

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2025

JAZZ WORSHIP

IN-GATHERING / CONSECRATION 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.

Order of Worship

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

PRELUDE *Interplay* Bill Evans
*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.*

WELCOME Cynthia Matlock, *Liturgist*

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

TOLLING THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive – Liturgist; **People**) based on Psalm 98
Sing a new song to our God who has worked wonders, whose extended
hand and holy arm have brought deliverance!
**Yahweh has made salvation known and shown divine
justice to the nations, remembering in truth and love the
house of Israel.**
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
**Shout to the Most High, all the earth, break into joyous
songs of praise!**

***GATHERING HYMN** *Praise to God* Nobuaki Hanuoka
No. 5 – *New Century Hymnal*

***RITUAL OF APPROACH**
**Prayer (Litany)*

Response.
You are our Savior.
We are your people.

**Singing God's Glory* *Glory to God in the Highest* Trad. Peruvian
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 *Stone Soup* Rev. Cliff Aerie, MICA
a musical guessing game

THE WORD SHARED
From the Writings Job 19:23-27a *Tanakh: New Translation*
From the Epistles 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 *The Inclusive Bible*
Response.

Liturgist: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.
People: Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL MEDITATION *Believe in Love* John Batiste

MESSAGE OF THE DAY *"Dreaming with God"* Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preparation

Prayer

Keith Jarret

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the Day

Prayer of Our Savior (Unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven: hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; they 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH OTHERS

Opportunities to Give and Gather

**Song of Praise*

Praise God for Our Blessings

Cliff Aerie

Tune: JACOB'S LADDER

**Praise God, praise God, for our blessings
Praise God, praise God, for our blessings
Praise God, praise God, for our blessings
Sisters, Brothers, All**

Affirming Our Stewardship

Stewardship Committee

Your printed bulletin includes a form (card) for making a commitment for 2026.

Please place your completed form in the basket at the front.

If you have already submitted a pledge or are unable to make a formal commitment at this time, please leave your copy of the form blank, but place it in the basket anyway.

If you are worshiping away or prefer to make your commitment electronically, please go to FirstChurchWG.org/Pledge-2026

Stewardship Hymn

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

R. L. Edwards, alt.

Tune: ERIE

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Gifted by you, we turn to you offering up our selves in praise:
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for serving, that your will on earth be done:
All at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing teaching, and reclaiming, honoring you by loving all.

**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.

***BENEDICTION**

***PARTING WORDS**

Our worship has ended.
Let our service begin.

POSTLUDE

Lean on Me

Bill Withers

Our thanks to the members of the Oikos Jazz Ensemble for their participation in the leadership of worship today. They are Rev. **Cliff Aerie**, saxophone; **Carolbeth True**, piano; **Tim Osiek**, trumpet; **Glen Smith**, bass; **David True**, percussion; and **Kim Fuller-Barnes**, vocals.

The Oikos Jazz Ensemble is an outreach of our Ministry of Imagination, Creativity, and the Arts (MICA). MICA takes part in Sunday morning jazz worship, six times a year, and conducts two seasonal programs – Jazz Noel and Good Friday Blues – in addition to other occasional performances. If you would like to support MICA with a gift separate from your contribution to the church, please do so with

- a cash offering (in an envelope thus designated),
- a check made payable to the church with “MICA” written in the memo line, or
- an electronic contribution on the Donate page of our website (find “MICA” in the pull-down menu)

Very special thanks to the Stewardship Committee for shepherding us through this year’s season of commitment – John Paci, chair, Mark Edwards, Chris Hoyer, Julie McHugh, Doug Miller, and Nancy Rudolph.

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**Connecting Remotely to Worship**

Sunday worship each week is streamed live. To view, go to [YouTube.com/@1stChurchWG](https://www.youtube.com/@1stChurchWG)

**Wifi Connection**

Please connect to the network **first\_church\_guest** using the passcode **firstguest**

**Hearing-Assisted System**

To take advantage of our hearing-assisted system, download the **Listen Everywhere** app from the App Store or Google Store. If your phone is incompatible with the **Listen** system, we also have stand-alone receivers. Please see Mark Metcalf at the A/V station for assistance.

**How to Donate to First Congregational Church**

If you would like to support First Church with a monetary gift, here are a few ways to do so:

- Take advantage of the brass offering plate on the small table in the Narthex
- Send a check made payable to **First Congregational Church, 10 W. Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119**
- Visit **FirstChurchWG.org/donate**
- Scan the **QR code**.



