

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

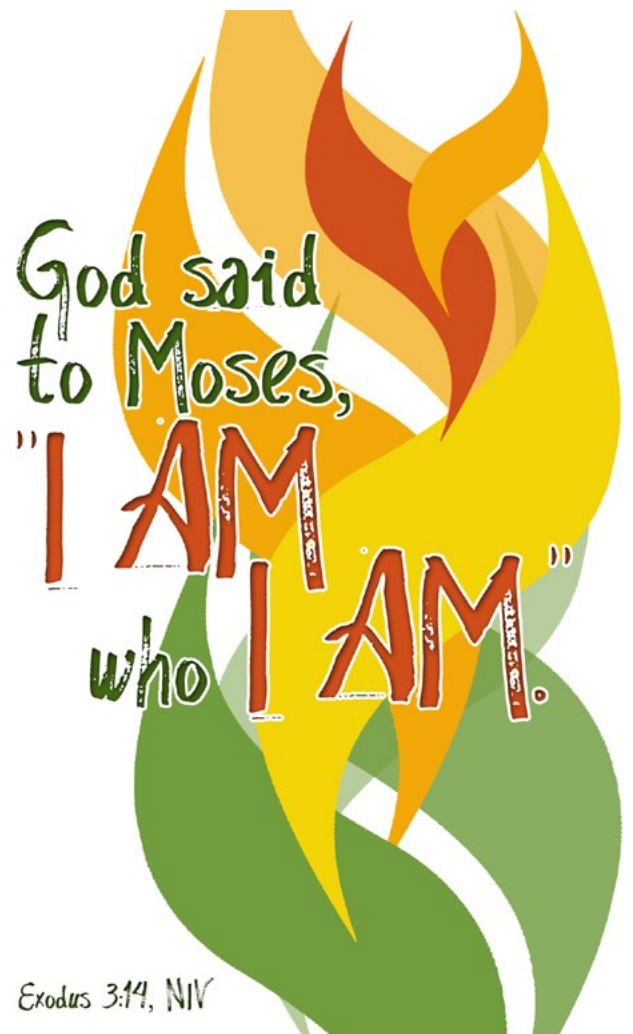
APRIL 30, 2023

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
“BREAK THE SILENCE” SUNDAY
PACIFIC ISLANDER / ASIAN AMERICAN
SUNDAY (PAAM)**

*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 blessings
of our congregation.*

*No matter who you are
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.*



Exodus 3:14, NIV

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates that worshipers are invited to stand in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE

Just As I Am

arr Dale Wood

WELCOME

Ashley Merideth, *Liturgist*

At this time, we invite you to complete an entry in the Friendship Booklet in your pew and to silence the ringer on any cellular device you may have with you.

TOLLING THE BELL

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

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

from Psalm 105

O give thanks to Yahweh. Call on God's name. Make known God's deeds among the gentiles.

Sing to God, sing praises to God for such wonderful works.

Seek Yahweh; seek strength. Seek God's presence continually.

Remember the wonderful works our God has done – the miracles, the judgments. Let us give God praise!

*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

Deep in the Shadows of the Past

Brian Wren

Words at No. 320, vv. 1,2,3 – *New Century Hymnal*

Tune: KINGSFOLD

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Share Our Stories Before God

Confession as a Community (Unison)

God, sometimes we compartmentalize and share with you only the pieces of ourselves that we aren't scared to lose. We worry that if we don't fix ourselves first, that we will lose your love. Forgive our unbelief in your unconditional love. Heal us from the human tendency to focus on striving and earning, rather than being and accepting. Remind us that we are extravagantly loved, always have been, and always will be. May we rest in your radical grace. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confessions

Words of Assurance

*Singing God's Glory

Halleluja

trad. Caribbean

No. 236 – New Century Hymnal (twice through)

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

Exodus 3:13-15

Pew Bible, p. 49

From the Gospels

Mark 14:53, 55-64a

p. 927

Response.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

We Are

Ysaye Barnwell

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"What's in a Name?"

Rev. David Denoon, Pastor

1. I AM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift 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.

WE OFFER OF OURSELVES

Opportunities to Give and Gather

*Song of Praise

Doxology

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God above, you heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

God of wholeness, you call us out of brokenness and into healing. We reply, even if it is from our struggles and our pain. You have called us by name and given us hope that we can be and be better. Bless our gifts to the church so that still more may give you their attention, then answer and live to their fullest, beyond their burdens, and in your name. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

My Life Flows on in Endless Song
No. 476, vv. 1,2,4 – *New Century Hymnal*

Anonymous

***BENEDICTION**

***WORDS OF PARTING**

Liturgist: Our worship has ended.
People: Let our service begin.

POSTLUDE

Hymn to Joy

arr John Carter

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.

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**Wi-Fi Info**

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

**Connecting Remotely to Worship**

If you need to join us remotely, Sunday worship each week is streamed live on YouTube, starting at 10am ([bit.ly/FCCWG-YT](http://bit.ly/FCCWG-YT)).

**How to Donate to First Congregational Church**

You may leave a donation in the offering plate in the Narthex, OR  
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.



