

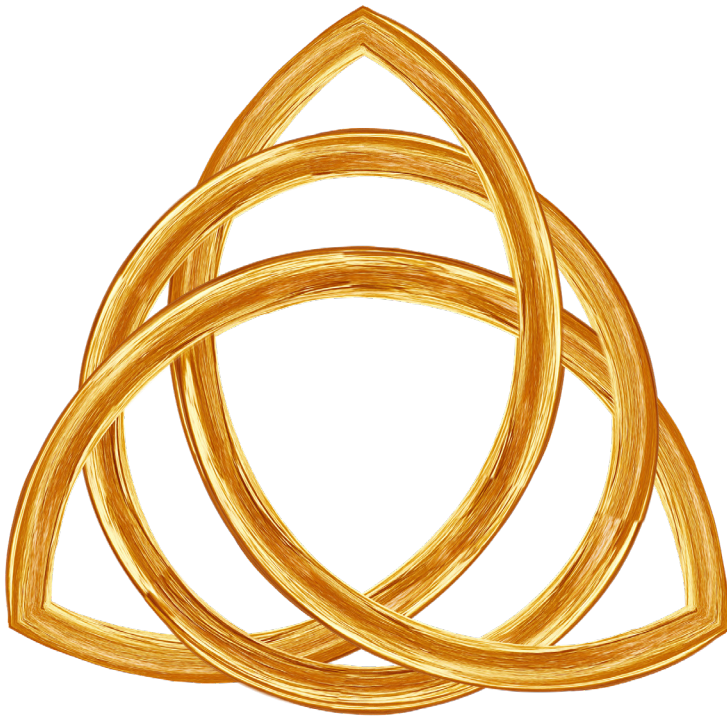
Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

OCTOBER 31, 2021
23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



*We respond to God's call
by welcoming everyone
regardless of ability, age,
ethnicity, race, gender identity,
sexual orientation or
socio-economic background.*

*To proclaim in word and deed
the love of Christ,
we affirm that all may share
in the full life, ministry, fellowship,
responsibilities and blessing
of our congregation.*

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

Order of Worship

*If you would like a personal joy or concern read aloud and you are at home,
you may text 314-858-6710, or fill out a prayer card, found in the pew box.*

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* M. Luther, arr. J. Pachelbel

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Tom Waltz

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP Katie Noland

Joyful, Joyful

arr. Russ Mohr

Joyful, joyful, we adore You,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before You,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

Refrain:

Hallelujah, You have filled our hearts
with joy, Joy unspeakable
Hallelujah, You have filled our hearts
with song, Hear us sing

All Your works with joy surround You,
Earth and heav'n reflect Your rays,
Stars and angels sing around You,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Praising You eternally!

Refrain

Always giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Loving Spirit, Father, Mother,
Let Your light upon us shine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Refrain

Mortals, join the mighty chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Boundless love is reigning o'er us,
Reconciling race and clan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

Refrain

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O love that will not let me go
I rest my weary soul in thee
I give thee back the life I owe
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be

O light that followest all my way
I yield my flickering torch to thee
My heart restores its borrowed ray
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be

O joy that seekest me through pain
I cannot close my heart to thee
I trace the rainbow through the rain
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be

O cross that liftest up my head
I dare not ask to fly from thee
I lay in dust's life's glory dead
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

The Greatest Commandment

Katie Noland
The Porter's Gate

Love the Lord your God
With all your heart and soul and mind
And love your neighbor as yourself
Love the Lord your God
With all your heart and soul and mind
And love your neighbor as yourself

Let us be known, let us be known
By the way we love
Let us be known, let us be known
By the way we love

*The children are invited to remain at the front with Pastor Dave
for "messy church."*

THE WORD SHARED

From the Gospels

Luke 10:25-37

Jenny Jones

NRSV

²⁵ On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" ²⁷ He answered, "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" ²⁸ "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'³⁶ "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" ³⁷ The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Response.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Love Is a Trinity

