

Welcome!

First Congregational Church of Webster Groves
United Church of Christ



Seek Christ in each. Serve God in all.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2026
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



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.

*Young people 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 Epistles

1 Peter 1:17-23

Pew Bible, p. 1104

From the Gospels

Luke 24:13-35

p. 964

Response.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Easter Carol

Traditional

Cheer up, friends and neighbors, now is Eastertime.
Stop from endless labors, worries put aside.
All should rise from sadness, evil, folly, strife;
Mighty gladness brings the earth to life.
Out from snowdrifts chilly roused from drowsy hours
Bluebell wakes and lily; God calls up the flowers.
Unto life God raises all the sleeping buds,
Meadows weave God's praises and the spangled woods.
All Christ's truth and beauty, all his righteousness
Are our joy and duty bearing his impress.
Look! the earth waits breathless after winter's strife.
Easter show us breathless Spring leads death to life.
Ours the more and less is but changeless all the days
God revives and blesses like the sunlight rays.
Humanity is risen, the Easter bells do ring
While from out their prison creep the flowers of Spring.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

"Trying to Get It Right"

Rev. David Denoon, *Pastor*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preparation for Prayer

Just as I Am

William B. Bradbury

Tune: WOODWORTH

**Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

We Lift Our Joys and Concerns to God

*When you speak a prayer request aloud, please bear in mind the privacy
of those for whom you are praying, as this worship is being live-streamed*

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!

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)*

Most gracious God, Christ our Savior becomes known to us in the breaking of bread. Accept the gifts we offer, so that others might have bread to break. And by your Holy Spirit bless our gifts, we pray, as we commit them to your will and work in Jesus' name. Amen.

***PARTING HYMN**

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee
No. 255, vv. 1,3,4,5 – *New Century Hymnal*

Latin: 12th Century

***BENEDICTION**

PARTING WORDS

Liturgist: Our worship has ended.

People: **Let our service begin.**

POSTLUDE

Postlude

Anton Bruckner

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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Worshipping from Home or Away

To view worship livestream and videos online, 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

Take advantage of our hearing-assisted system! Simply 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 an attendant at the A/V station for assistance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Immigration Law with Lynn Mark, Today

Lynn Mark, Accredited Representative in the **Immigration Law Program of the Legal Services of Eastern Missouri** will discuss the latest information on happenings within their practice in relationship to Immigration and ICE. There are so many changes coming that it's hard to predict what will be on the agenda. Meet us at 11:20 in the Inglis Room!

Rainbow Bench: 300 Pounds!

We now have 300 lbs. of plastic caps, just 100 lbs. to go. Thank you for your continued participation in this project. Learn about the parameters for donation in the latest Covenant News.

Yoga Out of Session, April 22

Wednesday Yoga with Jeanene is **cancelled on April 22**, and will resume on April 29.

Lady Elect, April 27: Game Day!

You are cordially invited to the next Lady Elect meeting on **Monday, April 27th, at 11:30AM**. The theme is Game Day. We will be enjoying games from our past, group games, card games, and maybe even some new games. You do not need to bring a thing. Snacks and dessert will be provided. Please RSVP by texting Marilyn at (314) 894-2046.

Benevolence 2026, May 2

Reserve Tickets by April 26

This year's Gala of Grace will have a Derby Day theme, recognizing the annual Running for the Roses in Kentucky which will finish just as we are gathering! Purchase your tickets at bit.ly/FCCGalaTickets, or in the Narthex or Memorial Hall on Sundays. **Reserve yours by April 26**. To learn more about how to volunteer your time, product, or service, check this week's Covenant News.

Volunteers Needed for St. Louis Association Meeting, May 7

The St. Louis Association of the United Church of Christ will meet at First Church on May 7th, with a brown bag dinner starting at 6:00PM in Memorial Hall, and the event taking place from 7 to 9PM in the Sanctuary. Volunteers are needed. You can help facilitate our Association meeting by contacting the Pastor.

Canned Food Drive for WRHM, May 17

First Church will be collecting canned goods for Webster Rock-Hill Ministries on Sunday, May 17, especially the following:

- Canned tuna, salmon, and chicken
- Canned beans (black, kidney, garbanzo)
- Peanut butter/nut butters (in plastic jars)
- Breakfast cereal
- Powdered milk, shelf-stable milk
- Canned chili, stew, ravioli

In addition, please reminder to pick up a slip to shop for Meal-a-Month, or keep handy the Meal-a-Month list in this issue of the bulletin!

Adult Ed, May 17: Provident Health on Elder Care

After worship on Sunday, May 17th, a representative from Provident Health will give a presentation on navigating the complexities of elder care. The presentation will focus especially on the transitional care for seniors.

Habitat for Humanity Workday, October 3

We now have the five people needed (plus one alternate) for our May 16 Habitat Workday. Huge thanks to those that responded! (We still need four workers for our fall workday on October 3. The sign-up sheet is hanging in the office.)

Read More in Covenant News

Check out this week's Covenant News at <https://conta.cc/4vAjaQ2> for events in the wider community, including:

- Events from the Missouri Mid-South Conference (MoVal Workday, April 25; Women's Retreat, May 1-3)
- WG Presbyterian Speaker Series, "Seeking Truth in Troubled Times," April 23

April Meal-A-Month Shopping List

Canned Turkey • Brown Rice • Canned Corn (low or no salt)
Applesauce (in plastic, no sugar added)
Powdered Milk, shelf stable milk, soy milk
Peanut Butter • Real Fruit Jelly • Dried Fruits

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.



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.)

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-2026

Slideshow Presenter – bit.ly/FCCWG-Slides • **A/V Volunteer** – bit.ly/SE-Corner

New on Sundays – Door Security Policy

As part of our efforts toward greater safety and security, a new policy has been adopted by the First Friends. Almost all doors will now be locked at 10:00AM on Sundays. To access the building after worship has begun, please go to the Narthex entrance (east side of the building).

Can You Offer a Ride?

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

Lost and Found

Three pairs of glasses and other items have been in the office for several weeks. Please pick them up ASAP if they are yours. Contact Adam with any questions about the lost and found.

What's Going on at First Church

For a complete schedule of church events, observances, and building use,
please visit our online calendar at
FirstChurchWG.org/Calendar

Sunday, April 19

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship

11:20AM Adult Education: Immigration Law with Lynn Mark - Inglis

Monday, April 20

7:00PM Executive Ministry - Zoom

7:00PM Scouting BSA Troop 301

Tuesday, April 21

10:30AM Staff Meeting - Church Office

5:00PM Emergency / Security Discussion (First Friends Leaders) - Zoom

Wednesday, April 22

~~**9:30AM** Yoga with Jeanene - Inglis - Cancelled~~

Thursday, April 23

6:00PM Canterbury Bells - Sanctuary

7:30PM Chancel Choir - Sanctuary

Sunday, April 26

9:45AM Nursery Care Available

10:00AM Worship

10:15AM Kids' Church

11:05AM Coffee Fellowship - Inglis

11:20AM Confirmation Discussion - Parlor

April Birthdays

Jane Brader - April 6

Rebecca Glazier - April 8

Julie Cohen - April 10

Valerie Paci - April 10

Diane Weber - April 10

Anne Gerst - April 15

Sharon Love - April 18

Phillip Shoulberg - April 18

Elizabeth Monaco - April 23

Francis Byrne - April 25

John Robinson - April 26

Annie Sampath - April 26



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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

Facilities Manager – Chip Isringhaus
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.

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