

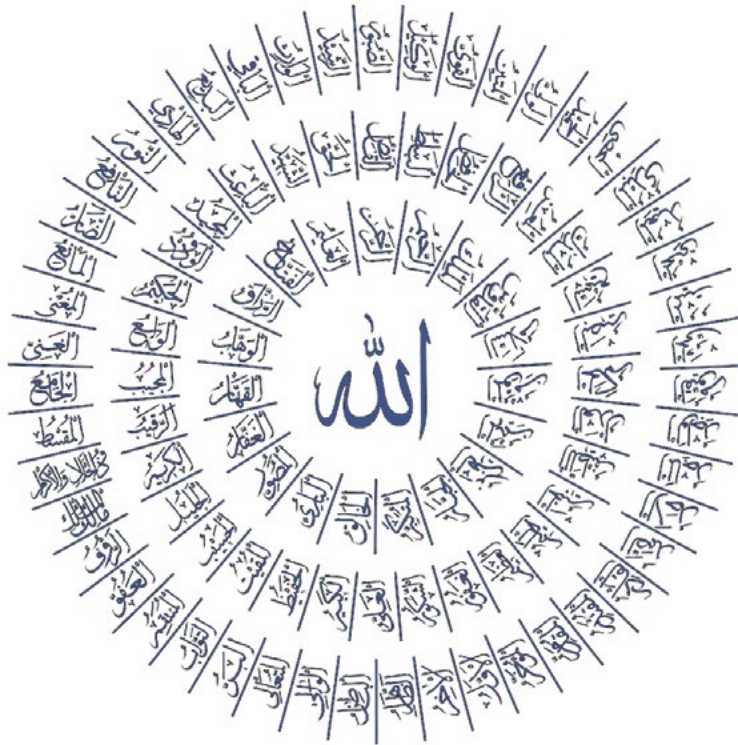
Welcome!

**First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ**



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

**MAY 21, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MENTAL HEALTH SUNDAY**



*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.*

Order of Worship

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

PRELUDE

Prelude

Louis Vierne

WELCOME

Sharon Love, *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 OF THE CANDLES

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

We gather in the presence of God who has declared peace upon us.

We gather in the presence of Jesus the Christ, who has invited us into a covenant with God.

We gather in the presence of the Spirit, who sustains us in discipleship through challenges of hardship or joy.

We gather as a holy people, worshipping the Three-in-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

Bring Many Names
No. 11 – *New Century Hymnal*

Brian Wren

RITUAL OF APPROACH

We Bring Our Stories Before God

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of Many Names, forgive us for our actions that hurt others, ourselves, and you. But more often than not, it's our inactions that injure your people and the world. We are stymied by insular thinking, feeling chronically overwhelmed, sensing deeply a certain helplessness, and sometimes plain selfishness. Help us find the will, the energy, the time, and the desire to practice what we preach. Make us to be bearers of your name who don't simply profess to love our neighbors, but who demonstrably follow your command to do so. Align our faith with our lives. Shape us to be people who continually create a Kin-dom of Heaven. Amen.

Silence for Personal Confessions

Words of Assurance

**Singing God's Glory*

Halleluja
No. 236 – *New Century Hymnal*

Caribbean melody

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 20:1-7

Pew Bible, p. 65

From the Gospels

John 12:27-28

p. 981

First Nations Version

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

INTERLUDE

Joyful Praise
Canterbury Bells

Hal Hopson

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"What's in a Name?"
4. A HUNDRED NAMES

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior

New Zealand Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.

WE SHARE OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS

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!

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)*

Creator, One God, Parent of us all, because of your compassion for us we offer these gifts so that your name may be glorified and all your world may be healed. With this sign of commitment to your call, we praise and thank you for the gift of kinship you have enabled in us through Jesus Christ our Brother. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

Holy, Holy, Holy
No. 251, vv. 1,2,4 – *Pilgrim Hymnal*

Reginald Heber

***BENEDICTION**

***PARTING WORDS**

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

POSTLUDE

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

arr. Diane Bish

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

### **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 TODAY 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 TODAY, 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 almost 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!

### **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.

**Covenant News Articles Due on May 20**

The Summer issue of Covenant News will cover June, July, and August. Please be sure to have all info to Debbie by the 20th. The next issue will be in September.

**What's Going on at First Church**

**Sunday, May 21**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Mental Health Sunday

**9:45 AM** Nursery Care

**10:00 AM** Worship

**10:15 AM** Kids' Church

**11:15 AM** Coffee Fellowship

**11:15 AM** Adult Education: CHADS Coalition

**3:00 PM** Concert: Xylem Ensemble - Peter & the Wolf and other favorites

**Monday, May 22**

**7:00 PM** Peace & Justice Team (Zoom)

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

**Tuesday, May 23**

**10:30 AM** Staff Meeting (Office)

**Wednesday, May 24**

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

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



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
314-962-0475  
[www.FirstChurchWG.org](http://www.FirstChurchWG.org)

## Contact Information

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

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

