

Order of Worship

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

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

WELCOME Joan Musbach, *Liturgist*

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

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

We gather in the presence of the One who breathes life into all of creation.

Let us worship God who creates peace out of chaos, calm out of anxiety, and hope out of despair. Even when we are depressed, we trust God is with us.

Let us praise God who chooses to be among us, one of us, dwelling among us who live with mental health challenges, substance use disorders, brain disorders, and neurodiversity. Together we reflect the fullness of God's love; together we bring God's love into the world.

All are welcome in the presence of the Most High.

***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**

Come, and Find the Quiet Center

S. E. Murray

Come, and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us know our being, touches base,

making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Share Our Stories Before God

Silence for Personal Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Dear God, we find you among us, in community. In seeking to know your will we find ourselves led by that which Jesus told us was the greatest commandment, that we love our neighbors as we love ourselves, and thus, as we learned in Matthew and from old Jake Schiebel, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Help us to adhere to the greatest commandment in our daily lives. When we break it, redirect us. Help us to keep in mind that service to each other is actually service to you. Help us to be loyal and caring to our church community and to open our arms to your wider community as we experience the "joy and struggle of discipleship" in the name of the One who is universal love. 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 Kids' Church, or return to their seats.

THE WORD SHARED

From the Law

Deuteronomy 28:1-14

Pew Bible, p. 182

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

BELL ANTHEM

Alleluia, Praise the Lord

arr. Frances Legg Callahan

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

*Resurrection and Covenant:
"To Discern the Will of God"*

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

My Life Flows On

Anonymous

No. 476, vv. 1,2,4 – *New Century Hymnal*

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 signup 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

## **Enneagram Workshop - May 21st at 9am**

Don't forget to register for the Enneagram Workshop on May 21st at 9am! 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.

## **1st Saturday Drive-through collection Scheduled for June 4th for St. Louis Area Food Bank**

Summer is a brutal time for families struggling with food insecurity. Please sign up for either the 1st or 2nd shift on June 4th when we will collect food for the St. Louis Area Food Bank. Use the following address to sign up! <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-stlarea>. Thank you!

## **Jazz for the Journey**

*A Guidebook for the Journey*

**Sunday, June 5, 2022 at 5:00 pm**

A multi-faith Meditation exploring the adventurous landscape of the soul through the transformative spirit of jazz, storytelling and the arts. Everyone, young and old, are welcome to attend this FREE event. Join us in a Coffee House setting in Memorial Hall. There will be free coffee/tea and homemade baked goods. Please BYOB (wine/beer) or a picnic basket. This journey will feature the Oikos Ensemble. Jazz for the Journey is presented by First Congregational Church's Ministry of Imagination, Creativity and the Arts (MICA).

## **Second Annual Caring Parade!**

**Sunday, June 12th at 2:00 PM**

If you missed the parade last year, the idea is to spread joy to our home bound or otherwise isolated church members — and it makes the kids in the parade pretty happy too! Participating cars will be decorated during Kids Church the morning of the parade. Use the following link to sign up to be a driver: <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-parade> Questions? Ask Halley Kim.

## 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 This Week

### Sunday, May 15

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

**11:45 AM** iConfirm Rehearsal for confirmands

### Monday, May 16

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

**7:00 PM** iConfirm Service for confirmands and loved ones

### Tuesday, May 17

**1:00 PM** Funeral for Robert Oleson – Sanctuary

### Wednesday, May 18

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

**10:30 AM** Staff Meeting

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

### Thursday, May 19

**7:30 PM** Chancel Choir Practice

### Saturday, May 21

**9:00 AM** Enneagram Workshop

### Sunday, May 22

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00 AM** Worship Outdoors (West Parking Lot)

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