Halley Kim
Pastoral Assistant

CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

Katie Noland

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Halley Kim

Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PARTING HYMN

I Will Sing of Your Love, Love, Love

Christopher Grundy

I will sing of your love, love, love, of your steadfast love for as long as I live
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live
I will sing of a love so wide that it welcomes the neighbor and will not divide
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live

I will sing, "Let the children come. Do not hinder them, for you love every one
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live
I will sing of the trees so tall, of the oceans so deep and your love for them all
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live

Your love is stronger than the mountains, soaks through me like the pouring rain
It's no wonder that I'm answering your call.
Whenever someone needs a neighbor and wherever there's a child in pain,
We'll be working on a just world for all.

I will sing of your love, love, love, of your steadfast love for as long as I live
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live

BENEDICTION & SENDING OUT

Halley Kim

Covenant of 1977 (Unison)

We who are called of God into this Christian community covenant together: to seek to know the will of God, to experience the joy and struggle of discipleship, to proclaim in word and deed the love of Christ, and to work for peace and justice among all people. We trust God's promise of grace and forgiveness and the presence of the Holy Spirit in our trials and rejoicing.

POSTLUDE

Toccata in D Minor

J.S. Bach

During the Postlude children will be passing through the unoccupied rows to receive the candy adult worshipers received when they entered.

Sunday worship each week is shared in person for those who wish to attend and streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10:00am (bit.ly/FCCWG-YT).

Please wear a mask in the Sanctuary and in the halls. Masking and distancing are optional in Memorial Hall.

Thank you to this Week's Hospitality Team

Linda & Laszlo Kopetti, Faye Dyer, Marilyn Claggett, Dana Romeis, and BJ Kaul

Electronic Device Users

If you wish to access our wi-fi, our network connections are: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3. The password for each is firstchurch.

Finding Your Way at First Church

The Nursery: The Nursery is attended today. The Nursery is located through the double doors at the end of the Narthex (foyer), turn left. Nursery/Toddler Room is on your right (Dutch doors).

Restrooms: Family restrooms are located to the right of the Narthex (foyer) as you go to the Library (look for the blue library banner) and to the left of the Narthex just before the double doors.

We Hold in Our Prayers

- Our residents in assisted living and skilled care – Sharon Beal, Joyce Berger, Shirley Chase, Paul Davis, Margery Gable, Charles Griffith, Bill & Shirley Moore
- All people who are living with dementia, their families, and their caregivers
- People we love who are living with cancer – Bill Barrett, Margaret Gustafson, Peter McHugh
- Health concerns in the Hayes family, Herb Niemeyer
- Nancy Duvall Vest as she recovers from recent heart surgery
- All those the world regards as disabled – especially David & Becky Scott
- People with mental illnesses, as well as the people who love and care for them
- People who are alone or ill due to Covid-19
- Those whose employment and businesses are at risk
- First responders and their loved ones
- For our governmental leaders, and for healing for our country and all its people
- Peace with justice

The Hill Family Needs Our Help

Trina and Maggie have COVID infections, and Melissa is quarantined along with them. Please provide a meal for them during this stressful and isolating time. You do not have to cook: you can send a Door Dash gift card or have a pizza delivered for them! It helps us organize our congregational care if you SIGN UP for the day you will be covering on this website: <http://carecalendar.org> (Login ID: 301080, Passcode: 6431). Due to COVID Meals should be dropped off on the Hills' front step WITH NO CONTACT. Thank you!

“Wonder and Wander” — New webinar discussion

“Wonder and Wander” is a new webinar-style gathering for spiritual misfits and anyone interested in exploring faith beyond borders that no longer work for them. Join Dave Denoon, Halley Kim and Merrimon Boyd. New each Thursday on YouTube. Wonder and Wander is fun and enlightening conversation about reimagining faith. bit.ly/FCCWG-YT

A Word from the Stewardship Committee

Our church has faced many challenges throughout the years. But, always we have risen to meet the issues facing us. Today, as our stewardship campaign moves toward “Renewal Sunday” on November 14, we remain assured that church members will again help us to reach our campaign goal.

