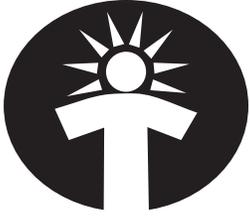


# Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves  
United Church of Christ



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

APRIL 24, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

“BREAK THE SILENCE” SUNDAY

PACIFIC AND ASIAN AMERICAN MINISTRIES 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.*



## Order of Worship

*An asterisk (\*) indicates the Congregation standing, in body or in spirit.*

**PRELUDE** *Were You There* arr. Barbara Masters

**WELCOME** Bob Moody, *Liturgist*

**TOLLING OF THE BELL**

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive – Liturgist; **People**)

We gather today, a community of hope,

**surrounded by the grace of God,**

filled with the love of Jesus,

**trusting in the Spirit's presence.**

We gather today, a community of compassion,

**to listen to what may break our hearts,**

to hear the pain of our siblings in faith,

**to speak together words of comfort and commitment.**

We gather today, a community of justice,

**to worship,**

to pray,

**to break the silence!**

**\*RAISING THE COVENANT** (Unison)

*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**

*Praise to God*

Nobuaki Hanaoka

No. 230 – *New Century Hymnal*

**RITUAL OF APPROACH**

Liturgist

*Introduction*

*Silence for Personal Confession*

*Prayer of Confession* (Unison) inspired by the Rev. Mitchell Young†

**God of our ancestors, we confess that we don't want innocent blood on our hands, and yet we have stood by unsure what to do when sisters, brothers and others have been hung on trees, shot in a spa, pushed into subway trains, sucker punched on city streets, and told to go back to where they came from. We know so well that no superhero will come to protect them, and neither did we. Can a Savior give repentance and forgiveness of our sins? We desire to be witness to these things and not to let them pass. Guide us into new ways of being your people and of assuring others that your salvation means something true, merciful, and compassionate. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

*Words of Assurance*

**NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY**

Halley Kim, *Pastoral Assistant*

**THE WORD SHARED**

*From the Gospels*

John 20:19-31

Pew Bible, p. 989

*Response.*

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

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

*Golden Breaks the Dawn*  
Chancel Choir

trad. Chinese  
ad. Te-ngai Hu

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

*"The Disquieting Mirror"*

Rev. Denoon

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*We Lift Our 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 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'll Shout the Name of Christ Who Lives*     Vivincio L. Vinluan  
No. 256, *New Century Hymnal*

**OPPORTUNITIES ARISING**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE                                     *Agincourt Hymn*                                     George Dunstable

† Rev. Mitchell Young is pastor of Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church, Montebello, California – [MontebelloUCC.org](http://MontebelloUCC.org). Rev. Young composed many of the elements for this morning's worship which were included in a publication entitled, *See God: Hā, Ha, Hā – PAAM Sunday meets Holy Humor Sunday*.

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**Pacific Islander & Asian American Ministries**



Pacific Islander & Asian American Ministries (PAAM) was organized in 1974 at a gathering in San Francisco, California, of representatives from different regions throughout the United States. The vision was to unite and move forward at the national, regional, and local levels as Pacific Islanders & Asian Americans in the United Church of Christ, sharing our unique gifts with one another.

PAAM was voted into existence at the 10<sup>th</sup> General Synod, in 1975, as a recognized Special Interest Group within the UCC. The 17<sup>th</sup> General Synod adopted the pronouncement, “A United Church of Christ ministry with Pacific Islanders & Asian Americans” calling to establish an implementation committee to make requests about the ministries of the PAAM churches. The 18<sup>th</sup> General Synod passed a resolution designating the last Sunday of April as PAAM Sunday when all UCC churches recognize and celebrate the gifts and contribution of Pacific Islanders & Asian Americans in the life of the UCC.

PAAM has initiated, sponsored, supported and participated in many activities at all levels of all conferences across the UCC. PAAM continues to address institutional racism within the church and society, is concerned with issues of human rights and justice, and helps to support and strengthen clergy and lay leadership at the local level.

**The globe is lighted today in memory of Herb Niemeyer and his leadership roles here at First Church through the years from Marilyn Davis, and Bob and Helen Moody.**



Lighting the globe is a tradition we use to celebrate, memorialize and note our blessings. If you would like to dedicate a lighting, please make a contribution in any amount and include a note describing your memory or celebration. Donations received are added to the Minister's Samaritan Fund, to benefit members and neighbors in need.

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](http://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, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

### **A Performance of Music from the Classic Blue Note Record Label**

**Sunday, May 1, 2022 at 4:00 PM in our Sanctuary**

**\$10 Adults / \$5 Students**

3:00 pm Lecture: "The Blue Note Label Legacy" by Paul DeMarinis.

This Benefit Concert for the 26th annual International Summer Jazz Academy in Krakow, Poland will begin at 4:00 pm.

### **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 at right.



### **Covenant News Deadline**

Please submit any articles, images, etc. for the May & June Covenant News to Debbie by April 25. She will accept MS Word, Pages or pdf files. [admin@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:admin@firstchurchwg.org)

Please mark your calendar for our **Annual Congregational Meeting, Sunday, May 1**. An official announcement was made, in worship on Sunday, April 24. The Annual Meeting will include the election of a slate of officers. Paper copies of the slate are available now from the Narthex table.

### What's Going on at First Church

#### **Sunday, April 24**

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

#### **Monday, April 25**

**7:00 PM** Peace & Justice Coalescence - Zoom

**7:00 PM** Scout Troops 301B and 301G –  
Memorial Hall

#### **Tuesday, April 26**

**10:30 AM** Staff Meeting

**6:30 PM** Confirmation Class

**7:00 PM** Lady Elect (See Laura Cooper or  
Marilyn Davis for more information)

#### **Wednesday, April 27**

**9:30 AM** Yoga - Inglis Room

**6:00 PM** Bridge Club - Inglis Room

#### **Thursday, April 28**

**6:00 PM** Canterbury Bells Practice

**7:30 PM** Chancel Choir Practice

#### **Friday, April 29**

~~**6:15 PM** Confirmation Field Trip: Central  
Reform Congregation (cancelled)~~

#### **Sunday, May 1**

##### **Sacrament of Christ's Table**

**9:00 AM** Brown Baggers

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00 AM** All Ages Worship

**11:05 AM** Annual Meeting

**11:20 AM** Coffee Fellowship



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

## Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach  
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Pastoral Assistant – Halley Kim  
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Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi  
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Director of Music & Organist – Dr. Leon Burke  
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Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus  
[cti1234@FirstChurchWG.org](mailto:cti1234@FirstChurchWG.org)

Custodian – Darrell Lakies

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity  
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie  
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Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry  
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Director, Center for Counseling & Healing  
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***Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.***

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

