

Welcome to First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 2, 2021

***Please rise in body or in spirit.*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GREETING

Rev. Dr. David Dethmers

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

PRELUDE

Beach Spring, Gilbert Martin

Martha Jones

CALL TO WORSHIP - Based on Isaiah 2:1-5 NRSV

Linda Randolph

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; and all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

God shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples.

They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

HYMN SF #2

All Are Welcome, 1,3,4,5

Pam Gregory

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hope and dreams and vision, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us: *refrain*

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger: *refrain*

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: *refrain*

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Project 1.27

Allan Weinand

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 16:13-18 (NRSV)

Linda

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah,

and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

**SUNG RESPONSE

Open Our Hearts

**Open our hearts, open our minds
open our lives to you, O loving God.**

**SCRIPTURE:

Matthew 22:15-22

David

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

SERMON SERIES: *The Once and Future Church*
Today's Message: *Where We Went Wrong*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Come, ye Disconsolate, setting by Alice Parker

Pam

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, we bring these gifts to you, for you have given us all things. As we steward our resources, help us to keep our loyalties to you and Caesar in proper priority, we pray.
Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

David

HYMN SF #6

As a Fire is Meant for Burning

Pam

As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,
So the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God's name.
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,
We join hands across the nations, finding neighbors ev'rywhere.

We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.
By our gentle, loving actions, we would show that Christ is light.
In a humble, list'ning Spirit, we would live to God's delight.

As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,
So may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued.
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,
May our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

**BENEDICTION

David

POSTLUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, arr John Carter

Martha

Today's Worship Leaders

preacher
liturgist
song leader
musician

Rev. Dr. David Dethmers
Linda Randolph
Pam Gregory
Martha Jones

Acknowledgements

Unless otherwise noted, music streamed with permission, OneLicense A-709231.

- ◇ *Beach Spring*, tune from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844. Arr by Gilbert M. Martin © 1996, The Sacred Music Press.
- ◇ *All Are Welcome*, Tune (*Two Oaks*) and text by Marty Haugen © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc.
- ◇ *Open Our Hearts*, words and music Jim Strathdee © 1983, Desert Flower Music.
- ◇ *Come, Ye Disconsolate*. Words Thomas Moore, 1779-1852. Tune: Samuel Webbe, 1770-1843. Setting by Alice Parker © 2008. Streamed with permission from Alice Parker.
- ◇ *As a Fire is Meant for Burning*. Tune: *Beach Spring* from *The Sacred Harp*, 1844. Text: Ruth Duck © 1992 GIA Publications.
- ◇ *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*, Jamaican folk song adapted by Doreen Potter © 1975, and this arrangement by John Carter © 1998. Hope Publishing Company.

This Week at FCUCC

May 2 – 9, 2021

Sunday 2	10:00	Worship w/ Communion	sanctuary
	11:05	Sermon Discussion	sanctuary
Monday 3	AP Testing Begins	Pilgrim, Mayflower, Library, Chapel, Zen Room	
Tuesday 4	4:30	Mission & Outreach	zoom
Wednesday 5	1:00	Conga Life	chapel
Sunday 9	10:00	Worship	sanctuary
	11:05	Sermon Discussion	sanctuary

“Corona Time” Church office hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 to 3:00

FCUCC Staff

intentional interim minister	david@uccgj.org	Rev. Dr. David Dethmers
choir & bell director	topcatkc@aol.com	Karen Caton**
organist/pianist	marthajones7960@gmail.com	Martha Jones
office administrator	office@uccgj.org	Beth Rakestraw
volunteer treasurer/finance	finance@uccgj.org	Martha Jones

** On leave of absence until choirs can gather in person again.

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

Adult Spiritual Formation Opportunity | Christianity after Religion: The Once and Future Church | Sundays, April 18 through May 16 | Discussion group to follow worship TODAY in the sanctuary. The discussion will be taped and available on YouTube for those who worship at home.

Project 1.27 Info Night | Tuesday May 11 | Join us for a Project 1.27 Info Night for Christians interested in pursuing foster care and adoption of kids in the Colorado Foster Care System. First Baptist Church, 720 Grand Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Learn more and register online at project127.org/infonight.

AP Testing | Begins Monday, May 3 | Ends Monday, May 17 | Many of the church's meeting rooms have been reserved for this event. There is also zero access to these rooms while testing is going on, so volunteers who work indoors or outdoors should plan accordingly. Should you need an in-person meeting space at church, please be sure to call Beth in advance to ensure space is available. It is recommended to meet by zoom during this time.

Friends of the Library Book Sale News | TWICE AS MUCH! Beginning next Friday May 7, the Friends bookstore will be open both Friday and Saturday from 9-2. Contact Carolyn Ramsey (245-6941) if you want to shop any other time—she has a key. Also, on May 21-22 we will haul out World War, Civil War and Revolutionary War books so everyone interested can have a great time.

GVIN May Food Drive | Grand Valley Interfaith Network will host a May Day Foods Day food drive on Saturday, May 15, to benefit five local food banks that feed people from Palisade to Fruita. Grocery bags are provided that have specific food lists attached so that the foods most needed are provided. The food banks being served by this event are Child and Migrant Services, The Agape Food Basket, The Community Food Bank, Clifton Christian Church Food Program, and Grand Valley Catholic Outreach. Church members can pick bags up from church and return bags of food to the church by Thursday, May 13. The bags will be delivered to the drive for you on Saturday.

UPDATED: Second Quarter Mission & Outreach Project | Homeward Bound | OTC | What do you do when you feel under the weather? Reach for something in your medicine cabinet. The people who depend on Homeward Bound for food and shelter also struggle with basic over the counter medicine. This month we are collecting aspirin, Tylenol and cough drops to help with common headaches and colds. Please consider donating to this worthy cause this month.

May Food Collection for Catholic Outreach | Pantry Ode

*I'll admit the word "fruit"
Doesn't quite rhyme with "soup" —
but it almost does.*

*And "can" is in "cantaloupe"
As well as in "can-ned soup" —
so they're clearly related.*

*So ... cream of chicken, mushroom too,
Cream of celery, cheddar's new!
Cans of peaches, cherries, pears,
Mixed fruits, mangoes, gummi bears!*

Catholic Outreach needs all these, [EXCEPT FOR THE GUMMI BEARS]

*So next time you're shopping, please
Put some in your cart, then bring 'em to church,*

Let's not leave the Soup Kitchen deep in the lurch.

We've been doing wonderfully well with our monthly collections. Maybe this month we could shoot for 100 cans of soup and 100 cans of canned fruits? Gooooo000, church!!!

Pastoral Care

The best way to contact Pastor David at any time is on his cell phone: 520-528-0855, with either a call or a text. Or you can leave a message at church: 970-242-0298, x104. To share a prayer request with the congregation, contact Beth Rakestraw, office@uccgj.org or 970-242-0298 x 105.

- ◇ The health of Chris Coolidge's 97 year old mother in Houston has taken a downturn; Chris is traveling with her sister to be with her mom during this time.
- ◇ Continue to pray for:
 - Jan Scheevel
 - Donna Hochmuth
 - Rick Smith (former church custodian) and his family.
 - David Hays (Sharyl & Bob Peterson's nephew)