



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10th Sunday after Pentecost
August 13, 2017
9:15 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, Columbus, Ohio, for over 108 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 for you, 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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



*Grief can be the garden of compassion.
If you keep your heart open through everything,
your pain can become your greatest ally
in your life's search for love and wisdom.*

Rumi (1207-1273)

THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

THE CALL TO CONTEMPLATION

For the time during the prelude, we invite you to be in prayer. As you leave the service of worship, join in rejoicing with your neighbor.

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

Two Hymn Variations

George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us seek rest at the altar of God --

People: Where a child can find comfort and protection; where the weak can find peace and justice.

Leader: Blessed are they who dwell in God's presence --

People: Where the lily may grow in glory; where the grass may be clothed with life.

All: Blessed are they who trust in You, O God!

Leader: Let us worship God!

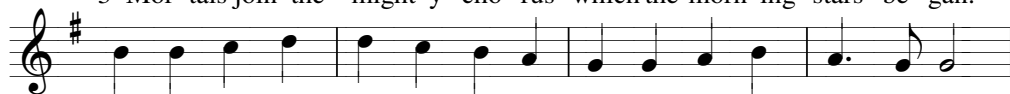
†THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Hymn to Joy



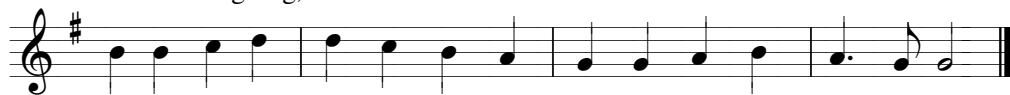
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,
3 Mor - tals join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan.



Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward faith - ful in the midst of strife.



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
Joy - ful mus - ic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

†THE PRAYER⁽¹⁾

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

People: Thank You, God, for all we forget are gifts, not rights. And forgive us for all the grievances we remember too well.

Leader: Save us from the self-pity and the self-seeking, which is true poverty.

People: Guide us into the ways of service, which are just and loving. Make us wide-eyed for beauty, and for our neighbor's need and goodness;

Leader: Wide-willed for peace making, and wide-hearted for love and for the unloved, who need it the most.

People: Dull the envy in us, which criticizes and complains life into a thousand ugly bits.

Leader: Keep us honest and tender enough to heal, tough enough to be healed of our hypocrisies.

People: Match our appetite for privilege with the stomach for commitment.

Leader: Teach us the great cost of paying attention that we may recognize Your presence and know we are always on holy ground.

People: Breathe into us the restlessness and courage to make something new, something saving, and something true that we may understand what it is to rejoice.

Leader: These prayers we offer in the name of the One who makes all things new.

All: Amen.

†THE PSALM RESPONSE ⁽²⁾

Bless God, O My Soul

Tune: *Spring Woods*

Bless God, O my soul! All with - in me bless God's name!
Bless God, who was and is, and shall ev - er be the same!

THE WELCOME

(During the welcome the children in K-5 will be invited to leave for their Sunday School classes to continue their worship and study.)

THE SOLO ANTHEM

Deep River

Traditional Spiritual
arranged by H. T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

Deep river, my home is over Jordan, Lord, I want to cross over into campground. Oh don't you want to go to that gospel feast, that promised land where all is peace?

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 OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

The Receiving of the People's Gifts

The Solo Anthem

From the Oratorio, *Elijah*

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Aria

For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed;
but Thy kindness shall not depart from me;
neither shall the covenant of Thy peace be removed.

†The Presentation of Gifts and the Prayer of Dedication

Leader: As the gifts are presented would all rise in body or spirit to pray.

For the joy of sharing and being a part of Your realm in our midst,

People: We give thanks, O God.

Leader: For instilling in us the desire to make love become the rule of life,

People: We rejoice.

Leader: For Your generous gifts to us, which we now return and dedicate to Your service, we say,

All: Amen.

†THE PSALTER READING *(to be sung and spoken)*

Psalm 130

From *Psalms for Praying* by Nan C. Merrill (1931-2010)

For You, My God, I Wait⁽³⁾

Springtime

Leader: Out of the depths I cry to You!

In Your Mercy, hear my voice!

People: May You be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

1 For You, my God, I wait
2 Lord, hear my plead - ing voice,
with hope born of the Word.
and let me know You hear!
Like sleep - less ones who long to
As sleep - less ones feel rest ap -
dream I wait and call my Lord.
proach, I know my God is near.

