

Welcome!

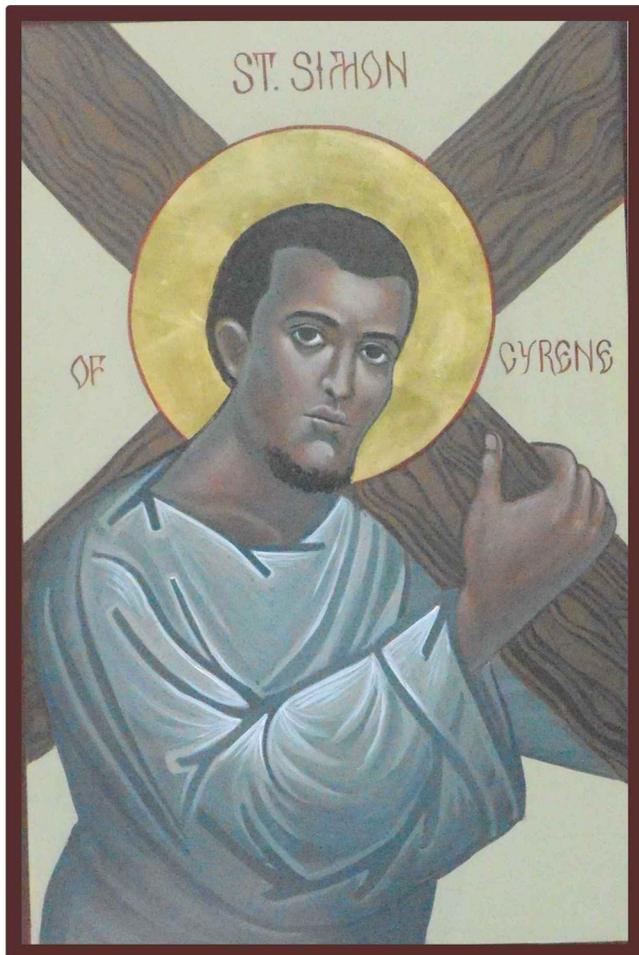
First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
FIRST SUNDAY IN BLACK HISTORY MONTH
SCIENCE & EVOLUTION SUNDAY



*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.*

Icon of Simon of Cyrene who was coerced by Roman officers to carry the cross of Christ. Christian tradition holds that Simon, a Jew from northern Africa, was the father of two First Century Church leaders - Alexander and Rufus. Source of illustration: stsimonsorder.org

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates that worshipers are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

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.

Due to the surge of infections from the Omicron variant of Covid 19, we are requiring that everyone wear a mask indoors at First Congregational Church.

PRELUDE *La Grâce* Georg P. Telemann

WELCOME Jane Porchey, *Announcer*

RINGING THE TOWER BELL

LIGHTING THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Leader; **People**) Adapted from Psalm 138

Thank you, God! Everything within us says, “Thank you.”

We worship here in this sanctuary and echo, “Thank you.”

The moment when we call out, you step in. You make our lives big with strength.

When powerful people hear what we have to say about you, all the earth will say, “Thank you!” too.

***RAISING THE COVENANT** *Covenant of 1977*

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.

***GATHERING HYMN** *In the Garden* Charles Austin Miles

RITUAL OF APPROACH Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*
Introduction (Story)

Confession Together (Unison)

Holy God, sometimes our imaginations just aren’t big enough to understand the truth about us. We want to believe that we are better than we probably are and stronger too. Sometimes we think things will be easy

for us to do. Then, when they aren't, we blame you or somebody else. One day, we know the truth and we say, "It was my fault and no one else's." On that day, we can know that you forgive us and that you'll help us to do differently next time. We know all of this is possible because of the love and care you've shown us through Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confession

Words of Assurance

SCRIPTURE ANEW

From the Prophets

From the Epistles

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

as remembered by

Rev. Merrimon Boyd

Rev. Denoon

Response.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Lift Every Voice and Sing

arr. R. Carter

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

*The Resurrection and You, Part 1:
"The Message We Have Received"*

Rev. Denoon

SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE

Expressions of Joy and Concern

**Invitation*

**Communion Prayer (Responsive – Minister; People)*

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to God.**

Let us give thanks to God most high. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Sanctus*

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God most high. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Fraction

Acclamation

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.

Consecration

Communion

Communion is served in the pews, first the bread and then the cup. The bread is gluten-free. Wine is white; grape juice is red. Each is consumed at the indication of the Pastor, unless this presents a hardship for the individual.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)*

We give thanks to you, great God. You have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Such love endures forever: When we are troubled, protect us from fear. With one hand lead us, and with the other save us. We have been fed by your Holy Spirit; finish what you've begun in us today – lives that affirm Christ's resurrection and our own hope of heaven. Amen.

*PARTING HYMN	<i>I'll Fly Away</i>	A. E. Brumley
OPPORTUNITIES ARISING		Halley Kim
FAREWELL		Jane Porchey
BENEDICTION		Rev. Denoon
POSTLUDE	<i>La Gaillardise</i>	G. P. Telemann

During the Postlude, we encourage you to greet those around you safely, or to remain at your seat to enjoy the music until it has ended. In the spirit of diversity, please be attentive to the possibility that one who is seated may be meditating.

The featured soloist in this morning's worship is Tom Bruce, trumpet.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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).

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.

Volunteer (and other) Opportunities Arising

First Saturday Collection Volunteers | Kids' Church Volunteers
Care Calendar Dinners (as needed)

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, Paul Davis, Margery Gable, 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
- Health concerns in the Hayes family
- 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
- Peace with justice

February Meal-a-Month

Canned Tuna, packed in Water • Tuna Helper • Canned Carrots (low or no salt)
Canned Fruit in own juices • Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk
Diapers • Diaper Wipes • Formula with Iron

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 10 W.

Lockwood Ave.

Webster Groves, MO 63119

visit <http://firstchurchwg.org/donate> to make an electronic contribution or scan the QR code



What's Going on at First Church This Week

Sunday, February 6

Heritage Sunday

9:00 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

Tuesday, February 8

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

6:30 PM Practicing Our Faith – Inglis Room

Wednesday, February 9

9:30 AM Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis Room

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Thursday, February 10

6:00 PM Canterbury Bells Practice

Saturday, February 12

9:00 AM - Noon First Saturday Drive-Thru Benefit - East Parking Lot



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

Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach
JWMusbach@gmail.com

Pastor – Rev. David A. Denoon
DDenoon@FirstChurchWG.org

Pastoral Assistant – Halley Kim
Halley.Kim@FirstChurchWG.org

Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi
Admin@FirstChurchWG.org

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

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

Director, Center for Counseling & Healing
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I
lesrhs@sbcglobal.net

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

Follow us on

Facebook

www.facebook.com/FirstChurchWG/

Instagram

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

YouTube

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

