



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

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 & Worship Leader
Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director, Video Designer
Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader
Mayflower Singers
Ben James (he/him), Media Technician
Carter Lund, Liturgist
Alice Rutherford, Musical Reflection

October 26, 2025

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Behold the Host All Robed in Light

INTROIT Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, you who thirst for grace.

All: Come, you who hunger for justice.

One: Come, you who are a stranger in a strange land.

All: Come, you who are like a child at home.

One: Come, for Christ welcomes us all to this time and place.

All: We have come to worship God.

One: Then let us worship well.

*SONG OF PRAISE #422 Come, O Thankful People, Come *New
Century Hymnal*

MUSICAL REFLECTION Alice Rutherford

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Norgaard

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 65

Carter Lund

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

MESSAGE

More Light and Truth

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

SONG OF REFLECTION #12

I Sing the Mighty Power of God
New Century Hymnal

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

*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.**

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

*SONG OF SENDING #423 For the Fruit of All Creation *New
Century Hymnal*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BLESSING SONG

Because He Lives

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

Glory, Glory Hallelujah

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

TODAY, Youth Group, 12:30 PM!

Next Sunday! Safe Church- What is It? You may or may not have heard of the Safe Church Response Committee (SCRC). If you've heard the name, you may have thought- What is it? What do they do? What do they have to do with me? All good questions! We can answer them at the **Safe Church Pitch-In on November 2, 2025 after worship in the Mayflower Room** on the lower floor. We will explain what the committee does, how it came into being and why it is important to our church. We will also answer any questions you might have and discuss when you might think about referring to the SCRC. We will deal with the topic as expeditiously as possible so you can have the majority of your afternoon free. Please come! **The Safe Church Response Committee- Angela Hodges and Sandy Wood**



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 – Join our Adult Ed group for thoughtful study and discussion or go to choir practice to rehearse for that morning's singing, all skill levels welcome!

Tuesday, October 28, 12:30 PM: FCC Foundation Meeting, Parlor

Thursday, October 30, 7:00 PM: Garden Book Study, Parlor



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts!
The Covenant giving organizations for September to December 2025 are the UCC Mental Health Network, GenderNexus, and Indy Action Coalition. 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**](http://www.theTrevorProject.org)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Psalm 65

O God, to you we owe hymns of praise in Zion;
to you our vows must be fulfilled,
you who hear our prayers
and before whom all flesh must stand.
When we are overcome by our sins,
you provide the atonement for them.
Happy are those you choose, those you draw near
to dwell in your courts!
We are filled with the blessings of your house,
the holy things of your Temple!
With powerful deeds of justice
you answer us, God our Deliverer,
in whom all the ends of the earth
and the farthest seas put their trust.
You set the mountains in place by your power,
having armed yourself with might.
You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of the waves, and the tumult of the
peoples.
And those who dwell at the ends of the earth
stand in awe of your marvels;
you make the sunrise and sunset shout for joy!
You nourish and water the land—
greatly you have enriched it. The streams of God are full of water;
you provide us with grain as you ordained.
Thus have you prepared the land:
drenching its furrows,
breaking up its clods, softening it with showers,
blessing its yield.
You have crowned the year with your bounty
and your paths overflow with a rich harvest;
the untilled meadows overflow with abundance,
and rejoicing clothes the hills.
The fields are covered with flocks
and the valleys are blanketed with grain.
They shout and sing for joy!

(Call to worship: Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission)

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



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