



Second Sunday of Easter  
April 23, 2017  
10:30 am  
Grace Hall, North Campus

## Welcome to First Community Church

We are a Christian church, affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the Disciples of Christ denominations. We welcome people of all Christian traditions as well as people of other faiths and people of little or no faith, and those who are searching.

Christian worship has been offered by First Community Church for over 107 years. By worshipping with us today, you become a part of that living tradition. Our regular worshippers and church members, supported by members of the staff and a large number of volunteers, make up our church community. We are committed to diversity, equal opportunities and personal and spiritual development of all who work and worship here, because, as our church's belief statement says, "we strive to follow the path of Jesus Christ while recognizing other pathways to the divine."

Thank you for being with us for worship today. If you desire a pastoral call, please indicate this on the welcome pad. If you are in need of prayer, please fill out a prayer card located in the Welcome pad booklet and place it in the offering plate. Our prayers go with you as you return to your home.

*(The paper we use for the order of service is recycled. You are welcome to take it away with you, but, if you would like us to recycle it, please place it in one of the bins at an exit, as we are also committed to our environment, God's Creation.)*

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## The Service of the Word

Second Sunday of Easter



*The very least you can do in your life is figure out what you hope for.*

*And the most you can do is live inside that hope.*

*Not admire it from a distance but live right in it, under its roof.*

— Barbara Kingsolver (b 1955), *Animal Dreams*

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### THE INVITATION TO LIGHT A CANDLE

*(You are invited to come forward in silence to light a candle at the beginning of the service, or at any other appropriate time during the service of worship.)*

### †THE OPENING SONG OF PRAISE *(All are invited to rise in body or spirit)*

*Down to the River*

**As I went down to the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!**

**Oh, sisters, let's go down!  
Let's go down, come on down!  
Oh, sisters, let's go down!  
Down to the river to pray**

As I went down to the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!

Oh, brothers, let's go down!  
Let's go down, come on down!  
Oh, brothers, let's go down!  
Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!

Oh, mothers, let's go down!  
Let's go down, come on down!  
Oh, mothers, let's go down!  
Down to the river to pray

As I went down to the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the starry crown?  
Good Lord, show me the way!

Oh, fathers, let's go down!  
Let's go down, come on down!  
Oh, fathers, let's go down!  
Down to the river to pray

#### †THE PRAYER

Leader: With sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, let us pray.

**People:** O God, we thank You that our fears and sorrows are no barrier to Your love. Whenever we have retreated behind closed doors, You have sought us out to comfort and strengthen us. Though we have not felt the breath of Your presence like the disciples, yet we have felt You close to us.

Leader: Each time a fresh peace dispels anxiety, each time we feel the impulse to serve another in love, we have signs of Your closeness to us.

**People:** We thank You for calling us to share in Your work of love and justice, and for the sense of communion we find in Your church.

Leader: Draw near to all who live in fear; refresh all who are dispirited; restore the lonely to the joy of friendship,

**All:** And send us to share in this ministry, helping to fulfill these prayers.

Leader: We offer these words in the name of the Christ,

**All:** Amen.

# THE CHILDREN'S SONG

## *Trees of the Field*<sup>(1)</sup>

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace  
The moun - tains and the hills will break forth be -  
fore you. There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the  
field will clap, will clap their hands.  
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.  
The trees of the field will clap their hands  
The trees of the field will clap their hands  
while you go out with joy!

*(Following the song, the children in K-5 are invited to leave for their Sunday school classes to continue their worship and study.)*

### THE EPISTLE READING

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Leader: These words are breathed into us by the Holy Spirit.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### THE SERMON

*CONSPIRACY OF HOPE: LIVING BEYOND FEAR  
Part 1: The Wide Open Spaces of God's Grace*

## THE SONG

*Your Love Surrounds Us*



## THE COMMUNITY MOMENTS

### THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

The Receiving of the People's Gifts

The Song

*Amazing Grace (Peaceful Easy Feeling)*

†The Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Now as in ancient Galilee, Christ works among us.  
Now as then, he calls, "Follow me."

