



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

Maddie Baldwin, Liturgist

February 15, 2026

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Be Now My Vision

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Enter Rejoice and Come In

Mayflower Singers

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the way is difficult and dangerous,

All: let us still choose what is good and just.

One: When challenges come to break us down and break us apart,

All: let us still choose to carry on with each other.

One: When the world strikes fear in our hearts,

All: let us still choose the courage to persist.

One: For we know that the love and power of God, which abides in us,
will not be overcome.

*SONG OF PRAISE#10 The Presence of Our God Is Here *Sing!*
Prayer and Praise

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Norgaard

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

*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#192 Carry the Light *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

BENEDICTION

BLESSING SONG The Peace of the Earth Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE When the Morning Stars Together

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.

Tuesday, February 24, 12:30-2:30 PM – Pop-up Coffee with Pastor Sarah at LuLu's Coffeehouse

From your Library Team: Please consider reading *Embracing God's Future without Forgetting the Past* by Michael Girlinghouse. What has worked in the past does not necessarily work today. We grieve for the past while recognizing the importance of moving forward. *Soul Feast an Invitation to the Christian Spiritual Life* by Marjorie is now in its third edition. How does information shoveling in methodology work? How do open-ended questions produce different plans of action? These and the other books previously reviewed are available in the Adult Library.

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 17:1-9

Six days later, Jesus took Peter, James and John up on a high mountain to be alone with them. And before their eyes, Jesus was transfigured—his face becoming as dazzling as the sun and his clothes as radiant as light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said, “Rabbi, how good that we are here! With your permission I will erect three shelters here—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah!” Peter was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them. Out of the cloud came a voice which said, “This is my Own, my Beloved, on whom my favor rests. Listen to him!” When they heard this, the disciples fell forward on the ground, overcome with fear. Jesus came toward them and touched them, saying, “Get up! Don’t be afraid.” When they looked up, they did not see anyone but Jesus. As they were coming down the mountainside, Jesus commanded them, “Don’t tell anyone about this until the Chosen One has risen from the dead.”

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

(Call to Worship from enfleshed)

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