

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

MAY 8, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

MOTHER'S DAY



*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 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* Dale Wood

WELCOME Helen Moody, *Liturgist*

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP *A Prayer for Mothers* African American Lectionary
(Responsive – Leader; **People**)

Mothers come in many different forms, and today we celebrate them all!

Thank God who is our Mother!

Everyone here is someone's child.

Thank God for my mother!

For those women who have joined God in heaven and whom we miss dearly here on earth:

Thank God for the mothers of the past.

For every woman who is working day and night to raise her children right, now:

Thank God for the mothers of today.

For all the women who are expecting, but aren't quite mothers yet:

Thank God for mothers-soon-to-be.

For those women who prayed for and received children as their own through adoption:

Thank God for mothers-in-fact.

For the women who took in others' children through foster care:

Thank God for mothers with hearts so big.

For the women and girls who exercised the wisdom to recognize that someone else needed to become the mother of the children they would bear:

Thank God for brave birth-mothers.

For those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on:

Thank God for mothers who are so strong.

For all the women who wanted to have children of their own, but who chose instead to mother everyone else:

Thank God for mothers in spirit.

We thank you, holy One, for the women who have influenced our lives in so many ways.

We pray that we will honor them in everything we do.

Amen.

***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**

O God, Whose Steadfast Love
No. 426, vv. 1,3,4 – *New Century Hymnal*

J. L. Haddix

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Share Our Stories Before God

Silence for Personal Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Great God, you are our shepherd, we need nothing more. You give us rest in green meadows, setting us near calm waters, you revive our spirits. You guide us along sure paths, you are true to your name. Though we walk in death's shadowy valley, we fear no evil with you beside us, your shepherd's staff is comforting. You spread a table before us as our foes look on. You soothe our heads with oil; our cups are more than full. Wherever we have caused others to be deprived of such comfort and privilege, forgive us, so that goodness and love may tend us and all your beloved children, every day of our lives. Amen.

Words of Assurance

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Halley Kim, *Pastoral Assistant*

The children are invited forward for a time of enrichment.

Afterward, they may proceed to Sunday School classes, or return to their seats.

THE WORD SHARED

From the Law

Deuteronomy 18:15-22

Pew Bible, p. 174

From the Gospels

Luke 7:18-23

p. 940

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

German Easter Carol

arr. Geoffrey Shaw

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Resurrection and Covenant 2: Rev. David Denoon, Pastor
"To Proclaim the Love of Christ"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns

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.

*PARTING HYMN

Lead Me, Guide Me

Doris Akers

*Congregation sings the refrain with the Choir;
Choir sings the verses.*

Lead me, guide me, along the way,
For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Postlude on CORONATION

Elizabeth Krouse

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***Would you like to serve as a Liturgist*** in an upcoming worship service, and to tell a story of your own during the Ritual of Approach? If so, please take advantage of a sign-up sheet in the Church Office (on a wall-mounted clipboard) or online at <https://bit.ly/FCCWG-Liturgist>.

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, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

## Composer Emmanuel Sikora to Play at First Church TODAY – 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Bring mom to a concert today 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."

## What the heck is the Enneagram?!

I'm so glad you asked. The Enneagram is a modern personality typing system derived from ancient wisdom. It's a tool for personal growth as well as relational growth. If you're familiar with Myers Briggs or Strength Finders, it's sort of like that. However, the Enneagram is primarily about your motivations, not your behaviors. There are nine basic types within the Enneagram. Here is a very basic teaser for each type from The Enneagram Institute:

- 1 **The Reformer:** Principled, Purposeful, Self-Controlled, Critical & Perfectionistic
- 2 **The Helper:** Caring, Interpersonal, Generous, People-Pleasing & Possessive
- 3 **The Achiever: Excelling,** Pragmatic, Adaptive, Competitive & Image-Conscious
- 4 **The Individualist:** Sensitive, Expressive, Dramatic, Self-Absorbed & Temperamental
- 5 **The Investigator:** Cerebral, Perceptive, Innovative, Secretive & Isolated
- 6 **The Loyalist:** Security-Oriented, Engaging, Responsible, Anxious & Suspicious
- 7 **The Enthusiast: Fun-Loving,** Spontaneous, Versatile, Distractible & Scattered
- 8 **The Challenger:** Powerful, Self-Confident, Decisive, Willful & Confrontational
- 9 **The Peacemaker:** Easygoing, Self-Effacing, Reassuring, Stubborn & Complacent

Hmmm...are you a 2 or a 7? A 1 or a 5? What about your spouse? Your kids? Your parents? Well, come to the **Enneagram Workshop** on May 21st at 9am to get more information! It's four hours of content for the bargain price of \$20!

Our speaker, Elisabeth Wurm, will go over the three "centers of intelligence" (gut, heart, head) which divides the types into three triads, and then she will cover each distinct type. Proof of vaccination required; light refreshments provided. Register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/enneagram-registration>. Questions? Contact Halley Kim.

## CONFIRMATION "SERVICE" PROJECT One Chip Challenge

The Confirmation Class has been talking about food injustice and how to alleviate it. If the Confirmation Class is able to raise **\$250 for the St. Louis Area Food Bank by May 15**, then Halley has agreed to eat a ridiculously hot tortilla chip, seasoned with Carolina Reaper and Scorpion peppers. If they raise **\$500**, then Pastor Dave will join her. (If they can raise \$2,000, and not a penny less, mentor Merrimon Boyd has said he will join Dave and Halley!)

The event will be video recorded and uploaded to our YouTube channel, should donors who want to see the outcome be unable to attend.

### Lady Elect End-of-Year Potluck

Tuesday, May 24 at 6:00 PM in the Inglis Room.  
For more information, contact Laura Cooper.

### 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.



### What's Going on at First Church

#### Sunday, May 8 – Mother's Day

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available  
**10:00 AM** Worship  
**10:15 AM** Kids' Church  
**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship  
**3:00 PM** Emmanuel Sikora Piano Concert

#### Monday, May 9

**7:00 PM** Scout Troops 301B and 301G –  
Memorial Hall  
**7:00 PM** Three Ministries – Assemble in  
person in the Inglis Room

#### Tuesday, May 10

**10:30 AM** Staff Meeting  
**6:30 PM** Confirmation Class  
**7:00 PM** Practicing Our Faith – Inglis Room

#### Wednesday, May 11

**9:30 AM** Yoga - Inglis Room  
**6:00 PM** Bridge Club - Inglis Room  
**7:00 PM** Executive Ministry – Church  
Office

#### Thursday, May 12

**6:00 PM** Canterbury Bells Practice  
**7:30 PM** Chancel Choir Practice



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
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[www.FirstChurchWG.org](http://www.FirstChurchWG.org)

## Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach  
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*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

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