**Can You Offer a Ride?**

If you can provide transportation to either of our newly non-driving church members, some Sunday soon, please find their signup sheets on clipboards in the office to volunteer a ride. Thank you!

## Let Breeze Serve as Your Church Directory

**Access the church directory or check on your donations on the Breeze app!**

Here are a few simple steps to access info from and about the church on your personal device:

1. Download the Breeze app via the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play store (Android)
2. The app will ask you to provide your Church ID, which is: **fccwgstlmo**
3. Use your Username and Password to log into the app! (If you don't know your Username, contact Office Administrator Adam Levin at [admin@firstchurchwg.org](mailto:admin@firstchurchwg.org).)

## First Church Merch

It's never too early to start Christmas shopping for Church Merch!  
We have First Church T-shirts! Adult sizes are \$15, youth sizes are \$10.  
Also, "Davis Stained-Glass Window" stickers for \$5 each.  
Contact the office, or a staff member, to find out more.

## Sunday Volunteers

Please consider signing up for one or more of the following opportunities, by going to the links next to the volunteer roles (top of next page). Worship staff will provide training as needed!

**Liturgist** – [bit.ly/Liturgist-2025](https://bit.ly/Liturgist-2025)

**Slideshow Presenter** – [bit.ly/Slideshow-2025](https://bit.ly/Slideshow-2025) • **A/V Volunteer** – [bit.ly/SE-Corner](https://bit.ly/SE-Corner)

## "Jesus Has Left the Building" Projects, November 16

**Project 1. Assembling Care Bags** which can be given to folks on the street. This project is a suitable activity for adults and kids both. Donations of items to go in the bags are welcome. Please, go to [FirstChurchWG.org/covenant-news](http://FirstChurchWG.org/covenant-news) for a complete list of needs.

**Project 2. Worshiping with St. John the Beloved Community, UCC.** Sign up for this event using the clipboard in the office, or in person with Jan Barnes, and indicate if you are willing to drive some of your FCCWG friends. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** St. John's building is not ADA compliant.

## Churches Together for Justice Collecting Signatures against Redistricting

You may have met Margaret and Bill Rowe on your way into church today as they collect signatures for the Redistricting Referendum. They are friends of the church and volunteers for Churches Together for Justice. The deadline for signatures is coming up soon. Depending on how things go today, they might also be back, next Sunday.

## Facilities & Finance Update

F&F Chair Phil Shoulberg offers the following report for November:

- Several of us on F&F are going to paint the kitchen walls on **Monday, December 1. If you would like to join us, we start at 9:00 AM.**
- The company that is now doing our lawncare/landscaping is going to renew the **Jubilee Garden**. Look for a revitalized garden next spring.
- Every week I bring in a baggie full of plastic bottle caps. **We've collected 211 lbs as of 10/29/2025!** We still need to collect 200 more pounds of caps for our ONA Rainbow Bench. That's a lot of baggies! If you're not already doing so, please contribute to this effort. The collection bin is in the Narthex. Please see this article in the Covenant News (<https://conta.cc/47tLK1Y>) for more information.

## Philip S. Roush Memorial Service, November 25

A memorial service in celebration of the life of Phil Roush has been scheduled for **3:00PM on Tuesday, November 25**, in the Sanctuary of First Church. A reception will follow in Memorial Hall. All are invited. Interment will be private.

### **Metropolitan Congregations United Gala, November 13**

The Gala will raise funds for MCU's Tornado Relief Fund and sustain MCU's ongoing work in multiple areas of civic equity. Honorees include: Lisa Williams, Reverend Angela Tate, Calvina Brown, and Jamie Hasemeier. Keynote Speaker Jessica Mayr of the Migrant & Immigrant Community Action (MICA) Project. Live Music from Rev. Eric Moeller, UCC Pastor and Founder of All-In Music Project. **Dinner will be served, and tickets are tax deductible!** For more information, go to [mcustlouis.org](http://mcustlouis.org)

### **Webster Groves Community Thanksgiving, November 25**

A Community Thanksgiving worship service will take place in the sanctuary of Webster Groves United Methodist (600 N. Bompert Ave.) on Tuesday, November 25th at 6PM, with a message from special guest, the Rev. Jacqueline McCall of St. Andrew United Methodist Church in north St. Louis County. The service includes music by an ecumenical choir made up of members from participating Webster Groves congregations. If you are interested in participating in the choir, please be in touch with Pastor Glen Connoley (PastorGlen@WebsterUM.org) who will provide further details. Offering will be donated to Rosebud Indian Reservations, SD, and Project Hope Food Pantry at St. Andrew UMC.

