

Welcome to First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 14, 2022

*** Some rise to their feet, some rise in their hearts—please rise as you are able.***

GATHERING BELL

At the sound of the bell, please silence yourselves and prepare for worship.

PRELUDE

In the Air, C. Maxwell Reilly

Max Reilly

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mark Long

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

**Whoever you are...and wherever you are on life's journey...
you are welcome here!**

OPENING REFLECTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ellen Bradley

Our Loving God gathers us from the east and the west, from the north and from the south.

Holy Love is in our midst. Let us say so!

We cried out to our God in the time of trouble and eased our distress.

Holy Love is in our midst. God leads us on right paths.

Our Provider satisfies our thirst and meets our needs.

**Holy Love is in our midst. Let us be clothed in love and compassion, for our neighbors
and ourselves.**

**HYMN NCH 402

De Colores (Sing of Colors)

All

Sing of colors, sing of colors that over the hills in profusion are springing;
Sing of colors of the birds that fly outside my window their canticles singing;
Sing of colors, in the rainbow's bright colors God's promise of hope we recall;
Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.
Sing of colors that make up the earth and give thanks to the God who created us all.

Sing, rejoicing! Every creature that breathes raise a song to the God of creation.

Sing, rejoicing! Sing to God who so earnestly cares, who has offered salvation.

Sing the good news! Sing the love of the Savior reflecting the colors of all.

Many colors that shine from God's face, many colors that tell us God's love to recall.

Many colors that shine from God's face, many colors that tell us God's love to recall.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Mark

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Ellen

OFFERTORY

Improvisation on Noel Nouvelet, C. Maxwell Reilly

Max

DOXOLOGY (tune: *Lasst uns erfreuen*)

All

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

****PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Ellen

Holy Love, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts. Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your abundance and gift of life and love. Amen.

****HYMN**

Draw a Wider Circle (tune: Noel Nouvelet)

All

Draw a wider circle or, perhaps, erase.
Spiral toward God's center, gravity of grace.
Raze former fences marking out and in—
holy and unholy, sanctity and sin.

Planets spin in orbit, centered on a star;
some will circle closely, some revolve afar.
From any distance light illumines each.
Through the void of darkness none is out of reach.

Do we measure margins just to feel secure,
casting out the different, hoping to be pure?
Christ is our center – bound'ry lines must fall.
God's light flows unhindered; grace abounds for all.

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 10:32-33 and John 13:34-35

Ellen

Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, so that they may be saved.

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

MESSAGE

Love and Respect

Mark

****HYMN NCH 294**

There's a Spirit in the Air

All

There's a spirit in the air, telling Christians everywhere:
"Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world."

Lose your shyness, find your tongue; tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.

When believers break the bread, when a hungry child is fed:
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working on our world.

Still the Spirit gives us light, seeing wrong and setting right:
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.

When a stranger's not alone, where the homeless find a home:
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living working in our world.

May the Spirit fill our praise, guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay. Live tomorrow's life today.

There's a Spirit in the air, calling people everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed, living, working in our world.

Respond to each shared prayer request with "Peace, Shalom, Salaam."

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

UNISON SUNG BENEDICTION

World Peace Prayer

Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth,
From despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace,
Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,
Let peace fill our universe!

Today's Worship Leaders

"guest" preacher
liturgist
musician

Mark Long
Ellen Bradley
Max Reilly

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Pastoral Care

*While Pastor Paul is on vacation, if you have an **urgent** need or crisis, you can call him while he is on the road. Try both Paul's cell phone, 970-793-8638, and Pam's phone, 425-286-8169. Their Family and Friends Tour will go to Santa Fe, Amarillo, Tulsa, St. Louis, Huntington, WV, Indianapolis, Springfield, Ill., and Kansas City. Paul and Pam get to see the two newest family members who are 1 ½ and just turned 2. The two-year old is named after Uncle Paul.*

*To share a prayer request with the congregation, contact Beth Rakestraw, office@uccgj.org or 970-242-0298 x 105. **Deadline for publishing in the Sunday bulletin is Thursday noon.***

FCUCC Staff

senior pastor	revpaulashby@yahoo.com	Rev. Paul Ashby
choir & bell director	topcatkc@aol.com	Karen Caton
custodian		Anna Driggs
office administrator	office@uccgj.org	Beth Rakestraw
volunteer financial clerks	finance@uccgj.org	Nancy Palubicki & Martha Jones
music coordinator		Martha Jones

