

Welcome to First Congregational Church



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Emergency Bucket Challenge Item for July:

One 50-100ft. clothesline (Cotton or plastic line. Please drop them off in the Chapel by July 31st.



Sharon Jones n concert—Thursday, July 11th, 6-7:15PM behind the church. (Indoors if raining)

Office hours this week: Monday 9-1, Thursday 3:30-5:30pm

Pastor Emilia's Sabbatical - She will be on Sabbatical from July 1st until September 30th, returning to the office on October 1st. In August and September she will be crossing the "pond" to visit St. Julian of Norich's anchorage, to spend a week following C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkin in Oxford, and a month tracing her Cornish ancestral roots in Cornwall.

If you need pastoral care during this time, please call the church office.

Welcome to First Congregational Church
An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

July 7, 2024

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Annie Papinsick

Setting Intentions for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP: Poem "The Secret" by Katherine Mansfield

**In the profound ocean
There is a rainbow shell,
It is always there, shining and stilly
Under the greatest storm waves
That the old Greek called "ripples of laughter."
As you listen, the rainbow shell
Sings--in the profoundest ocean.
It is always there, singing most silently!**

OFFERING OUR MOMENTS OF BEAUTY

Song #594

How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies

Text: CMD; Katharine L. Bates, 1859-1929. Music: Samuel A. Ward, 1848-1903.

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Hear now Psalm 136:3-6 (The Message)

Sara Nichols

Hear ends the Psalter Lesson

Amen

Let us here now from the New Testament

New Testament Lesson Hebrews 4:15-16

Sara Nichols

The New American Standard Bible

Hear ends the Lesson

Amen

SERMON

"God's Love is Like the Ocean"

Rev. Renee Rouse

PAUSING FOR MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response: God of all Light & Shadow

Receive our prayers

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

Holy is Your Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, the power, and the Glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Sung Amen: #31

All Things Bright and Beautiful [Refrain] (Public Domain)

**All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
our dear God made them all.**

Offertory

Invitation

GRATITUDE MUSIC

Annie Papinsick

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy one, blessed are you, who entrust to our care and use the richness of creation. Through our tithes and offerings, we return to you a portion of that which you have given us. May they be a means of serving you in the mission to which you have called us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG #341

Great spirit God

Translation

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A SUNG COMMUNION LITURGY

"THE STEADFAST LOVE OF THE LORD"

Contributors: Marty Haugen

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**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning, new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.**

SHARING THE FAST

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING HYMN #593 Lift Every Voice and Sing (Public Domain)

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty; Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the harsh past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died; Yet with a steady beat,
Have not our weary feet come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

Under the greatest storm waves
God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
God who has brought us thus far on the way;
God who by your might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray
from the places, our God, where we met you, Lest our hearts,
drunk with the wine of the world, we forget you; Shadowed beneath
your hand, may we forever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ann Papinsick