

Welcome!

First Congregational Church
of Webster Groves United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

NOVEMBER 3, 2024
REMEMBRANCE 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
blessing of our congregation.*

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



**This day shall be a day
of remembrance for you.**

EXODUS 12:14, NRSV

Order of Worship

An asterisk () indicates the Congregation standing, in body or in spirit.*

PRELUDE *Air on the G String* J. S. Bach

WELCOME Jenny Jones, *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

***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** *For All the Saints* W. W. How
Pilgrim Hymnal – No. 306, vv. 1,4

RITUAL OF APPROACH

**Prayer of Approach* (Litany)

Response

Liturgist: Let heaven be glad:

People: Let the whole earth cry, "Glory!"

Conclusion

Blessing and honor and glory and power be to our God for ever and ever. And let all God's people say, "Amen."

Amen.

**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 Apocrypha Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 Common English Bible

The souls of those who do what is right are in God's hand. They won't feel the pain of torment.

To those who don't know any better, it seems as if they have died. Their departure from this life was considered their misfortune. Their leaving us seemed to be their destruction. But in reality they are at peace. It may look to others as if they have been punished, but they have the hope of living forever. It might seem as if they have been disciplined a little, but they will be rewarded with abundant

good things, because God witnessed their trials and found that they deserve to be with God. They were tested like gold in the furnace and were accepted like an entirely burned offering.

Someday, when the time comes for judgment, these godly ones will burst forth and run about like fiery sparks among dry straw. The godly will judge nations and hold power over peoples, even as the Holy One will rule over them forever. Those who trust in the Holy One will know the truth. Those who are faithful will always be with God in love. Favor and mercy belong to the holy ones. God watches over these chosen ones.

From Apocalyptic Literature

Revelation 21:1-6a
(Common English Bible)

Pew Bible, p. 1132

Response

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Doxology for a New Day

Miller and Hatton†

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

“Remembering”

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

WE SHARE OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS

Opportunities for Giving and Gathering

SACRAMENT OF CHRIST’S TABLE

**We Lift Our Joys and Concerns*

Invitation (Responsive – Minister; **People)*

Beloved in Christ, the Gospel tells us that on the first day of the week Jesus Christ was raised from death, appeared to Mary Magdalene, on that same day sat at the table with two disciples, and was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

This is the joyful feast of the people of God. Men and women, youth and children, come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and gather about Christ’s table.

**Sursum Corda (Responsive)*

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lighting of Memorial Candles

*includes honoring these from our membership
who have died in the last twelve months*

Elizabeth Burton Kellett
Margery Louise Knight Gable
Cynthia Ann Lapidés
Janet Officer Peppel Fales
David Alan Scott

**Sanctus (Unison)*

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest!

**Fraction*

**Acclamation (Unison)*

Christ's death, O God, we proclaim. Christ's resurrection we declare. Christ's coming we await. Glory be to you, O God!

Consecration (Unison)

Be present with us as we share this meal, and throughout all our lives, that we may know you as the Holy One, who with Christ and the Holy Spirit, lives for ever. Amen.

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

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, with Lighting of Memorial Candles

*Please approach from the diagonal aisles. If you wish to receive communion (and all are welcome to do so), after you have placed your candle, please go to the center aisle and partake of bread and either wine or juice (**Bread is gluten free; grape juice is red, wine is white.**) After you have received the elements and placed the emptied cups in the adjacent basket, continue down the center aisle to return to your seat.*

**Prayer after Communion (Unison)*

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ's presence that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

For All the Saints

John Bell

Tune: O WALLY WALLY

For all the saints who've shown your love
in how they live and where they move,
for mindful women, caring men,
accept our gratitude again.

For all the saints who loved your name,
whose faith increased the Savior's fame,
who sang your songs and shared your word,
accept our gratitude, good Lord.

For all the saints who named your will,
and showed your reign is coming still
through selfless protest, prayer, and praise,
accept the gratitude we raise.

Bless all whose will or name or love
reflects the grace of heav'n above.
Though unacclaimed by earthly powers,
your life through theirs has hallowed ours.

***PARTING THOUGHT**

Thoughts on Grief
Open the gift of loneliness
and find the gift
of being alone with God.
What can we learn,
how deep can we go,
if we open ourselves
to mystery and love?

Patricia Jensen Schutz

Grief is too heavy to bear alone.
Jesus cups his hands around ours
and we carry sorrow together.
Love opens up
into something more
than we have known it to be.
What is broken will be healed,
become ever more beautiful.

***PARTING WORDS**

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

POSTLUDE

Abide With Me (Eventide)

arr. Hal Hopson

† Today's **ANTHEM**, *Doxology for a New Day*, is a composition based on words and music by 17th Century hymnists Thomas Ken and Isaac Watts ("Praise God from whom all blessings flow..."). Additional words are by Lindy Thompson, and the new musical setting is by Mark Miller and John Hatton.

