



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:** 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 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), Worship Leader and Preacher

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

Gracelynn Norgaard (she/her), Family Faith Ministry Leader

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Hugh Weatherly, Just Peace Intern

Mayflower Singers

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Liturgist

February 8, 2026

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Morningstar

M. S. Gast

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Let It Shine

Mayflower Singers

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather in the presence of God to encounter Love that sets free.

All: We do not come seeking crumbs of justice but a way of life that liberates.

One: Together, we practice courage in resisting evil and rejecting the temptations of complicity and complacency.

All: The Spirit leads us in power and truth.

One: Our faith is placed in Love Eternal that lifts broken spirits and brings new life from places of ruin.

All: With hope that is neither narrow nor fragile, we come to follow Christ.

*SONG OF PRAISE #584 I Am the Light of the World *New Century Hymnal*

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Norgaard

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE READING	Matthew 5:13-20	Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey
SCRIPTURE RESPONSE		Mayflower Singers
MESSAGE	Let God's Light Shine	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
*SONG OF REFLECTION #196	Let It Shine	<i>Sing! Prayer and Praise</i>

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS		
MEDITATION	The Garden of Prayer	E. Broughton
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	You are Salt for the Earth, O People	M. Haugen
-----------	--------------------------------------	-----------

*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 Shine, Jesus Shine (see back page)

BENEDICTION

BLESSING SONG Carry the Light Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!



ASH WEDNESDAY! Join us in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, February 18th as we begin our Lenten journey with the theme “Paths to Belonging.” We will come together for a simple worship service with prayer, music, and ashes will be available. Pastor Sarah and Pastor Richard from The Garden leading the service together.

New Wifi: We recently upgraded our Wifi throughout the church building and there are now new networks. To access Wifi, please use FCGuest and the password is Godisgr8. Questions/comments? Contact Wendy Baldwin.

Seeking Gifts for the Acts of Kindness Fund: This is a special fund for our church members facing temporary financial setbacks. Can you make a special gift to it that will help individuals in our church family? Questions - ask Wendy Baldwin.

Worship Refreshment Hosting: On Sundays, our custom is to provide snacks and beverages before and after worship in the Parlor. 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!



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

Matthew 5:13-20

“You are the salt of the earth. But what if salt were to lose its flavor? How could you restore it? It would be fit for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. “You are the light of the world. You don’t build a city on a hill, then try to hide it, do you? You don’t light a lamp, then put it under a bushel basket, do you? No, you set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your Abba God in heaven. “Don’t think I’ve come to abolish the Law and the Prophets. I have come not to abolish them, but to fulfill them. The truth is, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter of the Law, not even the smallest part of a letter, will be done away with until it is all fulfilled. That’s why whoever breaks the least significant of these commands and teaches others to do the same will be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever fulfills and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. “I tell you, unless your sense of justice surpasses that of the religious scholars and the Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

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


(Call to Worship from enfleshed)

  @fc_indy  FirstCongregationalUCCIndy  FCINDY DOT ORG

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Graham Kendrick

A D/A A E/A A D/A A E/A



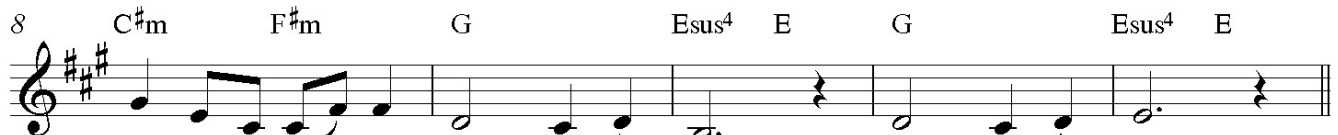
Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the dark - ness shin - ing.
As we gaze on your ra - diant bright-ness, so our fa - ces dis - play your like - ness,

5 D E/D C#m F#m D E/D




Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us; set us free by the
e - ver chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry; mir - rored here may our

8 C#m F#m G Esus⁴ E G Esus⁴ E



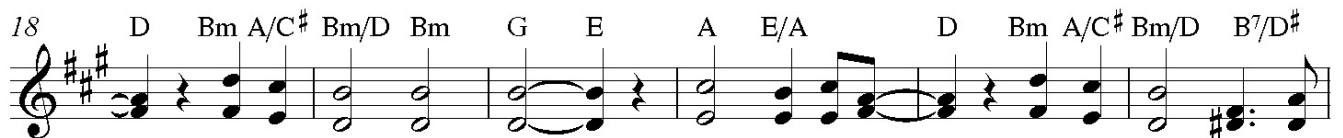
truth you now bring us. Shine on us, shine on us.
lives tell your sto - ry. Shine on us, shine on us.

13 A E/A D Bm A/C# Bm/D B⁷/D# Esus⁴ E Esus⁴ E A E/A



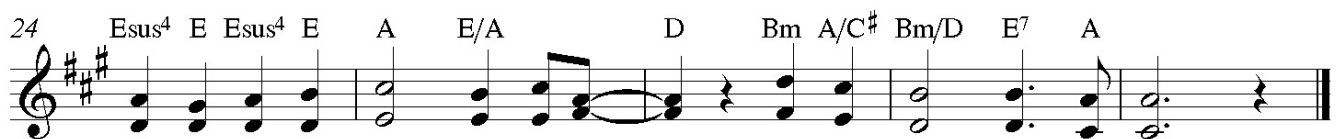
Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill the land with our God's great glo - ry. Blaze, Spi - rit, blaze;

18 D Bm A/C# Bm/D Bm G E A E/A D Bm A/C# Bm/D B⁷/D#



set our hearts on fire. Flow, ri - ver, flow; flood the na - tions with

24 Esus⁴ E Esus⁴ E A E/A D Bm A/C# Bm/D E⁷ A



grace and mer - cy. Send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light.