Leader: If You should number the times we
stray from You, O Beloved,
who could face You?

**People: Yet You are ever-ready to forgive,
that we might be healed.**

3 If You should list my faults,
 the sins of heart and hand,
 like sleep - less ones who groan at
 dawn I know I could not stand!

Leader: I wait for You, my soul waits,
 for in Your Love I would live;

People: **My soul awaits the Beloved
 as one awaits the birth
 of a child,
 Or as one awaits the fulfillment
 of their destiny.**

4 For e - ven my from the deep still,
 5 And once my soul is still,
 I know You hear my cries,
 in You I find my rest,
 Like sleep - less ones who dream at
 at peace as though a child up -
 last, I ease my wea - ry eyes.
 on a gen - tle moth - er's breast.

Leader: O sons and daughters of the Light,
welcome the Heart of your heart!

People: Then you will climb the Sacred Mountain of Truth;

Leader: You will know mercy and love in abundance.

Then will your transgressions be forgiven;

All: And you will know the Oneness of All.

6 O God, You are my hope;
I know that You for - give.
Your love re - deems me from the
depths so I may rise and live.

THE SERMON *THE ART OF SOUL SEARCHING: FINDING YOUR WAY*
Part 5: The Problem of Pain

†THE CLOSING HYMN

Part in Peace

Charlestown

1 Part in peace! the day be - fore us, prais - es sing for life and light,
2 Part in peace! with deep thanks - giv - ing, ren - dering as we home - ward tread,
3 Part in peace! our voic - es rais - ing, in God's pres - ence al - ways be.

Are the shad - ows length - ening o'er us? Bless God's care who guards the night.
Love and ser - vice to the liv - ing, gen - tle mem - ory to the dead.
This the wor - ship and the prais - ing, bring - ing peace to you and me.

†THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in D Major

David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

~ *The End of Worship, the Beginning of Service* ~

† *All rise in body or spirit*

PARTICIPANTS

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

Liturgist: The Reverend Ms. Katherine H. Shaner
Minister of Mission

Ushers: Group C

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Ronald J. Jenkins, *Minister of Music & Liturgy*
Sally R. Beske, *Associate Organist and Director of Youth Choirs*
Kelvin Boateng, *tenor*

We welcome as our guest soloist this morning, Kelvin Boateng, a nineteen year old tenor studying Voice Performance under Tyler Nelson at Vanderbilt University. Kelvin's previous teachers include, Fred Meads of the American Boychoir, Bryan Zaros of St. John the Divine, Dr. Sandra Mathias, and Dr. Cyril Blosser of The Ohio State University. Kelvin lives in Westerville, Ohio with his parents, and two younger brothers.

⁽¹⁾ From *Guerrillas of Grace, Prayers for the Battle* by Ted Loder © Copyright 1984 LuraMedia, San Diego, California. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

⁽²⁾ *Bless God, O My Soul*. Words paraphrased from Psalm 103 by Russell Sonafrank II and Stephen Morris. Music by Stephen Morris. © 1987 by Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

⁽³⁾ *For You, My God, I Wait*. Text © 2011. GIA Publications, Inc. Music © 2011 David Ward (admin. Faith Alive Christian Resources). Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

TODAY AT FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH

North Campus

9:15 am Worship: Grace Hall
Crib to 5 years: In worship (There is a quiet play space for families in the back of Grace Hall).
K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to classes in the Rose Wing.

South Campus

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

Today the K-5 children will respond to a story from the Hebrew Bible using Legos.

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.

- **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 if you are interested in becoming a member.
- **Baptisms:** Our next Baptism Sunday will be Sept. 10. 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 on Facebook and at FCchurch.tv
- Watch *First Edition* on WWHO-TV, The CW, Sunday mornings at 8:30 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.

Our Pastoral Care staff is available if you desire a visit or call during an illness, hospitalization or time of need. Please send notifications of weddings, births, hospitalizations or deaths to prussell@FCchurch.com or call (614) 488-0681 ext 228

Parish Register

As of 8/9/17

Baptisms

Theodore James Busch 8/6/17
 Ford Michael Busch 8/6/17
*Twin sons of Allison Hoffman Busch
 & Christopher Busch*

Deaths

Dennis Kamento 8/2/17
*Father of Gretchen (Jeff) Dowell
 (staff member)*

Recently Hospitalized

John Gardner
 Jean Griffith
 Jeff Link

Visit FCchurch.com/parish-register to view listings of upcoming Memorial Services.