

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

OCTOBER 16, 2022
SUNDAY BEFORE SIMCHAS TORAH



*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 *Shalom Chaverim* arr. M. L. Thompson
Canterbury Bells

WELCOME Sharon Love, *Liturgist*

TOLLING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

INTROIT *Hey Fever* Klezundheit!

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Liturgist; **People**) From Psalm 119

Happy are they whose way is blameless, who walk according to the Torah of God;

Happy are they who observe God's decrees and who seek God with all their hearts.

We want to be firm in keeping God's statutes.

Let us give thanks with upright hearts for we are learning the just ordinances of the Holy One.

***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** *Sholem Aleichem* Klezundheit!

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Share Our Stories Before God

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of word and wonder, we hear you speaking through familiar promises and new inspiration. We have sometimes disregarded your Word and followed our own advice. We have left pain or hardship in our wake, or we have failed to change what ought to have been corrected. We have even allowed others to convince us that we are not beloved by you. But your Word calls us home. Remind us, here and now, of promises you have made, afar and past, which still apply and offer hope. By your grace, forgive our missteps, and cause us to dance in your light, thankful for your Word. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confessions

Words of Assurance

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

*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 Writings

2 Chronicles 36:17-23

Gabriel Requadt, *Student Minister*

Pew Bible, p. 413

Response.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Romanian Hora

Klezundheit!

MESSAGE OF THE DAY "*Bearing Trauma, Whether Small or Great*"

Rev. Denoon

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Share Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior

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**

Ale Brider
Refrain lyrics: Oy!

Klezundheit!

***BENEDICTION**

OPPORTUNITIES ARISING

POSTLUDE

Klezmaniacs

Klezundheit!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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Klezmer Music in Worship Today

During the service today, we will once again have special guests Klezundheit! (That's right, their name has an exclamation mark.) If you remember them from last year, you already know the great enhancement they brought to worship.

Connecting Remotely to Worship

Sunday worship each week is streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10am (bit.ly/FCCWG-YT).

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 accompanying QR code.

Wi-Fi Info

Recommended: fccwg1, fccwg2 or fccwg3
Password for all: 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.

Make Plans to Volunteer on November 5! **First Saturday Drive-Thru Collection**

We will be collecting new heavy socks, hats, gloves, and scarves along with new and gently used winter coats for all ages and sizes, for Webster Rock Hill Ministries. **No blankets please.** More info on volunteering to come!

We Hold in Our Prayers

- Our residents in assisted living and skilled care – Sharon Beal, Joyce Berger, Paul Davis, Margery Gable, Shirley Moore, Jan & Katy Ver Hagen, Joan Whitford
- 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

Congregational Meeting on the 2023 Budget **Today after worship**

The Executive Ministry has recommended a budget for 2023. We will vote on that budget in a Congregational Meeting following worship, today. All church members and contributors are encouraged to attend. Once the budget is passed, our Stewardship efforts will begin. Printed copies of the budget are available now from the Narthex table.

Photos for a New Directory, Today and Next Sunday

It is time we updated our church photo directory. Resident professional photographer Phil Shoulberg will be taking photos for the directory after worship, today, in the nursery. Don't miss this chance. Avoid being hounded by the Membership Committee to get your photo taken!

“Living Buddha, Living Christ”

Today – Inglis Room, 11:20 AM

Student Minister Gabriel Requadt will be the leader of our next Sunday Morning Book Discussion. He has chosen the classic work, *Living Buddha, Living Christ*, by Vietnamese Buddhist monk and peace activist Thích Nhất Hạnh (1926-2021). In this wonderfully insightful interreligious meditation, Thích Nhất Hạnh offers his perspectives on the similarities and resonance of Christianity and Buddhism. Along the way, he offers plenty of helpful advice about how to practice your religion so that it benefits not only you but everyone and everything around you. Practicers of these two religions, he argues, ought themselves to become living Buddhas and living Christs! After you have gotten refreshments for yourself from Coffee Hour, please join Gabriel in the Inglis Room, where he will offer an introduction to the book

Wish Upon a Cloud: Funding Off-Budget Projects

Wish Upon a Cloud donations give 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. **Example: We are seeking to purchase two 85" video monitors for the sanctuary, to enhance our worship experience.** These monitors will project relevant images and information during worship services and can be used for other events in the sanctuary. The cost for each is approximately \$1,400.00. You can donate a portion of the cost, or the full amount, according to your ability!

Habitat for Humanity Updates

Phil Shoulberg attended the dedication of 5 habitat houses, last Sunday. He said it was great to see these places completed, and enjoyed meeting some of the families that will be making them homes.

In other Habitat news, the workdays scheduled for this fall, ***including our December 3 date, have been postponed until spring.*** We're at the mercy of excavating and concrete contractors.

Confirmation for Grownups

Many newcomers to the church have expressed their interest in learning more about the theology, traditions, history, and denomination of First Congregational Church. Pastor Dave Denoon will be offering weekly classes, starting Wednesday, October 26 at 7:00pm, on Zoom. Please, contact him for more information.”

What's Going On at First Church

Sunday, October 16

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Congregational Budget Meeting

11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM Book Discussion:

Living Buddha, Living Christ - Inglis Room

Monday, October 17

7:00 PM Executive Ministry (Zoom)

7:00 PM Scout Troops 301B & 301G

Tuesday, October 18

10:30 AM Staff Meeting

7:00 PM CE Book Discussion (Zoom)

Wednesday, October 19

~~**9:30 AM** NO Yoga - Inglis Room~~

6:00 PM Bridge Club - Inglis Room

Thursday, October 20

6:00-7:00 PM Canterbury Bells

7:30-8:30 PM Chancel Choir

Sunday, October 23

9:45 AM Nursery Care Available

10:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Kids' Church

11:05 AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20 AM Visioning Team

Monday, October 24

7:00 PM Peace & Justice Team (Zoom)

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



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Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

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