

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ

Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

OCTOBER 13, 2024

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY OBSERVANCE

ACCESS SUNDAY &

DISABILITIES AWARENESS WEEK

INVITATION TO COMMITMENT 2025 BEGINS



*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 *Standing On The Promises* arr. David Gale

WELCOME Ernestine Carter, *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 OF THE BELL

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Liturgist; **People**) based on Psalm 22
Our God is holy and enthroned on the praises of God's people.
Our God is present with us and will be found among us.
Even though trouble may be near, our God is never far.
**Let us commit to the One who delivers us, and worship
God who resides with us in love.**

***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.**

***OPENING HYMN** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* Walter C. Smith
No. 1, vv. 1,3,4 – *New Century Hymnal*

***RITUAL OF APPROACH**

**Invitation to Confession*

**Silence for Personal Confession*

**Prayer of Confession* (Unison)

**Creator God, you meet our every need, providing for us out of
your abundance. You give us far more than we ask or deserve,
promising the riches of eternal life. Yet we are easily led astray:
we become very attached to the things of this earth and put our
trust in them; then we are disappointed when they do not
satisfy. For putting passing things ahead of eternal ones, forgive
us, God. By your inspiration lead us always, so that we may seek
your heavenly realm where our eternal treasure lies. Then, by
your mercy allow us to enter it; through Jesus Christ our Savior,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for
ever and ever. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance*

*Singing God's Glory *Glory to God in the Highest* Tune: GLORIA (HAAS)

The congregation repeats each line of the following after the Minister:

Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory in the highest!

To God be glory forever!

Next, the Minister leads the congregation in harmonizing the following:

Alleluia! Amen! Alleluia! Amen!

NOT FOR CHILDREN ONLY

Johari Hunt, *Coordinator of Faith Formation*

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 Gospels

Mark 10:17-31

Pew Bible, p. 921

Response.

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us:

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Even Here

Mark Miller

MESSAGE

"Why Me?"

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preparation for Prayer

Nada Te Turbe / Nothing Can Trouble

Jacques Berthier

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten
those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten.
God alone fills us.

Nada te turbe, nada t'espante.
Quien a Dios tiene nada le falta.
Nada te turbe, nada t'espante.
Solo Dios basta.

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

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 that we absorb from 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 forever. Amen.

WE SHARE OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS

Opportunities to Give and Gather

Stewardship Moment

John Paci, *Stewardship Committee*

Song of Praise

Doxology

H. W. Greatorex

Tune: OLD 100TH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

Praise God above, you heavenly host –

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Ernie

**Generous and giving God, who created all of us – your children,
and we thank you for knowing all about us and loving us as we
are. We offer you our changed and welcoming selves. We also
offer you our gifts so that the world may be changed by your
alive and active Word. Please accept our gifts in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

***PARTING HYMN**

Who Is My Mother, Who Is My Brother

S. E. Murray

Tune: KINDRED

Who is my mother, who is my brother?
all those who gather round Jesus Christ:
Spirit-blown people, born from the Gospel
sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.

Differently abled, differently labeled
widen the circle round Jesus Christ:
Crutches and stigmas, cultures' enigmas
all come together round Jesus Christ.

Love will relate us – color or status
can't segregate us, round Jesus Christ:
Family failings, human derailings –
all are accepted, round Jesus Christ.

Bound by one vision, met for one mission
we claim each other, round Jesus Christ:
Here is my mother, here is my brother,
kindred in Spirit, through Jesus Christ.

***BENEDICTION**

***PARTING WORDS**

Liturgist: Our worship has ended.

People: Let our service begin.

POSTLUDE

Hymn to Joy L. van Beethoven, 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.*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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.



Adult Ed – State Ballot Initiatives - Memorial Hall TODAY at 11:20

Join us after service to talk about some of the proposed bills we will be voting on this November. This is strictly an informational session, as being an informed voter is a critical part of upholding and protecting our community.

The LISTEN Everywhere Hearing-Assisted System (and more)

We (but especially our A/V Tech Mark Metcalf) excitedly announce the LISTEN Everywhere WiFi hearing-assisted listening system at First Congregational Church! With LISTEN, those of us with in-ear listening devices, such as hearing aids and stage monitors connected to our mobile phones, can listen to what's going on in the sanctuary without wearing a separate hearing device. **Simply download the LISTEN WiFi App from the App Store or the Google Play Store** and connect to our wi-fi system (fccwg1) for a wonderful, new audio experience. If preferred, our Sennheiser headsets are still available for use on the table by the Conference Room. For more information, contact Mark at Mark.Metcalf@FirstChurchWG.org

Prospect Conversation: “Jesus Has Left the Building” October 20 at 11:20AM Memorial Hall

“Jesus Has Left the Building” is an outreach program conducted seasonally by churches across America. Worshipers arrive on a Sunday morning for prayer and singing, and then either stay at the church for an in-house project (e.g., preparing layettes for newborns or stuffing lunch sacks for a hunger ministry) or leave the building for an offsite project (e.g., yard cleanup or home improvement for underserved people). Projects would be expansive enough that anyone who wants to participate can, regardless of age or physical limitation. The Peace & Justice Team leads this discussion about whether “Jesus Has Left the Building” might be a prospect for our faith community.