### **Interfaith Thanksgiving, November 25**

The Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis will host a Thanksgiving and Cultural Event on Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00PM, at the Frontenac Chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (10445 Clayton Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131). For more information about this gathering from many traditions expressing gratitude through music and spoken word, and to register your attendance, please use the accompanying QR code.



### **YANKEE SWAP IS BACK, December 7**

On **Sunday, December 7, from 1:15 to 5:00**,  
there will be a potluck meal and a swapping of gifts.

Who? YOU!

Where? Mike Lenard's home

When? 1:15 to 5:00, December 7

What? Yankee Swap

Please bring the following:

1. a dish (main dish, salad, or dessert) for the table.
2. a homemade/handmade gift (one per person) (unwrapped) for the gift exchange.
3. a donation for Webster Rock Hill Ministries.

**RSVP before December 4** to Garie Perry (314-698-2614), or Jane Porchey (314-961-0283).

Questions? Call Garie or Jane!

Mike's address is: 1467 Heritage Valley Drive, High Ridge, MO (Detour directions in the church office!). Phone: 314-740-9589

### **Jazz Noel: 15th Annual Performance – “Seeking the Light” Sunday, December 21, 2:30PM**

Joining the *Oikos Ensemble* will be award-winning artist Michael Anderson who will paint on canvas during the concert, interpreting our theme, **Seeking the Light**. Our program will include actors portraying the tale of four shepherds who encountered the angelic proclamation. **And the Terra Nova Early Music Consort returns with a pre-concert at 2:30PM.**

For information about donating in support of this year's Jazz Noel, please see the acknowledgement announcement at the end of today's Order of Worship.

### **November Birthdays**

Keith Moore - November 5  
Benton Prange - November 5  
Trina Hill - November 7  
Andrea Welnick - November 9  
Jan Ver Hagen - November 11  
Nina Thompson - November 12  
Joseph Weyhrich - November 13  
Marilyn Barton - November 15  
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

### **November 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

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

For a complete schedule of all church events, observances, and building use,  
please visit our online calendar at  
[FirstChurchWG.org/Calendar](http://FirstChurchWG.org/Calendar)

#### **Sunday, November 9**

**Jazz Worship**

**Consecration Sunday**

**9:45AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00AM Worship**

**10:15AM** Kids' Church

**11:05AM** Consecration Celebration with Pies by Lady Elect

#### **Tuesday, November 11**

**10:30AM** Staff Meeting – Church Office

#### **Wednesday, November 12**

~~**9:30AM** Yoga with Jeanene – Inglis Room~~

#### **Thursday, November 13**

**6:00PM** Canterbury Bells – Sanctuary

**7:30PM** Chancel Choir – Sanctuary

#### **Sunday, November 16**

**"Jesus Has Left the Building" Outreach Event**

**9:45AM** Nursery Care Available

**10:00AM** Worship in Memorial Hall

**10:20AM** Outreach Projects



10 West Lockwood Avenue  
Webster Groves, MO 63119  
314-962-0475  
www.FirstChurchWG.org

## Contact Information

Moderator – Chris von Weise  
chrisvonyz@gmail.com

Pastor – Rev. David Denoon  
DDenoon@FirstChurchWG.org

Office Administrator – Adam Levin  
Admin@FirstChurchWG.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation – Johari Hunt  
Johari.Hunt@FirstChurchWG.org

Director of Music & Organist – Dr. Leon Burke  
Leon.Burke@FirstChurchWG.org

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ctil234@FirstChurchWG.org

Events Coordinator – Alicia McMinn  
Events@FirstChurchWG.org

Custodian & AV Tech – Mark Metcalf  
Mark.Metcalf@FirstChurchWG.org

Weekend & Events Custodian –  
Onyeka Igboanuzue

Director of Ministry of Imagination, Creativity  
and the Arts (MICA) – Rev. Cliff Aerie  
Cliff.Aerie@FirstChurchWG.org

**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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