

FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 14, 2018
11 am
Sanctuary, 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 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, 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



*Man must evolve a method for all human conflict
which rejects revenge, aggression and retaliation.*

The foundation of such a method is love.

— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)

My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness.

— 14th Dalai Lama (b 1935)

THE CALL TO CONTEMPLATION

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

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

Pastorale on 'He Leadeth Me'

Gordon Young (1919-1998)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of the prophets, call to us today.

People: Call us into Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.

Leader: God of the poets, remind us again how much You love us.

People: **Sing to us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.**

Leader: God of the disciples, teach us how to follow You.

People: **Teach us Your ways of love, justice and righteousness.**

Leader: God of all creation, help us to know Your ways.

All: We gather to hear Your call, to sing Your praise, to learn from each other, to pray and worship as the Body of Christ.

Leader: Let us worship God!

†THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN

All Are Welcome⁽¹⁾

Two Oaks



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell And all can safe - ly live,
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, And words are strong and true,
3 Let us build a house where love is found In wa - ter, wine and wheat:
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach Be - yond the wood and stone
5 Let us build a house where all are named, Their songs and vi - sions heard



A place where saints and chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for - give.
Where all God's chil - dren dare to seek To dream God's reign a - new.
A ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice meet.
To heal and strength-en, serve and teach, And live the Word they've known
And loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed As words with - in the Word.



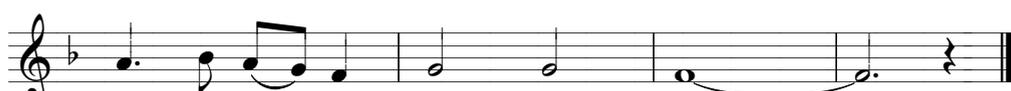
Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, Rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness And as sym - bol of God's grace;
Here the love of God, thru Je - sus, Is re - vealed in time and space;
Here the out - cast and the strang - er Bear the im - age of God's face;
Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, Prayers of faith and songs of grace,



Here the love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
Here as one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
Let us bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
Let this house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:



All are wel - come, all are wel - come,



all are wel - come in this place.

†THE PRAYER (2)

Leader: O God of all nations and peoples, we are grateful for the dreams of freedom, justice, and peace forever spun by Your Spirit and focused by prophets in every age.

People: O God, keep us faithful to Your dream.

Leader: We are grateful that in our time You call every man and woman to lift up and live by that dream, asking the questions, exposing the lies, making the sacrifices, easing the hate, and expanding the compassion.

People: O God, keep us faithful to Your dream.

Leader: We praise You this day for all those down through the ages whose names are known and unknown, who quicken the conscience of this country and the human family around this globe, whose courage and commitments, vision and enthusiasm and joy brace our spirits and fire our wills.

People: O God, keep us faithful to Your dream.

Leader: So we thank You and remember and move boldly on in the faith that, however dark the night, however heavy the weight of injustice, we can be confident and buoyant in You and Your promise that one day justice will roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream and peace abide in our hearts, through this land, on this earth between brothers and sisters of every race, every nation, every faith, every orientation, every generation, every wounded, wonderful one and all of Your human family.

All: Keep us faithful to that promise, Your dream, for Christ's sake, and for ours. Amen.

†THE HYMN OF RESPONSE

We Shall Overcome

United States Traditional

1 We shall o - ver - come..... we shall o - ver - come.....
 2 We shall live in peace..... we shall live in peace.....

we shall o - ver - come some day..... Oh.....
 we shall live in peace some day..... Oh.....

deep in my heart, I do be - lieve,

we shall o - ver - come some day.
 we shall live in peace some day.

(Following the hymn the people may be seated.)

THE WELCOME

THE FIRST EPISTLE READING

II Corinthians 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

THE ANTHEM

Oh, Freedom

Spiritual

arranged by Wendell Phillips Whalum, Sr. (1931-1987)

Oh, freedom, Oh freedom all over me,
An' before I'd be a slave I'd be buried in my grave,
an' go home to my Lord an' be free.
No more moanin' over me.
Oh, freedom...

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 children in K-5 and Middle School youth will be invited to leave for their Sunday School classes.)

