

Welcome to First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
Five Ways to Share Hope | Trinity Sunday
June 12, 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

Sarabande, French Suite no. 6, Mvt 3, J.S. Bach

Max Reilly

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Paul Ashby

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

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

OPENING REFLECTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kristin Seiff

We are Children of Hope.

It is our mission to listen to the God of Hope.

God breaks through prisons of despair to whisper the words of hope, of connection, of life.

Holy One, let us be ambassadors of hope and help. Drive us beyond self-centered worries about petty problems. Help us to experience the hope born out of struggle and endurance.

In the heart of God's hope – even death is not defeat.

Let us live with God's hope.

**HYMN

Sing a New World into Being (tune: Nettleton)

All

Sing a new world into being. Sing a bold and hopeful theme.
Find a tune for silent yearnings. Lift your voice and dare to dream:
dream a church where all who worship find their lives and loves belong.
Sing a new world into being. Sing as Christ inspires your song!

Sing a new world into being where each gender, class, and race
brings its rainbow gifts and colors to God's limitless embrace;
where the lines that once divided form instead the ties that bind.
Sing a new world into being: Risk transforming heart and mind!

Sing a new world into being where the homeless find a home,
where no children ever hunger but are filled in God's shalom;
where all people work for justice, where all hate and vengeance cease.
Sing a new world into being: Raise the harmonies of peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Paul

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Kristin

OFFERTORY *Improvisation* Max

**DOXOLOGY *Hal-le, hal-le hal-le-lu-ja* All

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION Kristin

God of Hope, the news causes us to invite thoughts of apathy and indifference. What can we do as one person or one family? What difference can we make? Yet each word of encouragement to the sick, the depressed, the over-stressed creates a crack in the walls of what we say we cannot do. Let your light shine through the cracks. Amen

HYMN *Light is Kindled in the Darkness (tune: Beach Spring)* All

Light is kindled in the darkness when our hope seems most absurd,
beacons through a shrouded future, pledges of Christ's steadfast word:
gifts of goodness yet enfold us— all around, beneath, above—
signs of beauty still persisting, symbols of God's constant love.

Though the wrong appears victorious— vi'lence, prejudice, and pride—
hope still rises from the wreckage; joy and grief stand side by side.
We will feel both pain and promise, terror's sting and love's new birth,
as we walk in light and shadow on God's blessed and bleeding earth.

Raise your candle in the darkness though the wick of faith burns low.
Feed the fire with grace and justice and in wonder watch it grow.
As we gather flames together, till they shine with warmth and light,
God dispels the night of hatred, and the blaze of love burns bright.

SCRIPTURE Romans 5:1-5 Kristin

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

MESSAGE *5 Ways to Share Hope or
What to Do When They Say There's Nothing You Can Do* Paul

**HYMN SPP #199 *Go, Make a Difference* All

Refrain

Go make a difference. We can make a difference. Go make a difference in the world. (repeat)

We are the salt of the earth, called to let the people see
the love of God in you and me.

We are the light of the world, not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a difference in the world. *refrain*

We are the hands of Christ reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.

We are the spirit of hope; we are the voice of peace.
Go make a difference in the world. *refrain*

So let your love shine on, let it shine for all to see.
Go make a difference in the world.
And the spirit of Christ will be with us as we go.
Go make a difference in the world. *refrain*

** BENEDICTION

Paul

UNISON SUNG BENEDICTION

World Peace Prayer

All

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

preacher
liturgist
musician

Paul Ashby
Kristin Seiff
Max Reilly

Acknowledgements

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*Composer's note: In the weeks of despondency after the 2016 election, I was waiting at an El stop in downtown Chicago when I got word that my dear friends had welcomed their new son into the world. I was reminded that even in seasons of great cruelty and despair, there are signs of God's beauty and love that still persist.

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

To call Pastor Paul:

- **His cell phone, 970-793-8638. [Paul prefers calls over texts]**
- His extension at church, 970-242-0298, x104.
- Home landline, 970-200-2668. [Paul is always up until midnight, do not be shy about calling late when there is need.]

To share a prayer request with the congregation, contact Beth Rakestraw, office@uccgj.org or 970-242-0298 x 105.

Please pray for a friend of our church, Dee Jacquet, whose husband died earlier this week of a sudden heart attack.

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.

In-person Women’s Coffee | Interested in restarting women’s coffee at church? Come Tuesday morning June 14th at 10:00 am for a planning session. (Friday zoom coffee will continue as usual.)

Women’s High Tea | Saturday, June 18 | 1:00 pm | You are cordially invited to attend High Tea. Bringing a guest is encouraged; hat and gloves are optional. Please let us know if you are attending by Monday, June 13 –tomorrow! Email office@uccgj.org or call Carolyn Holmgren.

New TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter forming at UCC! | Organizational Meeting June 19th | 11:15 am | Mayflower Room | Please join us – Greg Biehn, Kathy Viglianco and Julie Krueger – to learn more. We will meet at the church one time per week for one hour – tentatively Thursdays at noon. No potions, prescribed plans or preaching (we will leave that to Pastor Paul) just support for you on your individual road to improved health. Maybe it is time to start a new chapter? Hope to see you there!.

New Directory Update | For the next several Sundays, a draft of the new directory will be available for your review. I’d like congregants to review their photos and contact information, make any necessary corrections, and initial next to the entries to show it has been reviewed. Your initials will also express your permission for your photo and contact information to appear in the directory. Arrangements for new photos or retakes can be made at that time.

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.

June Collection for Catholic Outreach | Beverages | With the weather heating up in the Valley, C.O. guests are thrilled to have a bottle or can of a refreshing beverage to take with them into the heat of their afternoons. Let’s collect at least 100 cans or bottles or cartons of juice and/or soda, cold drinks, soft drinks, soda-pop (or whatever y’all called it back home) to share with our thirsty friends here in the Valley.

This Week at FCUCC**June 12 – 19, 2022**

Sunday 12	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Happy Hour	pilgrim
Monday 13	1:00	Property Team Meeting	chapel
	5:00	Make Mondays Fun	pilgrim
Tuesday 14	10:00	In-Person Women’s Coffee Planning Session	pilgrim
Friday 17	10:00	Zoom Coffee Hour	zoom
Saturday 18	1:00	Women’s High Tea	pilgrim
Sunday 19		Juneteenth Father’s Day	
	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Happy Hour	pilgrim
	11:15	Council Meeting	chapel

Congregants are welcome to attend council meetings.

Save the Dates:

July 4 | Independence Day | Church Office Closed

August 12–14 | Church Camping Trip | Island Lake [on Grand Mesa]

September 5 | Labor Day | Church Office Closed

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

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.*