

FIRST COMMUNITY CHURCH
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 14, 2018
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 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 and Sacrament



*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)

THE ORGAN PRELUDE

Aria, Op. 51

Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

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!

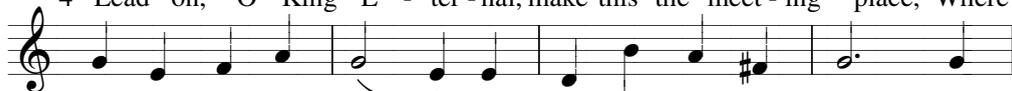
†THE HYMN

Lead On, O King Eternal⁽¹⁾

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 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.

THE WELCOME AND COMMUNITY MOMENTS

THE PSALTER READING

Psalm 139:1-18, NRSV

- 1 O Lord, You have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You discern my thoughts from far away.
- 3 You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 4 Even before a word is on my tongue,
O Lord, You know it completely.
- 5 You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay Your hand upon me.
- 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

- 7 Where can I go from Your spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
- 8 If I ascend to heaven, You are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, You are there.
- 9 If I take the wings of the morning
and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
10 even there Your hand shall lead me,
and Your right hand shall hold me fast.
- 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"
12 even the darkness is not dark to You;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to You.
- 13 For it was You who formed my inward parts;
You knit me together in my mother's womb.
- 14 I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are Your works; that I know very well.
- 15 My frame was not hidden from You,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- 16 Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In Your book were written all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.
- 17 How weighty to me are Your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
- 18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with You.

THE HOMILY

'unbeing dead isn't being alive'

THE OFFERTORY

The Offertory Sentence
The Receiving of the People's Gifts
The Organ Voluntary
Canon in E

César Franck (1822-1890)

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

†THE HYMN NO. 329, vs. 1-3

Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts

Hesperus

(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 thanks for Your blessing, an intrinsic gift of life.

People: 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.

Celebrant: We thank You for our journey as persons and society toward realizing all the gifts of creation.

People: And we bless You for the beauty and bounty of the earth and for the vision of the day when sharing by all will mean scarcity for none.

Celebrant: We rejoice that You call the entire human family to this table. We come in remembrance and celebration of the gift of Jesus Christ, whom You sent to be the Good News. Loving God, who sent a star to guide the magi to where Christ was born, and whose signs and words in every age lead people to him: we thank You for showing us Jesus, the light of the world, by whom we are redeemed and baptized into Your service.

All: Give Your Holy Spirit in the breaking of this bread, so that we may be drawn together, and joined to Christ, receive new life. Amen.

(Following this 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: *(The Words of Institution for the Cup)*
Let us pray.

People: Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Celebrant: Bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine.

People: Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst and in each other. Amen.

Celebrant: As Christ 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. Non-alcoholic grape juice is served for everyone and gluten-free bread is available on each bread plate in a separate cup.)

THE CLOSING PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us together pray.

All: Bountiful God, we give You thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by Christ, that, throughout this New Year, we may allow the light of Christ's love to shine through us in an uncertain world. Amen.

†THE HYMN NO. 164

Arise, Your Light Is Come

Festal Song

†THE BENEDICTION

†THE POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in C

Tomasso Albinoni (1671-1751)

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

† *All rise in body or spirit*

PARTICIPANTS

Homilist/Celebrant: The Reverend Mr. David S. Hett
Minister of Religious Life and Learning

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Carol J. Hofer, *Organist*

⁽¹⁾ Text alterations © 1992 The Pilgrim Press. 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.

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.

- **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.

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.