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence

The Receiving of the People's Gifts

The Anthem

Great Day

Spiritual, arranged by Marvin Curtis (b 1951)

Great day, the righteous marching.

God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

Chariot rode on the mountain top, God's gonna....

My God spoke and the chariot did stop, God's gonna...

Great day...

We want no cowards in our band, God's gonna...

We call for valiant hearted men, God's gonna...

Great day, the righteous marching.

God's gonna build up Zion's walls.

This is the day of Jubilee,
The Lord has set his people free.
Great day...

†The Hymn and Presentation of Gifts

Old 100th

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below:
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

†The Prayer of Dedication

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: We present these gifts as an expression of our thanksgiving,
as an evidence of our faith,
and as a sign of our accountability both to You,
and to each other.
Use them, O God,
to shine the light of Christ here in our midst
and far beyond our individual sight. Amen.**

(The people may be seated.)

THE SECOND EPISTLE READING

Philippians 4:10-13

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me, but had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ Not that I am referring to being in need; for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. ¹² I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. ¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE HYMN (*remain seated to sing*)

Open My Eyes

Open My Eyes

O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth Thou
O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth Thou
hast for me; place in my hands the won - der - ful key
send - est clear; and while the wave - notes fall on my ear,

that shall un-clasp and set me free. Si-lent-ly now I
 ev-ery-thing false will dis-ap-pear.
 wait for Thee, read-y my God, Thy way to see.
 O-pen my eyes, il-lu-mine me, Spir-it di-vine!

THE SERMON

*HARD HAT FAITH:
 FINDING THE RIGHT TOOLS FOR BUILDING A STRONG LIFE
 Part 1 – Resilience*

†THE HYMN

Lead On, O King Eternal ⁽³⁾

Lancashire

1 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, we fol - low in Your way; loud
 2 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, we fol - low not with fear, for
 3 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and
 4 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, make this the meet - ing place, Where
 rings Your cry for jus - tice, Your call for peace this day: Thru
 in each hu - man con - flict Your words of strength we hear: That
 all Your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace; Then
 hurt finds heal - ing love, our pen - i - tance Your grace; For
 prayer - ful prep - a - ra - tion, Your grace will make us strong, to
 when we serve with glad - ness, You will not let us fall, our
 all in Your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free, to
 still the Spir - it's power in wind and fire of love, pours
 car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.
 trust is in Your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.
 love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.
 gifts up - on our church for ser - vice in this hour.

†THE BENEDICTION

†THE ORGAN POSTLUDE

Postlude on "Deo Gracias"

Healey Willan (1890-1968)

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

† *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
Leigh Anne Easterling
*Director of Early Childhood Ministries &
Mary Evans Child Development Center*

Acolyte: Anna Obergefell

Ushers: Group A, Herb Johnston

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

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

Robert A. Griffith, *Organist*

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

⁽¹⁾ *All Are Welcome*. Text and music by Marty Haugen, © 1994, GIA Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

⁽²⁾ Adapted from *The Litany for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day* by Ted Loder, from *Prayers for a Few Special Occasions*. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

⁽³⁾ Text alterations © 1992 The Pilgrim Press. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-708978.

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 1/10/18

Recently Hospitalized

John Klamar
Tom Norman

Deaths

Nancy Hager 1/6/18
Ellen Delay 1/9/18
Sister of Jane Belt

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

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 March 11. For more information go to FCchurch.com/baptisms. To schedule a baptism, contact Paula Russell at (614) 488-0681 ext. 228 or prussell@FCchurch.com
- Watch the 11 am South Campus service live on Facebook and 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 viewed in Gallery Court.
- Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher.

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: Begin in worship, then excused to classes in Room 130.

South Campus

8:30 am Worship: Burkhart Chapel
 Communion served.

9:30 am Adult Education: Wicker Room
Orthodox Christianity with Professor Predrag Matejic

11 am Worship: Sanctuary
 Crib to 5 years: Rooms 221 & 209
 K-5th grades: Begin in worship, then excused to Lincoln Road Chapel.
 Middle School: Begin in worship, then excused to Lincoln Road Chapel.

Grades 6-12 are invited to **Crossroads** tonight, 7 - 8:30 pm, North Campus.
Christianity 101 discussion group meets 7 - 8:30 pm, Room 211, North Campus.