

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

APRIL 10, 2022

PALM / PASSION 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.*

We pray that as we carry them in Christ's name, so we may ever acknowledge Christ in the way that leads to eternal life. All praise to you, O God, in Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

***HOSANNA**

The Children exit to Kids' Church or return to their seats, if preferred.

RITUAL OF APPROACH

Andrea Welnick

We Share Our Stories Before God

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy Mother, are you there? Do you love us? Sometimes we're unsure or disconnected. The gulf between what we profess about our faith and what we feel about our faith can seem insurmountable. At times our actions also misalign: we are fickle people who shout "Glory in the highest!" one day and "Crucify him!" the next. Sometimes we feel that you are fickle too, God, or at least frustratingly mysterious. Where are you? We want to draw near to you, and we are crying out for you to draw near to us. Hold us close, like a mother who snuggles her child in her lap. Stir in our hearts and meet us in our yearnings for relationship. Hosanna, save us! Amen.

Words of Assurance

INTERLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
(Canterbury Bells)

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

THE WORD SHARED

Andrea Welnick

From the Gospels

Luke 1:46-55

Women's Lectionary

My soul magnifies the Holy One, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God's own womb-slave. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is God's name. God's loving-kindness is for those who fear God from generation to generation. God has shown the strength of God's own arm; God has scattered the arrogant in the intent of their hearts. God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. God has helped God's own child, Israel, a memorial to God's mercy, just as God said to our mothers and fathers, to Hagar and Sarah and Abraham, to their descendants forever.

John 19:25b-27

New Revised Standard Version

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his

Joys and Concerns

*If you have a prayer you would like the Pastor to mention, but you prefer not to raise your hand or you are at home and streaming the service, please send a text to **314-858-6710**. Worshipers in person may also complete a prayer card in the pew and hand it to an usher who will give it to the Pastor.*

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

Our Mother in heaven, make your name holy. Reveal your love, and teach us your way. Make earth alike with heaven. Provide bread for today, so that we do not worry about tomorrow. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Keep us from things that would keep us from you, but deliver us from the evil one. For here is your love: where power and glory are shared, now and forever. Amen.

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

Andrea Welnick

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Denoon

POSTLUDE

Ostinato on "Germany"

Dennis Janzer

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. When you are ready, please enjoy refreshments in Memorial Hall.

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

### Finding Your Way at First Church

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

**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 – Margaret Gustafson
- Leo Gomez
- David & Becky Scott
- People with mental illnesses, as well as the people who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

## **Adult Ed Opportunity – Traveling the World – TODAY!**

**11:20 in Memorial Hall**

We are delighted to announce that Graydon “Gig” Gwin, founder of Gwin’s Travel in Kirkwood, will present his perspectives on traveling the world on April 10, starting at 11:20 in Memorial Hall. He is considered “one of the world’s most traveled experts.” He is one of a handful of world travelers who have visited every country on the globe (320 total), representing over three million miles of exploration. Gig was raised and confirmed at First Church, and many of our congregants remember him and his family fondly. He is also renowned as an experienced and engaging public speaker. Please plan to join us for a fun and informative learning experience Today!

### **There are Plenty of Easter Flower Sponsorships Available!**

During Easter we enjoy having our sanctuary beautifully decorated with a variety of beautiful spring flowers. This year will be no different. We are hoping to bring some cheer to those of us who are stuck inside. You are invited to contribute to defray this expense. A donation of \$20.00 is suggested. You may also like to designate your contribution in celebration, honor or memory. We hold many in our hearts especially during the Easter season as we celebrate the hope and joy of the season. This is a lovely way to show those feelings. To sponsor an Easter Flower, grab a form off the table in the Narthex and leave it in Debbie’s or reserve one online at: <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-easter>

### **Get in the Easter spirit on Holy Saturday!**

We will be **decorating the cross in the Jubilee Garden** from 10am-12pm — come by at your convenience to adorn it with flowers!

The **Easter Egg Hunt** for children (toddlers through 5th grade) will take place at 10:00 also. Children gather in Memorial Hall for an activity and then will be sent out to hunt in different parts of the church based on their age group. Bring your family and friends!

### **Help Desk Coming Our Way**

Confused by Facebook? Not sure how to use Care Calendars? Need help with email, Breeze, YouTube, or the church website? Starting today, we will offer a “tech help desk” at Coffee Fellowship every 2nd Sunday of the month. A volunteer will staff the station and provide one-on-one assistance with your technology needs. Bring your refreshments over to the Help Desk in Memorial Hall!

### **Coffee Cakes for Easter**

On Easter Sunday, April 17th, please bring coffee cakes to share during coffee hour.

Lady Elect requests that the cakes are pre-plated and ready-to-serve.

We hope to see you as we bring back this popular tradition!

### **Composer Emmanuel Sikora to Play at First Church on May 8 – 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary**

Take Mom to a concert on May 8th (Mother's Day) at 3pm! Composer and pianist Emmanuel Sikora will be performing in our sanctuary. The *Washington Post* describes his music as "an appealing melding of the romantic and the contemporary, unselfconscious and unpretentious."

### **How to Donate to First Congregational Church**

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex. Send a check made payable 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

### Sunday, April 10

#### Palm/Passion Sunday

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

### Monday, April 11

7:00 PM Three Ministries (Zoom)

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301B – Memorial Hall

### Tuesday, April 12

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

6:30 PM Practicing Our Faith - Inglis Room

### Wednesday, April 13

9:30 AM Yoga - Inglis Room

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

6:00 PM Canterbury Bells Practice

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Practice

### Thursday, April 14

#### Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301G – Parlor

7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service

### Friday, April 15

#### Good Friday

7:00 PM Good Friday Blues - Sanctuary

### Saturday, April 16

10:00 AM Cross Decorating in the Jubilee Garden

10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

### Sunday, April 17

#### Easter Festival

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

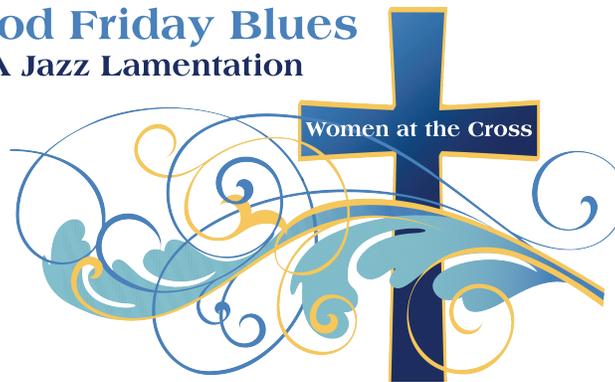
10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

## Good Friday Blues

A Jazz Lamentation



Friday, April 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM

*The Crucifixion as told by Mary Magdalene, Mary of Nazareth,  
Salome of Capernaum, and Mary of Emmaus*

### The Oikos Jazz Ensemble

Kim Fuller & Chuck Flowers – Vocalists • Cliff Aerie – Saxophone  
Carolbeth True – Piano • Glen Smith Bass • David True – Drums

Jazz is a powerful art form for sharing heartfelt grief and lamentation. Good Friday Blues will feature the music of jazz greats Billie Holiday, John Coltrane, Thelonious Monk and others with contemporary lyrics expressing the pain of Jesus' crucifixion and modern injustices.

### Free And Open To All!

A free will offering will be received to benefit MICA  
(Ministry of Imagination, Creativity and the Arts)



10 W. Lockwood Ave.  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
314/962-0475  
[www.FirstChurchWG.org](http://www.FirstChurchWG.org)



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## Contact Information

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*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

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

