

**First Congregational Church UCC**

*Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Sunday, August 2, 2020

10:00 am

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“✝” Invites all to stand in body or in spirit

WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELL

✝ CALL TO WORSHIP (One/**Many**)

*Is God our adversary? Why would our crazy ancestor,  
Jacob, wrestle with the Divine?*

**Why indeed, do we argue with God and within ourselves? Why do we fight doing what we know to be right?**

*Jacob sent his oxen and donkeys, slaves and servants ahead of him.*

*Jacob placed his wives and children before him, to shield himself.*

**Why do we do anything to avoid a confrontation? Why do we do everything to avoid admitting that we were wrong?**

*Yet God does not leave us in our alone-ness.*

*God wrestles with us in the night.*

**Praise be to God! God is with God’s people; not one shall be lost. [Jn. 6:39] Let us worship God.**

✝ OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE LESSON

**Genesis 32:22-31**

CHILDREN’S TIME FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART ☺

✝ SPECIAL MUSIC

“Come as You Are”  
Sung by Dick Holdhusen

MESSAGE

Rev. Chuck Aurand  
“God Wrestling”

SHARING AND CARING

☺ A TIME OF SHARING

☺ PRAYER (concluding with the Lord’s Prayer using “debts” and “debtors”)

A TIME OF OFFERING

OFFERTORY

✝ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Tune: Old Hundredth L.M.*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.**

✝ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Book of Common Worship, © 1995 Westminster John Knox Press.

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

...Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

*(The sacrament of Communion is open to anyone who hungers for grace.)*

✝ SPECIAL MUSIC

“Let Us Break Bread Together”  
Sung by Dick Holdhusen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**O God who will not let us go, thank you for nourishing us with this bread and this cup. In doing so, you proclaim again your great love for us. May we share this love, and your grace, wherever we go. Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

✠ BENEDICTION/BLESSING

✠ Solo SONG RESPONSE

**Wherever we go, God is with us.  
Wherever we go, God is there.  
Wherever we go, whatever we do,  
We are in God's care.**

✠ POSTLUDE

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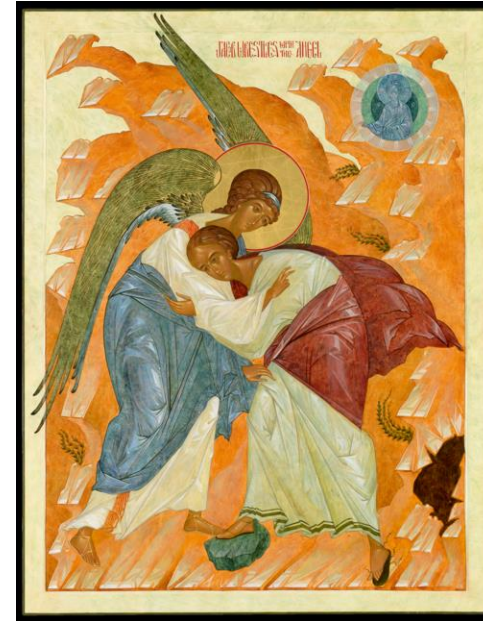
**Announcements This Week**

- ✓ **Welcome to our worship this day.** *"No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."*
- ✓ **Next Week, we begin our look at the Jacob's son Joseph.** What life lessons can we learn from this well dressed (think coat of many colors) dreamer of dreams?

**Please pray:**

- **For the work of Global Ministries in Nicaragua.** (For more about this ministry see [https://www.globalministries.org/weekly\\_prayers](https://www.globalministries.org/weekly_prayers))
- **For our small-town store owners,** as they struggle to keep their doors open during a season of diminished tourism and economic activity.
- **All those who are ill or homebound or in care facilities.**
- **For others in our lives, especially:** our Church Conference, Travelers, Military and First Responders, and the Rockerville Search.

# First Congregational United Church of Christ



<https://www.wrestlingwithangels-icons.com/the-icons>

**Sunday, August 2, 2020 ~ 10:00 a.m.**

## Worship

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