

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

AUGUST 14, 2022



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.*

The hymns and songs in our order of worship are to be found in the New Century Hymnal, a large black volume in the rack directly in front of you.

PRELUDE *Abide with Me* Arr. Paul Basler

WELCOME Jenny Jones, *Liturgist*

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

OPENING WORDS John 13:4-12 Logos Readers

***GATHERING HYMN** *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love* Ghanaian folk hymn
No. 498, *New Century Hymnal*

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Share Our Stories Before God

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

O God, we give you thanks for the gift of Jesus Christ, our teacher and model for living. We are astonished and humbled by the splendor of Christ's life of service. And we admit that we have sometimes avoided such service ourselves, when the cost seemed to great. We pray your forgiveness and ask that you strengthen us for the service to which you call us, that we may find in lowering ourselves, in washing, and in all other acts of mercy, the fullness of life that we see in Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives in glory, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confession

Words of Assurance

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY Halley Kim, *Pastoral Assistant*

THE WORD SHARED

From the Gospels

John 13:13-17

Pew Bible, p. 981

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Amazing Grace* Arr. Paul Basler

MESSAGE OF THE DAY *"Jesus the Teacher"* 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**

O Savior, Let Me Walk with You
No. 503, *New Century Hymnal*

Washington Gladden

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

***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.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Arr. Brian Buda

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.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Guest Artist today is Jeff Leenhouts, French Horn

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.



Wi-Fi Info

Wi-Fi: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3
Password for all: firstchurch.

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).

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

“Freeing Jesus” Sermon Series and Book Study

What does it mean to know Jesus? Is the Jesus you know today different than the Jesus you knew years ago? Does Jesus evolve alongside us? "Freeing Jesus invites us to liberate Jesus & free ourselves when it comes to the ever-compelling & yet often-elusive figure at the center of Christian faith."

Now that Halley has introduced the series, Dave will preach 7 sermons that cover the different ways of perceiving Jesus that Bass describes: Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, Presence, and Universal Jesus.

Please pick up your book from Halley. We will also be hosting discussions of the book and sermons during Coffee Hour, Sundays, August 7 - September 18.

Wish Upon a Cloud: Funding Off-Budget Projects

We are seeking to purchase two 85" Smart TVs for the sanctuary, to enhance our worship experience. These TVs will project relevant images and information during worship services, and can be used for other events in the sanctuary. The cost for these are approximately \$2,800.00. You can donate as little or as much as you like! See the Wish Upon a Cloud display board for more information.

Wish Upon a Cloud gives us the opportunity to purchase items that are not in our budget. For more information, grab a form off the board in the Narthex, or visit the Wish Upon a Cloud page (<https://firstchurchwg.org/donate/wuac/>) on our website.

**The Peace and Justice Team says,
OUTRAGED? Get ENGAGED!**

- Sign up to be notified when there's a need for GOTV postcards at <https://tinyurl.com/moms-gotv>.
- Reach out to a candidate for state representative or state senator and help them canvass – *it's not just federal offices that matter!*
- We are working with the local group "Churches Together for Justice" to get out the vote before the general election. STAY TUNED!

The Peace & Justice Team meets on the 4th Monday of each month. Plan to join us on Monday, August 22nd at 7pm on Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-peace-justice>.

**First Church is collecting all kinds of period supplies to donate to the
St Louis Alliance for Period Supplies**

Period poverty - or the lack of access to an adequate supply of menstrual products - is an indignity experienced by More than 1 in 5 low-income women in St. Louis report facing this problem every month.

What is Needed

**light tampons • regular tampons • super tampons • super-plus tampons
liners • regular pads • super pads • overnight pads • poise pads • menstrual cups
disks • underwear • first period kits • misc.**

Please leave donations in the box in the Narthex. You may also send a check directly to St. Louis Area Diaper Bank.

Mail the check to: St. Louis Area Diaper Bank
6141 Etzel Ave. | Saint Louis, MO 63110

Please put **Alliance for Period Supplies** on the memo line.

If you have any questions, please contact [Andrea Welnick](#).

**World Peace Concert
A Celebration of Peace, Love & Harmony**

Webster Groves Garden Café "Backstage"

Saturday, September 10 from 6 PM to 9 PM Under the Stars

The Following 9 Outstanding Performers will each Play a 20 Minute Set
Perfect Strangers • Northbound Train • Whiskey Club Band • Home Remedy
Mass Eclectic • Catching the Westbound • John Culver Wilson • Posey Lulu • Will Soll

Free and Open to the Community

Food and Beverages will be Available for Sale in the Café

Come and Give Peace a Chance!

What's Going on at First Church

Sunday, August 14

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM "Freeing Jesus" Discussion– Inglis Room

5:00 PM Jazz for the Journey – Memorial Hall

Monday, August 15

7:00 PM Executive Ministry (Zoom)

7:00 PM Scout Troop 301B & 301G

Tuesday, August 16

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

Wednesday, August 17

9:30 AM Yoga - Inglis Room

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Sunday, August 21

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM "Freeing Jesus" Discussion – Inglis Room



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

Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach
JWMusbach@gmail.com

Pastor – Rev. David A. Denoon
DDenoon@FirstChurchWG.org

Pastoral Assistant – Halley Kim
Halley.Kim@FirstChurchWG.org

Office Administrator – Debbie Tolstoi
Admin@FirstChurchWG.org

Director of Music & Organist – Dr. Leon Burke
Leon.Burke@FirstChurchWG.org

Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus
cti1234@FirstChurchWG.org

Custodian – Darrell Lakies

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie
cliff.aerie@gmail.com

Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry
Webster University – Rev. Dr. Laurel Hayes
laurel.hayes@sbcglobal.net

Director, Center for Counseling & Healing
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I
lesrhs@sbcglobal.net

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

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YouTube

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

