



Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ

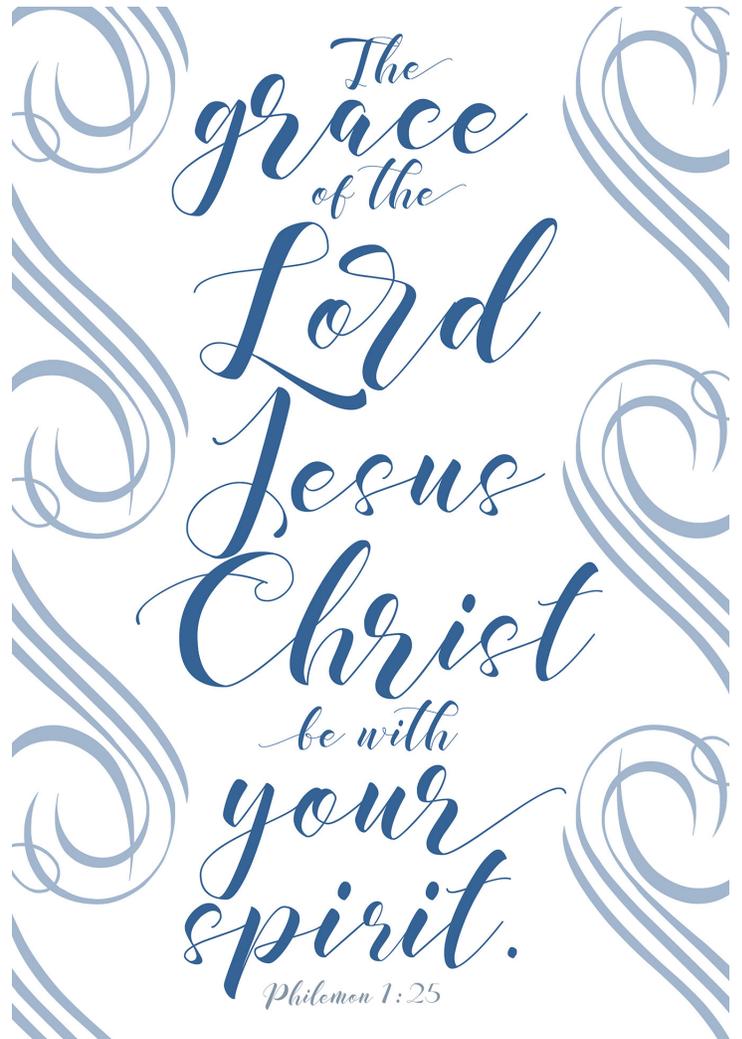
Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

AUGUST 28, 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 Pilgrim Hymnal, a large red volume located under the pew in front of you.

PRELUDE

I Want to Be a Christian

Roy L. Belfield, Jr.

WELCOME

Rev. Jan Barnes, *Liturgist*

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Yahweh, Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory above the skies. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.

When I look at the skies, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established, I wonder, What are human beings that you are mindful of us, mortals that you care for us? Yet you have made us a little lower than yourself, and you've crowned us with glory and honor.

Yahweh, Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

*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.

*GATHERING HYMN

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
No. 195, vv. 1,4,5 – *Pilgrim Hymnal*

Perronet

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Share Our Stories Before God

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy and uncontainable God, for trying to contain you, forgive us. Loving and limitless God, for trying to limit you, forgive us. Gracious and boundless God, for trying to bind you, forgive us. Sometimes we are foolish enough to believe that it is to our advantage to reduce you to something we can comprehend. Forgive us, Almighty God, and lead us, renewed, to do your will. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confession
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 Epistles

Philippians 2:9-11

Pew Bible, p. 1069

From Christian History

Acts 28:16-24, 28-31

p. 1022

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

One Love
John Paci, soloist

Bob Marley

MESSAGE OF THE DAY *“The Troubling Anachronism: Lord Jesus”*

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**

Lord of All Hopefulness
No. 217, Pilgrim Hymnal

Jan Struther

***BENEDICTION**

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Domenico Zippoli

During the Postlude, we encourage you to greet those around you, 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.