**All: Use these gifts, O God, to comfort and to heal, to strengthen and empower Your people. Help us each day to trust Your living presence and to serve all creation with Christ-like compassion. Amen.**

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### THE CLOSING SONG

*Joyful, Joyful*

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee**

**Opening to the sun above**

**Melt the clouds of sin and sadness**

**Drive the dark of night away**

**Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day**

**Now we join the mighty chorus**

**Which the morning stars began**

**Those around us, those before us, Singing peace unto our land**

**Field and forest, vale and mountain,**

**Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea**

**Singing bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in Thee**

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blessed  
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean depth of happy rest  
God our Father, God our Mother, All who live in love are Thine  
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine

†THE BENEDICTION

†THE POSTLUDE

*Joyful, Joyful (Instrumental reprise)*

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~ The End of Worship, the Beginning of Service ~

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† All rise in body or spirit

### PARTICIPANTS

**Preacher:** The Reverend Dr. R. Glen Miles  
*Senior Minister*

**Liturgists:** The Reverend Mr. David S. Hett  
*Minister of Religious Life and Learning*  
The Reverend Mr. Christopher B. Rinker  
*Clergy Associate*

**Ushers:** Group B

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

The Reverend Mr. Chris Rinker, *acoustic guitar/music leader*  
Bill McGovern, *keyboard*

<sup>(1)</sup> *The Trees of the Field*. Words adapted by Steffi Karen Rubin. Music by Stuart Dauerman.  
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## Parish Register

As of 4/19/17

*Our Pastoral Care staff is available if you desire a visit or call during an illness, hospitalization or time of need.*

### Recently Hospitalized

Corlene Adams  
John Klamar

### Deaths

Alma J. Rosen 4/1/17  
*Mother of Angela (Kevin) Jones*  
*Grandmother of Jacob Jones*

Visit [FCchurch.com/parish-register](http://FCchurch.com/parish-register) to view listings of upcoming Memorial Services. Please send notifications of births, hospitalizations, weddings or deaths to [prussell@FCchurch.com](mailto:prussell@FCchurch.com) or call (614) 488-0681 ext 228.

- **Welcome visitors!** Stop by our Welcome Center for information on programs and activities and pick up a copy of our newspaper.
- **Church Membership:** Please contact Kristy Glaser at (614) 488-0681 ext. 161 or [kglaser@FCchurch.com](mailto:kglaser@FCchurch.com) if you are interested in becoming a member.
- **Baptisms:** Our next Baptism Sunday will be May 14. For more information go to [FCchurch.com/baptisms](http://FCchurch.com/baptisms). To schedule a public or private baptism, contact Paula Russell at (614) 488-0681 ext. 228 or [prussell@FCchurch.com](mailto:prussell@FCchurch.com)
- Watch the 11 am service from the South Campus live at [FCchurch.tv](http://FCchurch.tv)
- Watch *First Edition* on WWHO-TV, The CW, Sunday mornings at 10:30 am.
- If you need to step out during worship – restless child, coughing spell, etc. – the service can be heard in Unity Lounge.
- Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher.
- Today, the Prayers and Squares Quilt Ministry is presenting a quilt. Tie a knot and say a prayer in Unity Lounge at the North Campus or the Weist Room at the South Campus following the worship service. The quilt is for Kevin Satterfield.

**TODAY AT FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH**

**North Campus**

**9:15 am Worship:** Grace Hall  
 Crib to 5 years: Rose Wing  
 K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to classes in the Rose Wing.

**10:30 am Worship:** Grace Hall  
 Crib to 5 years: Rose Wing  
 K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to classes in the Rose Wing.  
 Middle School: In worship.

**South Campus**

**8:30 am Worship:** Burkhart Chapel  
 Communion served.

**9:30 am Adult Education:** Wicker Room

**11 am Worship:** Sanctuary  
 Crib to 5 years: Rooms 221 & 110  
 K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to Lincoln Road Chapel.  
 Middle School: In worship.

*Today the K-5 children will continue to explore the Easter story.*

Grades 6-12 are invited to **Crossroads** tonight, 7 - 8:30 pm, North Campus.

**Available Today Following Worship**

- Grocery Gift Cards (Mission Council)
- Spiritual Searcher

## THE PROGRAM STAFF OF FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

R. Glen Miles, *Senior Minister*

Paul E. Baumer, *Minister to the Staff*

David S. Hett, *Minister of Religious Life and Learning*

Ronald J. Jenkins, *Minister of Music and Liturgy*

Deborah Countiss Lindsay, *Executive Minister*

James M. Long, *Minister of Pastoral Care*

Christopher B. Rinker, *Clergy Associate*

Katherine H. Shaner, *Minister of Mission*

Michael Barber, *Director of Marketing and Communications*

Sally R. Beske, *Associate Organist/Director of Youth Choirs*

Leigh Anne Easterling, *Director of Early Childhood Ministries*

& *Mary Evans Child Development Center*

Cindy Sue Gepfert, *Foundation Administrator*

Pam Jameson, *Director of Facilities Ministry*

Bobbi Mueller, *Director of North Campus Administration/Akita Operations*

Scot Nicoll, *Executive Director of Camp Akita*

Missy Obergefell, *Director of Older Adult Ministry*

Julie Richards, *Director of K-12 Ministry*

Paula L. Russell, *Director of Congregational Care*

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Affiliated with the United Church of Christ and Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)