



# 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 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:** Our worship services are 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.

## Warning! Scam alert!

Do not give any financial information from requests via email or text solicitations. These are scams and not from the church!

**Accessibility:** Please see an usher if you'd like a listening device. We also have a variety of fidgets in the playground 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](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy.org)

**In-Person Office Hours:** Cassidy (church admin) in office Thursdays. To meet, please contact her at [cassidy@fcindy.org](mailto: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 & Worship Leader

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

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Gracelynn Norgaard (she/her), Children & Youth Faith Formation Leader

Mayflower Singers

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Carter Lund, Liturgist

**August 24, 2025**

**11:00 AM**

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

## **WE GATHER**

PRELUDE

Passion Chorale

J. S. Bach, arr. S. Baker

INTROIT

I Was Glad

Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*SONG OF PRAISE #420

We Praise You, O God

*New Century  
Hymnal*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **WE ENCOUNTER**

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13: 10-17

Carter Lund

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Norgaard

MESSAGE

Make US Compassionate Again

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

\*SONG OF REFLECTION

Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

*(see back page)*

# 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

INTERLUDE

O God of Love, O God of Peace

H. W. Baker

\*DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God for all that love has done;**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

\*SONG OF SENDING #191    Give Us Vision    *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BLESSING SONG

Pass the Love

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

Praise to Our God, the Almighty

# Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

**Youth Group!** Join us for Youth Group on August 24, from 12:30-2:30pm!

**Children's Faith Formation every Sunday in the sanctuary Playground after worship:** After each Sunday's worship service, up front in the Playground, there will be a 15 minute faith formation experience for all children led by Gracelynn.

**Worship Refreshment Hosting:** On Sundays, our custom is to provide snacks and beverages before and after worship in the Parlor. It is a time of connecting and community building. In the past, Wendy Baldwin has handled this when she is in town, but we are hoping more people will be willing to 'host'. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex, or contact Wendy. Also let her know if you would like more info and/or some 'training' on this process.

**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! The Covenant giving organizations for May through August 2025 are the UCC Open and Affirming Coalition, Damien Center, and the Indiana Youth Group. 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](http://www.fcindy.org).



DAMIEN CENTER



#### **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](http://www.theTrevorProject.org)



## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Luke 13: 10-17

One Sabbath, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues. There was a woman there who for eighteen years had a sickness caused by a spirit. She was bent double, quite incapable of standing up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are free of your infirmity." He laid his hands on her, and immediately she stood up straight and began thanking God. The head of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the congregation, "There are six days for working. Come on those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath." Jesus said in reply, "You hypocrites! Which of you doesn't let your ox or your donkey out of the stall on the Sabbath to water it? This daughter of Sarah and Abraham has been in the bondage of Satan for eighteen years. Shouldn't she have been released from her shackles on the Sabbath?" At these words, Jesus' opponents were humiliated; meanwhile, everyone else rejoiced at the marvels Jesus was accomplishing.

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



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# Heal Me, Hands of Jesus

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1. Heal me, hands of Je - sus, and search out all my pain; re -
2. Cleanse me, blood of Je - sus, take bit - ter - ness a - way; let
3. Know me, mind of Je - sus, and show me all my sin; dis -
4. Fill me, joy of Je - sus; anx - i - e - ty shall cease, and



1-3 4



store my hope, re - move my fear, and bring me peace a - gain.  
 me for - give as one for - given and bring me peace to - day.  
 pel the mem - o - ries of guilt and bring me peace with - in.  
 heaven's se - ren - i - ty be mine, for Je - sus brings me peace!

