

# Welcome to First Congregational Church



*Sabbath Rest (Sabbath-Ruhe auf der Gasse),  
Oil on Canvas 1866  
Moritz Daniel Oppenheim (1800–1882)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Coffee Hour:** The Spiritual Life Ministry team will be hosting a coffee hour after worship today in appreciation for Rev Renee Rouse and the inspirational worship leadership she provided during the past 3 months.

### Emergency Bucket Challenge Item for September

**Two pairs of heavy-duty, waterproof dishwashing gloves (Latex-free, non-surgical.) Durable for multiple-use.** Please drop them off in the Chapel by September 30th.



**Musicians' Flea Market - Saturday, November 2nd:** We need volunteers to help make this event a success. Visit [bit.ly/flea2024](https://bit.ly/flea2024) to see the volunteer slots available and sign up!

**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*  
*With the guest speaker: Rev. Renee Rouse*

September 29, 2024

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: Surely No one Can be Safer (Public Domain) Annie Papinsick

Setting Intentions for Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP:

God invites us to rest  
to spend time  
to sit  
to be still  
the first invitation  
before we move, spoke, thought  
God said  
Let us do nothing  
together.  
God Let us remember that,  
as we practice Sabbath.

Call to Confession: Let us rest our burdens with God.

Confession: God, we confess that we are not good at resting. We do not even know how to do nothing. And, we confess, if it is difficult to do nothing by ourselves, it is even harder to do it together. Yet your invitation—to be still, in community, is beautiful and daring. Help us to hear it, hold it, and savor it; not with guilt but with sacredness we pray. Amen  
*Katyandtheword June 1, 2023, the Nap Ministry/ Be Still and rest with me. Genesis1:27-2:3, Psalm 46:10, Rest is Resistance, rest with God, Sabbath,the Nap Ministry, Tricia Hersey week 1*

OFFERING OUR MOMENTS OF BEAUTY

SONG #247 My Shepherd Is The Living God

My Shepherd Is The Living God, Contributors: Eric Routley

Harmonization: © 1976, Hinshaw Music, Inc.

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Let us hear now from the Hebrew Text

Hebrew Lesson

Isaiah 58:13-14

Sheila Swenson

New American Standard Bible

Here ends the Lesson

**Amen**

Let us hear now from the New Testament

New Testament Lesson

Mark 2:27

Sheila Swenson

Living Bible

Here ends the Lesson

**Amen**

SERMON

“Beauty is Resting”

Rev. Renee Rouse

PAUSING FOR MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SONG #2

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah

Glory Glory Hallelujah, Contributors: Joyce Finch Johnson

Arrangement: © 1992, Pilgrim Press, The

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

**Our Creator God, 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]

Text: 76 76 with refrain; Cecil Francis H. Alexander, 1818-1895, alt. Music: Trad. English melody; adapt. by Martin Shaw, 1875-1958.

Contributors: ROYAL OAK, Cecil Alexander

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**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

When Peace, Like a River (Public Domain)

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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

CLOSING SONG #41

I Thank You, Jesus

I Thank You, Jesus, Contributors: Kenneth Morris, this arr. by Joyce Finch Johnson

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

I've Got Peace Like a River (Public Domain)

Annie Papinsick