eb7 Ab Eb7

Spi - rit di - vine! _____ vine! _____ O - pen my mouth, and let me bear

21 Ab C7 Fm C7 Fm Bb7

glad - ly the warm truth ev - 're - where; o - pen my heart and let me pre - pare love with your chil - dren

26 Eb7 Ab Eb7

thus to share. Si - lent - ly now I wait for thee, re - ady, my God, your

30 Ab Ab7 Db Eb7 Ab

will to see. O - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spi - rit di - vine! _____