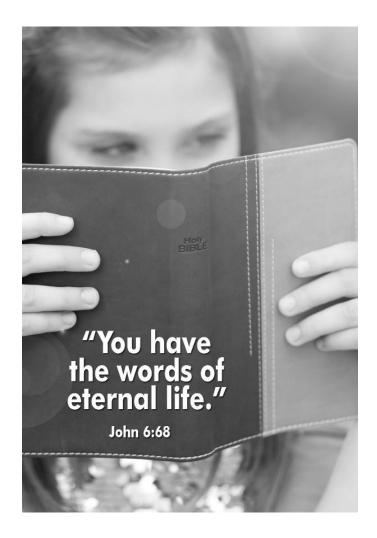
First Congregational United Church of Christ



Sunday, May 5, 2024 \sim 10:00 a.m.

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[Large Print]

"\dagger" Invites all to stand in body or in spirit

WELCOME RINGING OF THE BELL

⊕ Call to Worship (One/Many)

[from Connections, Year B]

Sing to the Lord a new song,

For God has done marvelous things!

Sing of God's great faithfulness and steadfast love to all.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; sing praises!

Rejoice in the presence of God, who reigns with equity and justice.

O people of God—worship the Lord.

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, your Son, Jesus Christ,

Taught us how to love you, one another, and ourselves. We confess that we have failed to embody such love. We turn away from you, failing to love and serve you with heart and mind and soul and strength. We turn away from others who are poor and oppressed, are different from us, or do not share our views. We turn away from ourselves, even though you made us in your image and have claimed us in Christ as your beloved children.

Merciful God, forgive us for not loving you, others and ourselves. Soften our hearts of stone, and transform us into living signs of your love in the world; in the name of the risen Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

We rejoice in the good news of the gospel: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and always shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Passing of the Peace
 The peace of Christ be with you.
 And also with you.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 10:44-48

PRESENTATION OF 5TH GRADE BIBLES

Those receiving Bibles today are:

- Adrianna Bishop
- Blake Wyburn
- Katilyana McMahon

Congregation:

We rejoice in this step in your journey with God.
We pray God will guide you, your family, and us
as you use this Holy Bible in your home,
in your Sunday school classes, and in our worship.
We will learn together and grow in our love for God's
Word. Amen!

Anthem Church Choir

GOSPEL LESSON John 15:9-17
MESSAGE Rev. Chuck Aurand

Recognition of Graduating Seniors

Our Graduating Seniors today are:

- Winter McMahon
- Aiden Voyles

Congregation:

O God, we thank you for these graduating students. We pray that you will give them direction, purpose, and perseverance as they enter the next phase of their lives.

Give them clearness of mind to move forward into the plans and purposes that You have for them.

May these young people continue to grow in knowledge and wisdom.

Give them grace to spend their time and money wisely. Grant them success for their efforts at every turn and guide their feet to follow you.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

"Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

A TIME OF PRAYER

> Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

⊕ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy Communion

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.

...and so we praise you, joining our voices to the whole company of heaven, who sing together:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer After Communion

God of Life and New Life, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

⊕ HYMN
 CH #70

"God of the Sparrow"

- ⊕ BENEDICTION/BLESSING
- ☆ SUNG RESPONSE

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering, Son; endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.

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."

- ✓ We are in the Season of Easter. Easter isn't just a day, our season of resurrection and new life lasts for 50 days until the Day of Pentecost.
- ✓ Our Liturgist today is Colleen Anderson.
- ✓ Our new Bible Study continues Wednesday, May 8th in the Comfort Room at 7pm. You are invited!
- ✓ Next Sunday we will honor all mothers on Mother's Day. Please join us.

Please pray:

- For the victims of natural disasters in the Midwest. Lord, be with those who have lost homes and/or family members in the fierce tornados crisscrossing our nation. May your people rise up to aid one another in Jesus' name. Amen.
- 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.



My Faith Looks Up to Thee



Tell Me the Stories of Jesus



God of the Sparrow God of the Whale



Thine Is the Glory (Response)