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."

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 or Dave.** We are hosting discussions of the book and sermons during Coffee Hour, through - September 18.

FCCWG Swag

Show your FCCWG pride by wearing a t-shirt with our logo! You'll be encouraged to wear this shirt when volunteering for events such as the First Saturday drive-thru collections and the Vehicle Fair.

Shirts will be offered in Men's sizes XS-3X and Women's sizes S-3X.

Not sure what size you need? No problem! You can view the t-shirts after worship the next couple of weeks, A member of First Friends will be available to help you. (*The shirts look like they run a little small.*) There will be an order form available in the Narthex. Shirts will be sold for \$15. If you didn't sign up, contact Debbie at admin@firstchurchwg.org once you know what size you would need.

The deadline to purchase a shirt is September 9th!

St. Louis Metro CROP Hunger Walk

Our church is participating in the Metro St. Louis CROP Hunger Walk, and we'd love to have you join our team. Registration begins at 4:30pm on Oct 2nd at Eden Seminary, and the walk steps off at 5 PM. Walkers can choose a 1- or 3-mile loop. This is a great event for families and people of all ages!

The CROP Walk supports the work of Church World Service (CWS) and three local organizations fighting hunger. Three quarters of funds raised go to CWS, a faith-based organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, displacement, and disaster. CWS is supported by our denomination, the United Church of Christ. Recognizing that there is hunger in every community, one quarter of CROP Walk funds stay locally. Here in St. Louis, they will go to Circle of Concern, the Alton Crisis Food Center, and Webster-Rock Hill Ministries.

Please join us (in body or in spirit) on October 2 -- with your steps, prayers, and/or donations -- to provide meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and to create greater food security in communities around the world. You can register to walk or make a donation at <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-crop-walk>.

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.

Caring Parade Sign Up — TODAY at 2pm!

It's not too late to participate in the parade this afternoon.

Talk to Halley Kim ASAP!

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

- Get trained to help North St. Louis City residents obtain photo ID (<https://ashreifoundation.org/event/photoidtrain-aug/>) in order to vote in November! "Join the Ashrei Foundation in a community-based effort to ensure all eligible residents in North St. Louis City are able to obtain a valid Missouri photo identification card." *This in-person training is free!*
- 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, September 26th at 7pm on Zoom at: <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-peace-justice>.

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!

**First Church has an ongoing collection for all kinds of period supplies
AND diapers to donate to the
St Louis Area Diaper Bank/Alliance for Period Supplies.**

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

St. Louis Area Diaper Bank 6141

Etzel Ave.

Saint Louis, MO 63110

You may put **Alliance for Period Supplies** on the memo line. If you have any questions, please contact **Andrea Welnick**.

First Saturday Linen Drive for Lydia's House — 9/3/22 | 10am-noon

“Lydia’s House provides a place of healing and a voice of hope for women and children who are victims of domestic violence. Their transitional housing program is offered for up to two years and serves as a critical link between emergency shelters and safe, independent living.” Please generously donate the following:

- Kitchen towels and washcloths
- Bath Towel Sets (face, hand, body) – new only, neutral colors please
- Twin-size sheet sets (new only)
- Mattress covers (zippered plastic and waterproof) – twin size only
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Children’s bedspreads and comforters (especially boys) • Baby Sheets (neutral colors, new only)

What’s Going on at First Church

Sunday, August 28

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

2:00 PM Caring Parade

Monday, August 29

7:00 PM Scout Troops 301B & 301G (Dickens Room)

Wednesday, August 30

~~**9:30 AM** NO Yoga – Inglis Room~~

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Saturday, September 3

10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

First Saturday Collection: Linens for Lydia's House

Sunday, September 4

Sacrament of Christ's Table

9:00 AM Brown Baggers

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship (All Ages)

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM Discussion: Freeing Jesus - Inglis Room (Childcare available!)



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Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach
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Pastor – Rev. David A. Denoon
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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
Webster University – Rev. Dr. Laurel Hayes
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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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