**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 members who are homebound, in assisted living, or skilled care – Sharon Beal, Becky Scott, Margery Gable, Shirley Moore, Kitty Pearl, Jan 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 Scott
- People with mental illnesses, and those who love and care for them
- Peace with justice

**Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (MADP)  
TODAY at 11:15 am during Coffee Hour.**

A statewide organization working to repeal capital punishment in Missouri. They educate citizens and legislators both about the costs of the death penalty. Join us to learn about MADP's work on this important topic. *Childcare Provided.*

**Join us to watch the movie Just Mercy!  
We will gather in the Kishlar Room on Wednesday, May 3rd at 5:30pm for pizza,  
snacks, and the movie.**

The film, starring Michael B. Jordan and Jamie Foxx, is based on the book and NYT bestseller written by Bryan Stevenson. Just Mercy tells the true story of Walter McMillian, a black man who was put on death row for a murder he did not commit, and the work of Stevenson, his attorney, to exonerate him. It is an incredible story and a searing indictment of our criminal justice system.

**An Invitation from Treasurer Jennifer Jones**

Your generosity at the end of 2022 made it possible for us to avoid transfers from the Endowment in February, March, and April!

However, we are currently lagging in pledge income for 2023.

Please consider paying your pledge earlier in the year, to better preserve the Endowment.

**Eagle Scout Project**

Brendan Yn of BSA Troop 301 has launched a project on his journey to becoming yet another Eagle Scout from the Boy Scout Troops sponsored by our church.



His project is a clothing drive in support of **Helping Hand Me Downs**, a non-profit organization helping single parents in the St. Louis area. He is asking for our help in collecting 500 items for newborns to eighteen years of age. He is requesting gently used clothing and baby gear, for example: sleepers, onesies, shorts, pants, shirts, skirts, dresses, socks, coats, hats, scarves, mittens, stroller, car seats, and pack-and-plays.

Brendan has placed a collection box in the narthex. Please help him achieve his goal. His collection will end on May 15.

**Audio Lectionary**

**Gabriel Requadt has started a new, weekly project:**

If you would like to listen to the lectionary for the coming week, audio Lectionary Readings are now available on SoundCloud at <https://on.soundcloud.com/Cb3ep>

Whether it's a morning lift for your daily commute or a new way of approaching the Word, we hope that this can be a blessing in your life, hearing the Word of God in fresh ways.

### **Habitat Work Day Scheduled**

We have a work date! On Saturday August 26th, we will combine forces with future homeowners and a group from Emmanuel UCC to work at the Lookaway Build site which is near the Chain of Rocks bridge. This is a full day (8:00 AM to 3:00PM) commitment, and I promise you will find it rewarding. Call Phil Shoulberg if you have questions. Sign up sheet is in the office.

### **CHADS Coalition for Mental Health Communities Healing Adolescent Depression and Suicide Signs of Suicide Prevention Program**

May 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:15 in Memorial Hall

This training will teach you how to recognize suicidality in teenagers and what to do about it!



### **“Peter and the Wolf” and other favorites Family Concert with Xylem Ensemble Sunday, May 21, 3:00pm**

The Xylem Ensemble will present wind-based chamber music in the sanctuary of the First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, 10 W. Lockwood Ave., on Sunday, May 21, at 3:00pm. This concert will feature Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf. So, please bring the kids for this family friendly musical extravaganza!

Xylem is led by Bob Herman of Klezundheit!, a band which plays klezmer music at First Church in the fall, for the weekend of the Jewish festival of *Simchas Torah*. So there will be some fun klezmer thrown in, too.

The event is “almost free.” Concert goers are invited to pay what they can afford for this magnificent event (suggestion: Adults - \$10 each; Kids and teens, free!). All proceeds benefit the church’s music program.

To buy advanced tickets — <https://tinyurl.com/fcc-peter-wolf>

## What's Going on at First Church

**Sunday, April 30**

**Fourth Sunday of Easter**

**"Break the Silence" Sunday**

**Pacific Islander / Asian American (PAAM) Sunday**

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship

**11:15 AM** Adult Ed: Missourians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (Memorial Hall)

**Monday, May 1**

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

**Tuesday, May 2**

**1:00 PM** Communications Team (Office)

**6:30 PM** Practicing Our Faith (Parlor)

**Wednesday, May 3**

**9:30 AM** Yoga w/Jeanene (Inglis)

**10:30 AM** Staff Meeting

**6:00 PM** Bridge Club (Inglis)

**5:30 PM** Viewing of "Just Mercy" (Kishlar)

**Thursday, May 4**

**6:00pm** Canterbury Bells

**7:30pm** Chancel Choir

**Sunday, May 7**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Sacrament of Christ's Table**

**9:00 AM** Brown Baggers

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care

**10:00 AM** Worship (All Ages)

**10:15 AM** Kids Church

**11:05 AM** Annual Meeting

**11:20 AM** Coffee Fellowship



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
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www.FirstChurchWG.org

## Contact Information

Moderator – Joan Musbach  
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Custodian – Mark Metcalf

Weekend & Events Custodians –  
Dianna Konopka and Kayla Skiles

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity  
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Chaplain, Stillpoint Campus Ministry  
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*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

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