Fresh Pecans Arriving in November

Two cases (48 bags) of the fresh mammoth pecans have been ordered and should arrive in early November. They will be here in time for holiday baking. Get those recipes together! They will once again be \$15 per bag. Thank you! Debbie

Lady Elect October Meeting

The next Lady Elect event will be held on Tuesday, October 22, at 11:00 in the kitchen and Memorial Hall. Judy Borutta will demonstrate making compound herbal butter. Each participant will take home a jar of the herbal butter, which can be frozen and used at Thanksgiving time. No supplies are necessary. So, bring a lunch and join us for the cooking demo. **RSVP to Marilyn Barton.**

Upcoming Events

Walktober Fest – October 26th

The Walktober Fest event on October 19th from 10-5 is in its 5th year and has become an annual event. It is a family-friendly Fall Festival themed weekend. This is an opportunity to “walk” around the neighborhood while you shop, dine, explore, have fun, and meet the owner. There will be booths, activities and live music! 10 West Lockwood/Facilities and Finance will be hosting this event.

Trick-or-Treating Stop

October 26th

Join us for some tricks and treats in Old Webster from 3 to 5pm at our table on the corner of Lockwood and Gore! We will have some candy and games! This will be the 10th year for this event. Christian Education will be hosting this event on behalf of First Church.

Election Collection on November 5

First Church will be hosting its first Election Day Collection! We will be collecting non-perishable food to benefit the St. Louis Area Food Bank and school supplies that for WRHM. The event will be held all day. Please see Chris von Weise if you would like to volunteer to help! Spread the word about the Election Collections!

October Birthdays

Joyce Haynes-McCowan	October 3
Kathy Weyhrich	October 3
Linda Smith	October 5
Patrick Byrne	October 7
Rod Cooper	October 10
Emily Polaske	October 16
Marilyn Claggett	October 18
Judy James	October 19
Elston McCowan	October 24
Braeden Hood	October 29
David Denoon	October 30

October “Meal-a-Month” Shopping List

Canned Chicken & Dumplings (low salt) • Canned Green Vegetable (low or no salt)
Canned Fruit in own juices • Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk
Whole Wheat Flour • Peanut Butter • Real Fruit Jelly • Dried Fruits

Gentle Reminders

- **Reimbursements** – Please fill out a check request form found on the door of the 10 West Lockwood room in the office.
- **Maintenance Repair/Requests** – Please fill out the building use form found on the door of the 10 West Lockwood room in the office (preferably not a staff member).
- **Doors and Lights** – When you exit the building, please be sure that all the doors where you are leaving are pushed shut (including outside and office doors), and all the lights are off.
- **Umbrellas** – Umbrellas in the vestibule and coat room are there for your convenience. When you return the one you've borrowed, please make sure it is entirely retracted.
- **Garden Umbrellas** – Please feel free to open the umbrellas in the garden, but please wind them down when you leave.

What's Happening at First Church

Sunday, October 13

**Indigenous Peoples Day Observance
Access Sunday & Disabilities Awareness Week
Invitation To Commitment 2025 Begins**

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM WORSHIP

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20AM Adult Ed: State Ballot Initiatives

Monday, October 14

7:00PM Scout Troop 301 – Dickens Room

7:00PM Three Ministries – Hybrid

Tuesday, October 15

10:30PM Staff Meeting – Church Office

Wednesday, October 16

9:30AM Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room

6:00PM Bridge Club – Inglis Room

Thursday, October 17

6:00PM Canterbury Bells – Sanctuary

7:30PM Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

Saturday, October 19

10:00AM – 5:00PM Old Webster Trade Association's
Walktober Fest

Sunday, October 20

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM WORSHIP

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20AM "Jesus Has Left the Building" – Memorial Hall



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Contact Information

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Weekend & Events Custodians –
Onyeka Igboanuzue

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Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie
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Director, Center for Counseling & Healing
Rev. Linda E. Smith, BCRN, HTCP/I
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THE VISION of First Congregational Church of Webster Groves, United Church of Christ, is to be a dynamic Christian community expressing God's love, hope, joy, and peace for all people.

OUR MISSION is to provide:

- Worship that praises God
 - ◇ Shows commitment to the teachings of Jesus
 - ◇ Celebrates the Holy Spirit in ways that express the diversity of our experiences
 - ◇ Encourages spiritual growth and commitment
- Educational activities that promote faith and intellectual growth for children and for adults.
- Advocacy and care for those in need in our community and throughout the world.
- Community that seeks justice, loves kindness, and walks humbly.
- Hope, love, and encouragement to all who seek our support.
- Grace and forgiveness for ourselves and all who seek the ministries we share in worship, music, and fellowship with others on life's journey.

Follow us on

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@FirstChurchWG

Instagram

@webstergroves_firstchurch

YouTube

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

