

Welcome to First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 17, 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

Inner Sky, Max Reilly

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

Joanne Drake

We live very busy lives.

To say we are busy is almost a social expectation. People proclaim “Better to be busy than to be bored.”

Dare to be honest... how many things could we cross off our normal to do list and still enjoy a good life?

I refuse to answer on the grounds it might incriminate me.

Part of our contemporary world is designed to split our attention into a mass of fragmented distractions. Yes, you did sign on to accept cookies that are not baked or store bought, they are rabbit hole lures on your screen.

God help us to desire clarity, unity, wholeness, oneness and to slow down long enough to sense Your Light and Love.

**HYMN - Song Folder #10, vs 1-2

Come and Find the Quiet Center

All

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Paul

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Joanne

OFFERTORY *Improvisation* Max

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

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION Joanne

God of mystics and sages, enable us to discover Your priorities that free us from the experience of a fragmented soul. Let us find rest as we relax from holding up the world on our shoulders. In our giving, let us give You back the world if only for an hour. Amen

HYMN (Seated – call and respond) *Slow Me Down* All

Slow me down...
Still my restless mind...
Quell my fears...
Quench my thirsty soul...
Fill me with your love...
God of Truth...
God of Love...

SCRIPTURE Luke 10:38-42 Joanne

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

MESSAGE *Finding Yourself in the Story: The Big Picture Truth – Only One Thing is Needed* Paul

**HYMN - Song Folder #10, vs 3 *Come and Find the Quiet Center* All

In the Spirit, let us travel, open to each others pain,
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare.

** BENEDICTION Paul

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

preacher
liturgist
musician

Rev Paul Ashby
Joanne Drake
Max Reilly

Acknowledgements

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Pastoral Care

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. **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

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.

Hawaiian Shirt Sunday | To celebrate the Joy of Even the Hot Days of Summer... We will have a Hawaiian Shirt Sunday on the 4th Sunday of July on the 24th. If we cannot beat the heat, we can find joy in the small pleasures of life.

New Members/Inquirers Class | Sunday, July 24 | After Worship | Library | Everyone is welcome to sit in and learn the highlights of UCC history, regardless of whether you are a member or not or intend to join the congregation.

Mission & Outreach July Collection | Our third quarter project will be to support Child and Migrant Services. During the month of July, we will be collecting insect repellent, sunscreen, calamine lotion, and bandanas.

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.

July Collection for Catholic Outreach | Salad Dressings | Salad is a summertime favorite at Catholic Outreach. True, it's only been a few months since we collected salad dressings for the Soup Kitchen, but it's now all gone, and it is That Time of Year! Think we can do 200 bottles or packets this time around?

This Week at FCUCC

July 17 – 24, 2022

Sunday 17	9:30	Song leaders rehearse hymns	sanctuary
	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Happy Hour	pilgrim
	11:15	Council Meeting	chapel
<i>All congregants are welcome to attend council meetings.</i>			
Tuesday 19	10:00	Womens' Coffee	pilgrim
	10:00	Men's Coffee	mayflower
Thursday 21	11:30	Berna B's	Berna B's
	12:15	Weight Loss/Healthy Eating Support Group	mayflower
Friday 22	10:00	Zoom Coffee Hour	zoom
Sunday 24	Hawaiian Shirt Sunday		
	9:30	Song leaders rehearse hymns	sanctuary
	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Happy Hour	pilgrim
	11:00	New Members Class	library

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

Save the Dates:

July 31 | Fifth Sunday Potluck

August 5 | Children & Youth Event | Movies Under the Stars

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

August 15–17 | 2022 Jubilee at La Foret [i.e. summer camp for adults]

September 5 | Labor Day | Church Office Closed

October 19- 22 | Friends of the Library Book Sale

November 27 | Advent Begins

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

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.*