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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."*
- ✓ **Our Liturgist today is Blaine Anderson.**

Please pray:

- **For these United States.** May we, O Lord, ever stand united in defense of that which we hold dear: freedom, equality, and justice for all. 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.

First Congregational United Church of Christ



Sunday, June 30, 2024 ~ 10:00 a.m.

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

WELCOME

RINGING OF THE BELL

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP (One/**Many**)

“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.”

**We choose this day to worship the LORD,
our God.**

On land or sea, in the air or space, may we seek to honor
the God of us all,

**On this day of Independence,
we worship the God who unites.**

Let us worship God.

✠ OPENING PRAYER

✠ HYMN

CH #721

"My Country, 'tis of Thee"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Celebrations and Sorrows, we wave the
flag this week and our hearts beat with pride at
the stirring sounds of the bands. Fireworks
emblazon the skies, and families gather for
celebrations. But in too many places there is little
to celebrate. Our spirits ache for people both far
and near who suffer and struggle just to have the
basic necessities of life, while we live in
abundance.**

**Forgive us when our celebrations cloud the needs
of others. By our attitudes and our actions, may
we be those who would bring hope, comfort,
healing, and peace...in a word, "freedom" in
Jesus' name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

✠ GLORIA PATRI

***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.

OLDER TESTAMENT LESSON **2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27, 2:1-4**

R: The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 5:21-43

R: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

Rev. Chuck Aurand

✠ HYMN

CH #725

"God of the Ages/National Hymn"

A TIME OF PRAYER

A TIME OF OFFERING

✠ DOXOLOGY

***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

✠ HYMN

CH #494

"We Are One in the Spirit"

✠ BENEDICTION/BLESSING

✠ POSTLUDE

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM & RITE OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Raiya Louise Lorenz

Born: March 5, 2024

Ty & Serena Lorenz, parents
Blake & Samantha Hunter, god-parents

Baptism enacts and seals what the Word proclaims: God's redeeming grace offered to all people. Baptism is at once God's gift of grace, God's means of grace, and God's call to respond to that grace. Through Baptism, Jesus Christ calls us to repentance, faithfulness, and discipleship. Through Baptism, the Holy Spirit gives the Church its identity and commissions the Church for service in the world.

Both believers and their children are included in God's covenant love. The baptism of our young children witnesses to the truth that God claims people in love even before they are able to respond in faith.

from "Directory for the Worship of God", 2019

...Let us welcome the newly baptized and our new members.

**With joy and thanksgiving
we welcome you into Christ's church
to share with us in his ministry,
for we are all one in Christ.**

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