This is, after all, our annual challenge and last year we came through with flying colors! Stating this, we know there is strength and compassion within us that creates a unified mission in serving our Lord. We thank those who have made early pledges.

You will probably have received an invitation in the mail to make your pledge for 2022. Please, return the card included with the invitation, indicating your intention to give to the ministries of First Church. Or at our website at: <https://firstchurchwg.org/donate/> Scroll down to make your pledge.

Tom Waltz, Stewardship Committee

Meal-A-Month November Shopping List

(Please leave donations in boxes in Narthex)

Canned Canned Salmon or Tuna (in water) • Canned Spinach (no salt)
Applesauce (in plastic, no sugar added)
Powdered Milk • Shelf Stable Milk • Soy Milk
Soap • Deodorant • Toilet Paper

November Birthdays

Eric Breitenbach November 1
Braeden Hood November 2
Lynda Morrison November 2
Becky Ruder November 3
Paul Wentzien November 4
Trina Hill November 7
Andrea Welnick November 9
Carrie Herrick November 11
Bill Moore November 11
Jan Ver Hagen November 11
Nina Thompson November 12
Joseph Weyhrich November 13
Peter McHugh November 15

Lili Calder-Smith November 17
Jean Kohler November 17
Rick Herrick November 18
Carolyn Woodsmall November 18
Jennifer Monaco November 19
Ellie Paci November 19
Mark Smith November 22
Shirley Moore November 23
Chris von Weise November 25
Kristy Barton November 27
Charleston McCoy November 27
Pat Schutte November 27
Anton Didriksen November 30
Joan Musbach November 30

What's Going on at First Church

Sunday, October 31

Reformation Sunday

9:00 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship (all ages)

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

Monday, November 1

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301B - Memorial Hall

Tuesday, November 2

10:30 PM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Communications Team (Zoom)

Wednesday, November 3

9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room

2:00 PM Wonder and Wander (Live on Zoom)

6:00 PM - 9:30 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Thursday, November 4

6:15 PM Canterbury Bells - Practice

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301G - Parlor

7:30 PM Chancel Choir - Practice

Friday, November 5

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Vigil for Black Lives

Plenty Fresh Pecans Coming Soon!

This year, the profit made from the sale of our wonderful, fresh pecans will go towards our Second Annual Christmas Tree Decorating Party in the Jubilee Garden. We are once again purchasing the 1-pound bags of Mammoth Pecan Halves. They will be \$14 each and are expected to arrive in mid-November. Please email Debbie in the office and let her know how many bags you would like her to save for you. **We have plenty left for sale!**

Lady Elect — November 13

All women of the church are welcome to attend our monthly meetings. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month, except in November and December. The meetings are held in the Parlor at 7:00 pm, unless noted. **November 13, 9:00 am – pie making in the kitchen.** Please contact Laura Cooper with any questions or if interested in attending any program.

How to Donate to First Congregational Church

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex.

Send a check made out to FCCWG at:

First Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

10 W. Lockwood Ave.

Webster Groves, MO 63119

or visit <https://firstchurchwg.org/donate> to make an electronic contribution



10 West Lockwood Avenue
Webster Groves, MO 63119
314-962-0475
www.FirstChurchWG.org

Contact Information

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Director of Music & Organist – Dr. Leon Burke
Leon.Burke@FirstChurchWG.org

Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus
cti1234@FirstChurchWG.org

Custodian – Darrell Lakies

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie
cliff.aerie@gmail.com

Stillpoint Campus Ministry
Webster University – Rev. Laurel Hayes
laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net

Director, Center for Counseling & Healing
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I
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Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

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Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchwg/>

YouTube

<http://bit.ly/FCCWG-YT>

