



Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

June 12, 2022

TRINITY 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

Softly and Tenderly

arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME

Nina Thompson, *Liturgist*

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

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

Based upon Proverbs 8

Does not Wisdom call, and does not Understanding raise her voice?

On the heights, beside the road, at the intersection she takes her stand; beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

“When God established the skies, I was there, and when the circle was drawn on the face of the deep, and when the foundations of the earth were marked out, there I was at God’s side, like a little child – God’s delight.”

She rejoiced before God, rejoiced in this inhabited world and delighted in humanity. Let us rejoice with her, listening and keeping God’s ways.

***GATHERING HYMN**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past
No. 25 – *New Century Hymnal*

Isaac Watts

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Bring Our Stories Before God

Silence for Personal Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of Love who has created us in your image, we lament that the Church has so often been a voice of exclusion and violence to your lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual children. Forgive us for our complicity in homophobia and transphobia. Forgive us for the apathy we can sometimes develop when things don’t affect us personally. Bring comfort to the queer community when they are frightened, when they struggle to come out, when conversations are difficult. May everyone, yes, every single one, know that you love them completely and unreservedly, and may all of us actively work to make this world a less scary place. 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 Epistles

Colossians 3:12-17

New Revised Standard Version

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

A Service of Hymnsong

De Colores

Mexican folk song

(Sing of Colors)

No. 402, *New Century Hymnal*

Now the Green Blade Rises

J. M. C. Crown

No. 238, vv. 1,4

God's Eye Is on the Sparrow

C. D. Martin

No. 475, v. 1

Lead Us from Death to Life

Marty Haugen

No. 581, v. 1

We Are a Gentle, Angry People

Holly Near

We are a gentle, angry people,
And we are singing, singing for our lives.
We are a justice-seeking people...
We are young and old together...
We are a land of many colors...
We are queer and straight together...
We are a gentle, loving people...

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayer of the Day (Litany)

The litany begins with this response: **All are one in Jesus Christ.**

It continues with this response: **God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

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**

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

J. K. Manley

No. 286 – *New Century Hymnal*

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

***BENEDICTION (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.

POSTLUDE

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

arr. Bish

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.



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).

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

“What’s Happening at 10 West Lockwood?”

Join us on Today in Memorial Hall, after the service to find out!

There will be a presentation by the Strategic Planning Committee along with Casey Jolley, of NMBL Strategies on our new event space 10 West Lockwood. The presentation will include a demonstration of the 10 West Lockwood webpage, social media pages and event rental website. The committee will also share the activity these marketing efforts have generated.

Thank you from St. Louis Area Foodbank

Thank you so much to the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves for holding a food drive, June 4, to benefit the St. Louis Area Foodbank. You all collected 592lbs which will provide 483 meals to those we serve!

(Aside from the food, we also collected close to \$1,400 in cash!)

Monk and Coltrane Tribute
A Live Performance to Benefit Willem Von Hombracht, to defray medical expenses
TODAY! Concert 4:00 PM | Optional Lecture 3:00 PM
\$10 Adults/\$5 Students

Featuring: Mike Parkinson, trumpet, Paul DeMarinis, Hugh Jones and Mike Karpowicz, saxophones, Carol Schmidt and Kim Portnoy, piano, Ben Wheeler, bass, Nick Savage, drums

Concert will be preceded by optional lecture on Thelonius Monk & John Coltrane
by Paul DeMarinis, Webster University Director of Jazz Studies

Benevolence Events

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/benevolence-2022>

Celebration Cocktail Party, Saturday June 25, 4:00PM – ???. Mike Lenard and family open their home for hospitality and camaraderie. Donation: \$35 per person. Purchase deadline: June 17.

Summer Garden Party, Saturday, August 12, 6:00PM. Rosemary Hensley's annual backyard gathering, with flowers and refreshments that make the "dog days of summer" cheerful. Donation: \$30 per person.

Our Second Summer of Conversations begins soon...

A group of newly trained church leaders is assembling their call lists now for this year's **Summer of Conversations** - 30-minute, one-on-one conversations with other church members and newcomers over coffee, tea, either in person, by telephone, or using a virtual medium (Zoom, Facetime, Skype, etc.). The intent is simple – have a conversation, listen to one another about what is important to each of you, talk about where you find joy or sense your passion for life and ministry, and dare to dream a little about what you wish you or your church could accomplish together.

The **Summer of Conversations** is an initiative that can be a transformative experience for First Church. If you receive an invitation to have a Conversation, please accept it as an opportunity to get to know someone in your faith community better.

There is no agenda behind a Conversation. It is meant to be a time to listen and share, allow yourself to get to know someone new at First Church (or if not new, then more deeply), and perhaps to continue the practice of intentionally getting to know others. Developing the art of one-on-one conversation at First Church is one of the most radical things we do as a community. Who knows where listening to one another and the movement of God's Spirit might lead?

Of course, some may - for whatever reason - elect not to participate. That's OK. Just let the pastor know.

Tech Help Desk -- June 26th

Got questions about Facebook? Need help with your email? Confused about websites the church uses like Breeze, SignUp Genius, or Care Calendar? Visit the Help Desk during Coffee Hour on June 26th! Debbie Tolstoi will be ready to assist you with all your tech needs.

**“First Saturday” Drive-Thru Collection – 10:00 AM to Noon on July 2nd
Book Drive for Ready Readers & Missouri Prison Books**

On July 2nd from 10am to 12pm we are collecting new and gently used books for Ready Readers and Missouri Prison Books. Ready Readers develops literacy for young kids in low-income St. Louis communities, and Missouri Prison Books provides books to incarcerated Missouri citizens “in the belief that access to quality books is a right for all.” Please generously donate new and gently used books for all ages! **Do not donate:** water-damaged books, heavily marked up books, activity books, coloring books, holiday books, or religious books.

This will be a drive-thru style event. We encourage donors to turn right from Lockwood into the church parking lot, drop off their items to church volunteers, and then exit by turning right on to Elm Ave.

For additional information please contact Pastoral Assistant Halley Kim at First Church by calling (314) 962-0475 ex 12 or by emailing halley.kim@firstchurchwg.org.

What’s Going on at First Church This Week

Sunday, June 12 – Trinity Sunday

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM 10 West Lockwood Update

4:00 PM Benefit Concert - Monk & Coltrane Tribute

Monday, June 13

7:00 PM Missouri Chamber Music Festival - Sanctuary

7:00 PM Three Ministries

Wednesday, June 15

9:30 AM Yoga - Inglis Room

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Thursday, June 16

5:30 PM Missouri Chamber Music Festival - Sanctuary

Saturday, June 18

7:00 PM Missouri Chamber Music Festival - Sanctuary

Sunday, June 19 - Father’s Day

Juneteenth

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship (Rev. Merrimon Boyd, guest preacher)

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

Monday, June 20

OFFICE CLOSED (Juneteenth)

7:00 PM Executive Ministry



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

Contact Information

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Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

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