This Week at FCUCC**August 14 – August 21, 2022**

Sunday 14	9:30	Song leaders rehearse hymns	sanctuary
	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Happy Hour	pilgrim
Tuesday 16	10:00	Women's Coffee	pilgrim
	10:00	Men's Coffee	mayflower
Thursday 18	11:30	Berna B's	Berna B's
	12:15	Health & Wellness	mayflower
Friday 19	10:00	Zoom Coffee Hour	zoom
	6:00	FOG: Fellowship of the Grape	
Sunday 21	9:30	Song leaders rehearse hymns	sanctuary
	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Happy Hour	pilgrim
	11:15	Church Council Meeting	chapel

Church office hours: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 to 3:00.

Save the Dates:

September 5 | Labor Day | Church Office Closed

September 8 -10 | RMC Conferencewide Committee on Ministry Retreat

September 10 | Pastor Paul's Covenant Celebration [i.e. Installation]

October 8 | In-Person Empty Bowls Fundraiser for Catholic Outreach

October 19- 22 | Friends of the Library Book Sale

October 23 | Fall Sunday Book Study Begins

November 8 | Election Day

November 27 | Advent Begins

Christmas Eve is on Saturday this year, Christmas Day on Sunday.

Announcements

Contact: Beth Rakestraw, Office Administrator, office@uccgj.org

Guest WiFi Access | The name of our guest WiFi is FCUCCguest; the password is "welcomeall."

Join us for Coffee after worship | You must be current on Covid vaccinations to join us for social events. Persons with underlying health conditions are encouraged to mask for indoor events.

FOG Returns | Hooray! Attention FOGlodytes! After a long absence due to Covid and other factors, FOG [Fellowship of the Grape] returns on the 3rd Friday in August (the 19th) at 6:00 pm, at the church in the courtyard between the kitchen and sanctuary, weather permitting. Otherwise we will

meet in Pilgrim Hall. Bring a bottle of cool, refreshing summer wine --or an alternative beverage if you don't drink alcohol-- and a hearty summer appetizer to share.

Children's Movie Event | A children's movie event will take place Sunday, August 21 after Happy Hour. Stay tuned for more information later.

Pastor Paul and Pam Ashby's Vacation | Paul and Pam Ashby's vacation continues through August 30.

Oddball Acrylic Yarn Leftovers Wanted | Pam Grout wants your acrylic yarn leftovers. Whatever you have left over from a project is ideal, regardless of how little or how great an amount. She does not need or want full skeins. You may drop them off at the church office or look Pam up in the church directory.

Mission & Outreach August Collection | For the month of August, we will continue supporting Child and Migrant Services by collecting insect repellent, sunscreen, calamine lotion, and bandanas. Some thoughtful additions to our collections list include individual size Kleenex, individual size hand cleanser, cough/throat drops, and lip balm.

August Collection for Catholic Outreach | As you know, our enormous collection of drinks – soda, juices, water, and more – in June was a tremendous hit at Catholic Outreach. It was getting hot, and folks who must spend much of their time outdoors and/or on the streets were suffering. So we offered them “a cup of cool water,” as Jesus encourages us to do, and they were refreshed and glad. August's arrival means there's still another long month (or more) of summer heat to go. So, let's match or exceed our June generosity, and collect another 100-200 cans/bottles/packets of liquid refreshment to share with our thirsty neighbors.

Mission & Outreach Ongoing Collections for Solidarity, Not Charity | We currently collect hotel and personal size toiletries, water/milk jugs with their lids and plastic grocery bags for Solidarity, Not Charity.

We Are Hiring a New Custodian | Although Anna continues to serve us well right now, she will be leaving us soon for a different opportunity. Do you know someone who has custodial skills and experience who would work for FCC 15 hours a week cleaning our building and overseeing our grounds maintenance? Please ask interested persons to email me at the church office, office@uccgj.org. The job is also posted on Indeed, Facebook Jobs and Mesa County Workforce. Thank you! ~Beth

Vision & Mission

As a progressive Christian community of faith, we seek to walk with compassion, inclusion, acceptance, bravery and understanding as Jesus did.

We STRIVE to:

- ◇ *be a welcoming congregation where you are safe to be who you are.*
- ◇ *be life-long learners that question and challenge each other to grow in faith, thought and actions.*
- ◇ *work for peace, equity and justice for all people*
- ◇ *protect and restore the integrity of our earth and all of creation.*
- ◇ *be change-makers.*