

Welcome to First Congregational Church United Church of Christ
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost | Communion Sunday
November 7, 2021

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

GATHERING BELL

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

PRELUDE

Improvisation on Be Thou My Vision (Slane), Max Reilly

Max Reilly

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Rev. Paul Ashby

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Donna Hochmuth

Eyes are the windows of the soul.

Let our eyes be open to windows of beauty that inspire us to enjoy this day.

Our eyes can also see the brokenness of our world that spur us to help and to heal.

The eyes of our Spirit can discern hope in times of struggle and suffering.

The eyes can open windows to behold the grace of God in the songs of doves, the presence of friends, the voices lifted in worship.

Open the windows of our Spirits that we may discover the gifts of Christ-like compassion.

**** HYMN NCH 89**

Awake, Awake to Love and Work

Pam Gregory with congregation

Awake, awake to love and work! The lark is in the sky;
the fields are wet with diamond dew; the worlds awake to cry
their praises to the Fount of Life; Christ Jesus passes by.

Come, let your voice be one with theirs, shout with their shout of praise;
See how the giant sun soars up, God's gift for all your days!
So let the love of Jesus come and set your soul ablaze.

To give and give, and give again, as God's own grace is free;
To spend yourself nor count the cost; to serve most gloriously
the God who gave all worlds that are, and all that are to be.

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONIAL

Zoe Brosig

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Donna

OFFERTORY

God of Inspiration, Mark Clay Unbehagen

Pam, Max, and Choir

We praise You, O God of In - spi-ra - tion! We praise You, for breath-ing life through cre-a - tion! O we
6
praise You, praise You, We praise You, God for the can-vas of our lives!

****DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures high and low.
Alleluia. Alleluia.
Praise God for all that Love has done,
Creator, Christ and Spirit One.
Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

****PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Donna

Holy One, comfort us with reminders of the goodness of life. Enable us to enter into that place of joy for the simple pleasures...a sunny day, a favorite CD, a connection with a friend, a hot shower, and some left over Halloween candy. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Paul

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.

HYMN SPP 139

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Pam and congregation

I'm gonna live so God can use me anytime, Lord, and anywhere. (repeat)
... work ... pray ... sing

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 146

Donna

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.
When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.
Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

MESSAGE

Open Your Windows

Paul

COMMUNION

****HYMN NCH 76**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Pam and congregation

Sent forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.

The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
to work for God's realm and to answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

** SPOKEN BENEDICTION

Paul

** UNISON SUNG BENEDICTION

Pam and congregation

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!

Acknowledgements

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- ◇ *Be Thou My Vision*. Tune: *Slane*, a traditional Irish melody from Patrick Weston Joyce's *Old Irish Folk Music and Songs: A Collection of 842 Irish Airs and Songs hitherto unpublished*, 1909. This is Max's own setting of this tune.
- ◇ *Awake, Awake to Love and Work*. Tune: *Morning Song*, from Kentucky Harmony, 1816, harm. by C. Winfred Douglas © 1940, Church Publishing Inc. Words: Geoffrey A. Suddert-Kennedy, 1921, alt.
- ◇ *God of Inspiration*. Words music: Mark Clay Unbehagen © 2008. All rights reserved. Used with permission.
- ◇ *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*. This is one of thousands of Negro Spirituals (the term preferred by many Black musicians and music historians rather than "African American Spirituals"). Let us remember that these songs were created by humans whose bodies and the results of their labor were claimed by others.
- ◇ *Come to the Table of Grace*, words and music by Barbara Hamm © 2008. Hope Publishing Co.
- ◇ *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*. Tune: *Lasst uns erfreuen*, Germany, 1623. Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. Public domain.
- ◇ *Sent Forth by God's Blessing*. Words: Omer Westendorf © 1964 by World Library Publications. Music: *Ash Grove*, a Welsh folk melody.
- ◇ *Lead Us from Death to Life (World Peace Prayer)*. Words of refrain by Satish Kumar. Tune by Marty Haugen © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Today's Worship Leaders

preacher	Rev. Paul Ashby
liturgist	Donna Hochmuth
song leader	Pam Gregory
musician	Max Reilly

FCUCC Staff

senior pastor	revpaulashby@yahoo.com	Rev. Paul Ashby
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This Week at FCUCC
November 7 - 14, 2021

Sunday 7	9:00	Start Up Choir	sanctuary
	10:00	Worship w/ Communion	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:00	Fall Clean Up	everywhere!
Tuesday 9	5:30	Cantabile Ringers	music room
Wednesday 10	1:00	Fall Book Study	chapel
Friday 12	10:00	Coffee Hour	zoom
Saturday 13	3:00	Ivalas String Quartet Concert	sanctuary
Sunday 14	Pledge Sunday		
	9:00	Start Up Choir	sanctuary
	10:00	Worship	sanctuary/YouTube
	11:15	Worship & Celebration Meeting	everywhere!

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

Announcements

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

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

Save the dates | November 25 | Thanksgiving Day Potluck | December 4 | Final Leaf Clean Up | December 12 | Annual Meeting

Fall Clean Up Sunday | TODAY | We will be working on a variety of projects both outdoors and indoors to clean and winterize the grounds and spruce up some interior spaces. Tasks for all abilities will be available. Please sign-up in advance for your favorite chores before or after worship services in October. Chicken chili, sandwiches and drinks will be available. All are invited to wear work clothing to the worship service.

Ivalas String Quartet Concert | The Western Slope Concert Series continues its 2021-2022 Chamber Music Season **in our sanctuary** this coming Saturday, November 13 at 3 pm. The Ivalas

String Quartet will perform a program featuring Debussy and Beethoven Op. 127. Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$5 for children 12-17. Tickets for children 11 and under are free. To purchase tickets, visit westernslopeconcertseries.org or call 970-234-5661.

FCC/UUCGV Traditional Thanksgiving Potluck | Our congregation's traditional Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner with congregants from GVVUC occurs on Thursday, November 25 at 2:00 pm. Sign up lists will be in The Gathering Space as well as Pilgrim Hall. It is very important that we know what people will bring so we have a varied menu. Bring family and friends —everyone is welcome. 😊

Socksgiving | Mission and outreach is collecting new socks for adults and children through November 21st. Look for the brightly decorated boxes in the Gathering Space, or drop them on the shelves next to the main office during regular office hours.

November Catholic Outreach Collection | They are asking for canned vegetables, canned fruit, and cream soups, if possible. We will collect these through November 14, Stewardship Sunday, when we will bless them together, before they are delivered to the Outreach kitchen.

Empty, Clean Gallon Jugs | Mission & Outreach is collecting clean, empty plastic gallon milk or water jugs for Solidarity, Not Charity. Please bring your thoroughly rinsed jugs and put them on the collection shelves near the office. *Every jug you bring in for SNC's use saves them \$1.* Thank you.

October Collections Numbers | For Catholic Outreach, 93 cans of tomato sauce and 65 other products. For the Salvation Army Thanksgiving Dinner, 87 packages of mashed potatoes and 73 packets gravy. 48 cans of cranberry sauce as of this writing.

Pastoral Care

To call Pastor Paul:

- ***His new 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.

Beverly Fernsemer is scheduled to have surgery the end of November.