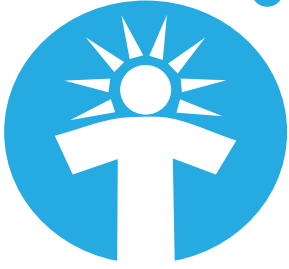


# Welcome!

First Congregational Church  
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

**MAY 7, 2023**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**ALL AGES WORSHIP**

**SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE**

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*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.*

“YOU ARE THE  
MESSIAH,  
THE SON OF THE  
LIVING GOD.”

MATTHEW 16:16, NRSV



## Order of Worship

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

**PRELUDE** *Air from Water Music* G. F. Handel

**WELCOME** Laura Cooper, *Liturgist*

**TOLLING THE BELL**

**LIGHTING THE CANDLES**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Responsive – Liturgist; **People**) based on John 10:2-5

Jesus once told of how a good shepherd knows each sheep by name, and the sheep all know their shepherd's voice.

**The familiar voice calls, and the sheep hear, and the shepherd leads them out of their pen.**

Once they have all come out of the pen, the shepherd goes ahead of them, and they follow in safety.

**They will not follow a stranger's voice, but only the familiar voice who calls them each by name.**

Our Savior calls us forth.

**And here, we answer with joy and 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**

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*  
No. 347 – *New Century Hymnal*

Fred Kaan

**RITUAL OF APPROACH**

*Invitation*

*Create in Me A Clean Heart*

Carl F. Mueller

*Confession as a Community* (Unison)

**You whom we know by so many, many names, teach us the name by which we may know you most personally, so that we may speak gently as your children. Too often the names we have used for others have been cruel; we have cursed them by open insults or private thoughts; we have called them some awful things. We want to be different. Have mercy on us for our mistreatment of others. Foster in us the intimacy of knowing one another truly by name, and help us to speak those names with reverence and with grace, as you speak ours. Amen.**

*Silence for Personal Confessions*

*Words of Assurance* (Responsive)

Hear the good news: God's mercy is for all who earnestly repent and call on God's name.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*\*Singing God's Glory*

*Halleluja*

trad. Caribbean

No. 236 – *New Century Hymnal* (twice through)

**THE WORD SHARED**

Gabriel Requadt, *Student Minister*

*From the Law*

Genesis 32:23-31

Pew Bible, p. 29

*From the Gospels*

Matthew 16:13-20

p. 894

*Response.*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE OF THE DAY**

*"What's in a Name?"*

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

**2. CHANGE MY NAME**

**WE OFFER OF OURSELVES**

*Opportunities to Give and Gather*

*\*Song of Praise*

*Doxology with Alleluias*

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!**

**SACRAMENT OF CHRIST'S TABLE**

*\*Prayers of Intercession*

*\*Invitation*

*Fraction and Consecration*

*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.**

*Communion*

*Communion is being served from three stations at the head of each aisle.*

*When you are ready, please come forward and receive.*

*Bread is gluten-free, wine is white, juice is red.*

*We recommend consuming the elements there, discarding cups in the baskets.*

*But you may take the elements back with you to your seat, if you prefer, discarding cups in the rings provided on the back of the pew ahead of you.*

*\*Prayer after Communion (Unison)*

**We give you thanks, O God, for blessing us around this table with the presence of Christ. Send us forth, rejoicing, with our siblings in faith, to share your abundant love and grace with all we meet. Amen.**

**\*PARTING HYMN**

*Jesus the Christ Says*  
No. 48 – *New Century Hymnal*

Pakistani hymn

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*WORDS OF PARTING**

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

**POSTLUDE**

*Gloria Tibi Trinitas*

Thomas Tallis

*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](https://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

## **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.

## **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 in a family concert performance of Sergei Prokofiev’s Peter and the Wolf, along with other favorites, Sunday, May 21 at 3:00pm, in the church’s sanctuary at 10 W.



Lockwood Ave. Reservations are recommended, and tickets are free (suggested donation: adults - \$10 each; kids and teens – free), at <https://tinyurl.com/fcc-peter-wolf>

Peter and the Wolf, a charming piece designed to introduce young people to musical instruments through the telling of a classic tale about a boy and his animal companions, will be the central piece in this program by the Xylem Ensemble. The Ensemble is a wind-based chamber orchestra conducted by Bob Herman, who also conducts the band Klezundheit! which specializes in joyous Jewish klezmer music. So, audience members should expect a fun, musical afternoon!

**Webster Rock Hill Ministries Trivia Night  
Friday, May 12 at 5:00pm  
Here at First Congregational**

A major fundraiser for the work of Webster Rock Hill Ministries once again will be taking place in our own Memorial Hall. **It's Trivia Night, Friday, May 12, starting at 5:00pm!**

WRHM Board member Rosemary Hensley is assembling a table full of First Church members and friends. Please, see her on Sunday, and tell her you want to be part of that meeting of the minds!!!

*It's such a good cause and lots of fun.*

**Lady Elect End-of-the-year Potluck  
Tuesday, May 23 — Inglis Room  
Happy Hour at 6:00 PM & Potluck at 6:30 PM**

Hostesses for the evening are BJ Kaul and Carolyn Woodsmall.  
Contact BJ or Carolyn if you are interested.

*All women of the church are welcome!*

We provide rides for those who need them and we welcome those who have not had the pleasure of joining us at past meetings.

*Come and see what we're all about!*

**First Saturday Drive-Thru Collection  
Saturday, June 3, from 9am until 12pm**

The recipient of the collection will be the **St. Louis Area Food Bank**. Please bring non-perishable food items. Volunteers will be asked to sign up for all or a portion of a 4-hour shift (8:30am - 12:30pm). Sign up for a full or partial shift here: <https://tinyurl.com/fccwg-drive-thru>

**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.

## What's Happening at First Church

### **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)

**11:05 AM** Annual Meeting

**11:20 AM** Coffee Fellowship

### **Monday, May 8**

**7:00 PM** Three Ministries (Hybrid)

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

### **Tuesday, May 9**

10:30 Staff Meeting (Office)

### **Wednesday, May 10**

~~9:30 AM~~ NO Yoga w/Jeanene (Inglis)

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

### **Thursday, May 11**

**6:00pm** Canterbury Bells

### **Friday, May 12**

**5:00PM** WRHM Trivia Night

### **Sunday, May 14**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Mothers Day

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:05 AM** Coffee Fellowship



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
314-962-0475  
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  
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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*Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.*

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