



Second Sunday of Easter
April 23, 2017
8:30 am
Burkhart Chapel, South 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.)

The Service of the Word and Sacrament

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*

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

Trumpet Tune on "All Hail the Power"

arranged by Janet Rupp Linker (b 1938)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, children of God, to sing a new song; for God, in steadfast love and faithfulness, has done marvelous things.

People: God raised Jesus from the dead; Christ is alive and at work among us.

Leader: Come to Christ, people of God, taste the kindness of God!

People: With joy we come to worship God!

†THE HYMN NO. 230, vs. 1-3

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

St. Kevin

†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. Amen.

THE COMMUNITY MOMENTS

†THE GOSPEL READING

John 20:19-31

Leader: This is the good news in Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOMILY

I SEND YOU

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

The Receiving of the People's Gifts

The Organ Voluntary

Wonderful Words of Life arranged by Albin C. Whitworth (*b* 1938)

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

†THE HYMN NO. 252, vs. 1

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

Bradbury

(All who are able are invited to remain standing.)

†THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: God be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: We give You thanks, God of majesty and mercy, for Your blessing, an intrinsic gift of life. We do not have to ask for it or seek it or fear that it will not be there. It is of the essence of life. And we thank You for our journey as persons and society toward realizing all the gifts of creation.

People: You weave our lives together, uniting us in one human family: from many different places, from different kinds of families, and from different understandings of Your will for our lives.

Celebrant: Even from the places of isolation or uncertainty, You have drawn us together today to remember and renew the covenant of love, which binds us to You and to one another.

People: We confess our feeble attempts to make life seem simpler than it really is, by denying the complexity and diversity of the whole human family.

Celebrant: Open our hearts, O God, to a new understanding of the wideness of Your love, which flings open church doors and celebrates the immensity of Your creation.

We rejoice that once again You have called us to this table.

People: We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, Your Son, who broke the bonds of death and scattered the powers of darkness: arm us with such faith in him that facing evil and death, we may overcome as he overcame, Jesus Christ, our hope and our redeemer.

Celebrant: Loving God, give Your Holy Spirit in the breaking of this bread, so that we may be drawn together, and joined to Christ, receive new life.

All: Amen.

(Following the prayer the people may be seated.)

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Celebrant: *(The Words of Institution for the Bread)*

In his brokenness we find our healing.

People: In our brokenness Christ promises to be present.

Celebrant: Bless now this bread, O God, that in eating it, we may be filled with the fullness of Jesus Christ, and empowered to live as his sisters and brothers among all those who are in need.

People: The world is hungry for love and justice, O God, and we are hungry to become Your disciples.

Celebrant: *(The Words of Institution for the Cup)*

Bless now this cup, that in drinking it, we may renew our covenant with You, and be fortified to nurture Your creation in hope and joy.

People: The world is thirsty for love and justice, O God, and we thirst to become Your disciples.

Celebrant: As Your Son taught us, we are bold to pray,

All: 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.

Celebrant: Come and eat. All is ready. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

THE GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(We serve each element separately; first the element, words from the celebrant, partake together. Gluten free bread is available on each bread plate in a separate cup.)

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: Christ, Lord of the Feast, we give you thanks for once again feeding us at this table. Like the bread and fish never exhausted, your love is never diminished by our need.

All: For the love that feeds our souls, we offer you access to our deepest heart. O God, we are still catching on to this race of discipleship. Help us not so much to run faster, but with more Grace. Through Him who has already danced the course ahead. Amen.

†THE HYMN NO. 245, vs. 1 and 3

The Day of Resurrection

Lancashire

†THE BENEDICTION

†THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

Chorale on "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

arranged by Homer Whitford (1892-1980)

~ The End of Worship, the Beginning of Service ~

† *All rise in body or spirit*

PARTICIPANTS

Homilist/Celebrant: The Reverend Mr. James M. Long
Minister of Pastoral Care

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Kathleen Houchens, *Organist*

- **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 kgglaser@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. To schedule a public or private baptism, contact Paula Russell at (614) 488-0681 ext. 228 or prussell@FCchurch.com
- Watch the 11 am service from the South Campus live at FCchurch.tv
- Watch *First Edition* on WWHO-TV, The CW, Sunday mornings at 10:30 am.
- **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

FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mission Statement

First Community Church is called to embody the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit and the eternal love of God, honoring and expanding our heritage of innovative ministry with a commitment to growth.

To that end, we will provide:

- a center for worship, celebration, study, fellowship, and sanctuary;
- resources for support for new forms of ministry;
- opportunities for learning and spiritual growth through all the seasons of life;
- motivation and resources for empowering service to each other and to the world;
- an inclusive Christian community respecting pluralism, agreeing to differ, resolving to love and uniting to serve.

Vision Statement

A diverse community of individuals, each actively seeking to make Christ's example of God's love for every person real in our world through service, study, worship and giving:

- celebrating life in groupings of families and individuals,
- risking with innovation while honoring tradition,
- encouraging search and empowering belief,
- standing with those who suffer,
- loving unconditionally.

Belief Statement

First Community Church is "the church of the infinite quest." This is the description of our church given by the Reverend M. H. Lichliter in 1924.

Remaining true to that spirit, our church believes:

- All people are included in God's unconditional love and grace.
- In Jesus Christ whose life revealed God's love at work in the human family.
- In the Holy Spirit as the power by which we are brought into closer harmony with our Creator.

Therefore we:

- Strive to follow the path of Jesus Christ, while recognizing other pathways to the Divine.
- Encourage each person's spiritual journey, embracing a variety of spiritual disciplines.
- Understand that the words we use to express our faith are to be lived out by loving and compassionate action.
- Take the Bible seriously, not literally; finding more grace in the search for meaning than in absolute certainty.
- Agree to disagree, resolve to love and unite to serve.

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 to view listings of upcoming Memorial Services. Please send notifications of births, hospitalizations, weddings or deaths to prussell@FCchurch.com or call (614) 488-0681 ext 228.

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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info@FCchurch.com

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