

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

MAY 19, 2024

PENTECOST

**“STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH” SPECIAL OFFERING
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**



PENTECOST

*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

His Loving and Mysterious Ways

Beatrice Miller

WELCOME

Rebecca Novak, *Liturgist*

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

TOLLING THE BELL

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

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

From Romans 8

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought,
but that same Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

**And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the
Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for us according to the will
of God.**

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are
called according to God's purposes. And those called are justified by God, and
those justified are glorified by God.

**Therefore now, in the Spirit of love, with words and without,
express our depth of joy.**

*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.**

*HYMN

Spirit of God

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Spirit of God, bright Wind, breath that bids life begin,
Blow as you always do, create us anew.
Give us the breath to sing, lifted on soaring wing,
Held in your hands, borne on your wings.

Refrain.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Alleluia! Come, Spirit, come.

Spirit of God, bright Flame, send us in your holy name,
The power to, to share your love everywhere.
We cannot fail or fall, or know defeat at all,
Held in your hands, borne on your wings. *Refrain.*

Spirit of God in all, we gladly hear your call,
The life in our hands that sings, the pow'r of your wings,
Born of your grace we rise, love shining in our eyes,
Held in your hands, borne on your wings. *Refrain.*

***RITUAL OF APPROACH (Unison)**

Invitation

Silence for Personal Confessions

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, Jesus prayed that his disciples would be protected from deceit. Sometimes, it's not easy to be bold in sharing how God's love has impacted our lives. We ask forgiveness for the times we have not been strong enough in sharing our truth, for fear of how others would respond. Help us find strength in your promises to us. Help us share our joy with abundance. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Friends, take comfort. ... We always have opportunities to grow in our discipleship, as long as we trust in Christ to lead us.

By the grace of God, we are forgiven. Amen.

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Johari Hunt, *Coordinator of Faith Formation*

Children are invited forward for a time of enrichment.

Afterward, they may proceed to Kid's Church or return to their seats.

THE WORD SHARED

From Christian History

Acts 2:1-4

Pew Bible, p. 992

From the Gospels

John 15:26-27

p. 984

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

BELL ANTHEM

Spirit Wind
(Canterbury Bells)

John Bartsch, Jr.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"Holy Spirit, Come"

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preparation

Nothing Can Trouble
No. 772 – *New Century Hymnal*

Jacques Berthier

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

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 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! Amen.**

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)*

O God, just as we have been birthed by your Spirit to become one Body, we have assembled these gifts to testify to your faithfulness – your grace and forgiveness – toward people in every time, nation, and language. Please bless our gifts of thanksgiving in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit
No. 282 – New Century Hymnal*

Spiritual

***BENEDICTION**

***PARTING WORDS**

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

POSTLUDE

Postlude Toccata

Flor Peeters

158TH ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

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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.

Go to 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 library banner) and to the left of the Narthex just before the double doors.

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 QR code.

Volunteer Opportunities

Liturgists - bit.ly/Liturgists-2024 | **Kids Church** - bit.ly/FCCWG-Kids-2024

The Annual Lady Elect Spring Potluck – Tuesday Evening May 28th

We will gather at 6:00 pm in the Inglis Room for a social time with dinner to follow at 6:30. Please RSVP with Faye Dyer and indicate if you will be bringing a main dish, salad, or dessert. Beverages will be provided. All women are invited!

Submitting Covenant News/Bulletin Articles, Information, Images and Reports!

If you would like something included in one of the issues for the *Covenant News* weekly email and for the bulletin, please email it to Debbie by the 20th of the month prior to the month in which you want your item included. Alternatively, for *Covenant News* the same week, please be sure to email us by Tuesday afternoons.

Webster Rock Hill Ministries Trivia Night – Friday, June 14 Memorial Hall – Doors open at 6:15 & the Game begins at 7:00

\$30 per person or \$240 per table of 8

To Register: Call WRHM office 314-961-5082 and ask for Janice or Derek
Prepayment is required for reservation.

Please bring canned goods to help the Ministries

Paul Davis's Books Available in the Holaday Library

A selection of Paul's books are now available from the Holaday Library, for you to add to your personal library. Titles include ***A Bright Defiance*** (poetry) and ***Sermons Through Time*** (compilation of sermons curated for the church's 125th anniversary, and Paul's 25th as Senior Pastor) as well as his last chapbook, ***Streams the Color of Ale***. Paul was a wonderful poet and a gifted and insightful preacher. Don't miss this opportunity to enrich your spiritual life, or to give as a gift!

Habitat for Humanity Update

Sunday, June 2, is the day for the dedication of five new Habitat homes in the Lookaway Summit neighborhood. First Church volunteers worked on these homes last August. Watch this space for details. The original published date for our 2024 First Church Habitat Workday was printed incorrectly. **The accurate date is Saturday, October 26.** There are still openings. A sign-up sheet is hanging in the office. We will be working with a group from Peace UCC.

May Meal-a-Month Shopping List

Canned Chicken • Canned Green Vegetable (low or no salt)

Canned Fruit in own juices

Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk

Pudding or Jell-O (fat free/sugar free)

Shampoo/Conditioner • Soap • Deodorant

May Birthdays

Dana Romeis	May 1	Kay Roush	May 12
Cathy Buerk	May 3	Peter Bakker-Arkema	May 17
Mark Edwards	May 3	Jean Gray	May 19
Melissa Hill	May 3	Sophia Monaco	May 23
Thomas Welnick	May 8	Linda Kopetti	May 24
Garie Perry	May 9	Mark Thompson	May 26
Drue Hood	May 10	Trevor Zink	May 28

What's Happening at First Church

Sunday, May 19

Pentecost

“Strengthen the Church” Special Offering

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM *Annual Congregational Meeting*

11:20AM Coffee Fellowship

4:00PM Baptism / Confirmation Class (Zoom)

Monday, May 20

7:00PM Scout Troops B & G – Dickens Room

7:00PM Executive Ministry (Zoom) (Hybrid)

Tuesday, May 21

10:30AM Staff Meeting – Church Office

Wednesday, May 22

9:30AM Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room

6:00PM Bridge Club – Inglis Room

Thursday, May 23

6:00PM Canterbury Bells – Sanctuary

Sunday, May 26

Trinity Sunday

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

4:00PM Baptism / Confirmation Class (Zoom)



10 West Lockwood Avenue
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Contact Information

Moderator – Doug Barton
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Custodian & AV Tech – Mark Metcalf

Weekend & Events Custodians –
Kayla Skiles & Onyeka Igboanuzue

Assistant Custodian – Gus McLean

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and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie
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<https://www.instagram.com/firstchurchwg/>

YouTube

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