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New WiFi Connection!

first_church_guest | passcode: firstguest

Assistive Listening Systems Available

If you have an in-ear listening device connected to your mobile phone, such as hearing aids and stage monitors, you to 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 wifi system (fccwg1 + password "firstchurch" – Yes, you're the exceptions to the new WiFi connection.). **Headsets connected to our historic listening system are also available from the Narthex table.** *If you need help connecting, please see one of A/V Techs at the table in the southeast corner of the sanctuary.*

Connecting Remotely to Worship

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 (and Pledge!) 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
- Scan the QR code.



Imagine Together!

November 17 will be Consecration Sunday. On Consecration Sunday, we gather together to finalize our 2025 financial pledges to the Church and commit them prayerfully to God and one another. **Imagine Together** is the theme of this year's invitation to commitment. As you anticipate filling out your pledge card or completing the online pledge form at FirstChurchWG.org/donate, please be imagining all the good we can do together as a church. The Christian life is a life of giving, as we emulate God's gifts to us. And although commitments of time and service are invaluable to our life as a faith community, committing from our income and assets enliven our ministries too. Please, consider "stepping up" your generosity in 2025, if you are able. **Then, don't miss Consecration Sunday, November 17!** *That's when, possibly best of all, we move from pie charts to pies: The Lady Elect Guild is planning a delicious menu of pies for after the service that day!*

Next Lady Elect Meeting – Saturday, November 16, 9:00AM-12:00PM – Church Kitchen

We will be baking pies for Consecration Sunday, the 17th. Those not interested in baking pies can meet in the church office to make handcrafted holiday cards. To RSVP either project, please contact Marilyn Barton.

Fresh Pecans Arriving in November

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

Election Collection, November 5

First Church is hosting our first **Election Day Collection!** We are collecting non-perishable food to benefit the St. Louis Area Food Bank and school supplies for Webster Rock Hill Ministries. The event will be held all day, November 5. **Spread the word about the Election Collection!**

MICA Seeking Jazz Noel Underwriters

Jazz Noel is coming, Sunday, December 22 at 3:00PM. This year's program will feature music from a recorder consort along with our beloved Oikos Ensemble. You won't want to miss this delightful, free-to-the-public holiday offering for the whole family. If you would like to support this year's production of Jazz Noel, your donation would be welcome! Contributions are accepted in any of the following forms:

- a cash offering placed in the brass plate in the narthex (in an envelope on which you have written, "MICA"),
- a check made payable to the church with "MICA" written in the memo line, or
- a contribution on the Donate page of our website (select "MICA" in the pull-down menu).

Thank you for your support of our Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts!

Adult Education: Sabbatical Reports! – November 10 and 17

Pastor Dave Denoon will offer two presentations based on the research he did during his sabbatical (and continues to do). On Sunday, November 10, he will address the life and work of Jennie E. Davis Sharp, member of our Congregation and first Black schoolmistress of Webster Groves' "Colored School," 1878-1883. For her remaining 35 years, this plain-spoken and innovative educator ran a school for girls in Liberia. "The Rise and Fall of East Canada" is Pastor Dave's version of the story of Webster Groves Urban Renewal Plan, 1960-1974. In this presentation, you will learn why the African American population of Webster Groves has been steadily diminishing since that time. Both presentations will be offered in the sanctuary and live-streamed on YouTube.

Habitat for Humanity Update

Last Saturday was our congregation's turn for a Habitat for Humanity Workday. Neil Hoffstein, three Sampaths (Annie, Malvicka & Sam) and I spent the day working on a rehab house on Nebraska in south city. Sharing the work with five people from Peace UCC, we put up siding, caulked around recently installed siding as well as

disassembled scaffolding and reassembled it on the south side of the house. We were lucky to have perfect weather. Big thanks to those who participated, as well the Byrnes and Pat Doyle Grace who signed up as alternates. ~ Phil Shoulberg

November Meal-a-Month Shopping List

Canned Salmon or Tuna (in water) • Canned Spinach (no salt)
Applesauce (in plastic, no sugar added) • Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk
Soap • Deodorant • Toilet Paper

November Birthdays

Lynda Morrison	November 2
Keith Moore	November 5
Andrea Welnick	November 9
Nina Thompson	November 12
Joseph Weyhrich	November 13
Carolyn Woodsmall	November 18
Jennifer Monaco	November 19
Chris von Weise	November 25
Kristy Barton	November 27
Pat Schutte	November 27
Joan Musbach	November 30

What's Happening at First Church

Sunday, November 3

Remembrance Sunday / Sacrament of Christ's Table

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM WORSHIP

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:20AM Coffee Fellowship – Memorial Hall

Monday, November 4

7:00PM Scout Troops 301 – Dickens Room

Tuesday, November 5

6AM to 7PM

General Election - Memorial Hall

and

ELECTION COLLECTION for St. Louis Area Food Bank (non-perishable food)
and Webster Rock Hill Ministries (school supplies)

1:00PM – Communications Team

Wednesday, November 6

9:30AM ~~NO~~ Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room

10:30AM Staff Meeting – Church Office

6:00PM Bridge Club – Inglis Room

Thursday, November 7

6:00PM Canterbury Bells – Sanctuary

7:30PM Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

Sunday, November 10

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM JAZZ WORSHIP

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship (Narthex)

11:20AM Adult Ed: "Mrs. Sharp's School for Girls" – Sanctuary



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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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YouTube

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

