



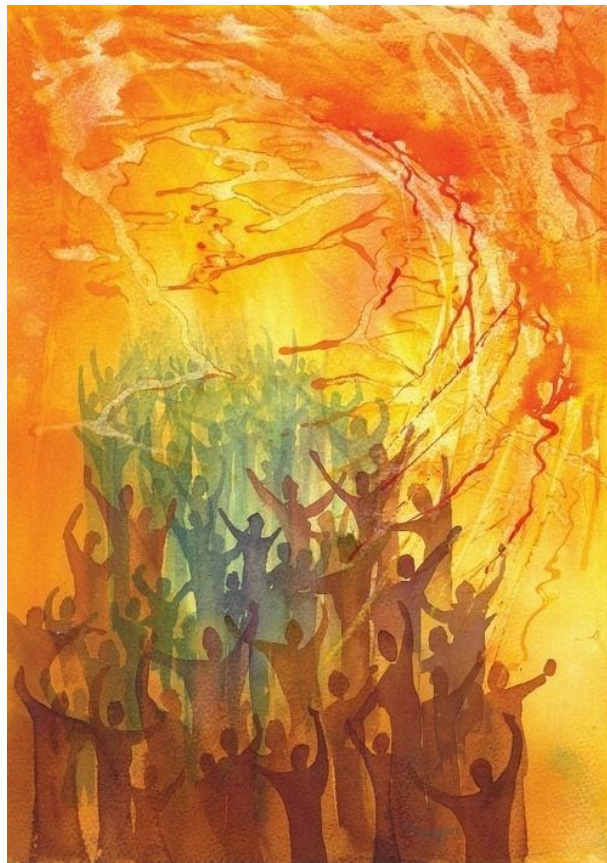
The First Congregational Church

Chappaqua, New York

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church

All Are Welcome



“What is God Up To?”

May 19, 2024 • 10:00 am



All are Welcome Here!

This is not just a slogan. At FCC, we truly believe that all are welcome. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome to join us here. Whether your faith feels strong or you are in the process of searching and questioning, you are welcome to join us here. If you are otherly-abled, straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, non-binary, transgendered or questioning, you are welcome to join us here.

Whether you have been a regular at church or have never been to church, you are welcome to join us either in person or virtually. We openly welcome people of all backgrounds, ages, and perspectives to join us.

We welcome you to journey with us on your faith path and recognize that one person's path will be different than someone else's. As a Christian church, we encourage you to have a relationship with Jesus. You may believe in Jesus as your Savior, your role-model, or the good shepherd guiding you through life. But, whatever your beliefs, we welcome you to join us as we come together virtually and in person to worship together on Sunday mornings. If you are in the Sanctuary with us, we encourage you to fill out the Visitor card and/or Prayer Request card and give it to an Usher as you depart. If you are joining us virtually and have a Prayer Request or would like us to be in touch with you, please feel free to email our Minister (mjacobs@fcc-chappaqua.org). If you'd like to be added to our email list to receive our weekly news, *Thursday's Word*, and other news about FCC, please send your email address to office@fcc-chappaqua.org.

Yes, we have children in worship with us!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." Reflecting that spirit, children are always welcome in worship. We strongly believe their participation in all aspects of worship helps them to develop their faith. Children are invited to participate in communion or to receive a blessing during communion, as their parent desires. We have Sunday School for children and youth (typically September through June), and all children are welcome to attend if their parents so choose.

Our Mission Statement

"With open hands and open hearts, we care for each other and the wider world through prayer, connections and compassion. We are compelled by our faith to follow in the path of Jesus Christ, by both listening to and spreading God's love to all people."

Our Vision Statement

"In living our faith and guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, we seek to be known as an open and safe place of peaceful reflection and tolerant dialogue. We also seek to lead our community as a voice of hope to foster individual and social compassion."

First Congregational Church • 210 Orchard Ridge Road, Chappaqua, NY 10514 • (914) 238-4411
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The FCC offices are open Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-3:30 pm
In an emergency, Rev. Martha can be reached at 914-584-5469

First Congregational Church
Sunday, May 19, 2024 • 10:00 am

Prelude

Meditation from 'Thais'

-MASSENET

Welcome

Centering Music

Bless Us With Your Grace

-ROBELLARD

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F#4, a quarter note E4, and a half note D4. The lyrics 'In our words and in our deeds bless us with Your grace.' are written below the notes. The second staff begins with a measure rest marked '6', followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, a quarter note F#4, a quarter note E4, and a half note D4. The lyrics 'Bless us with Your grace. Bless us with Your grace.' are written below the notes.

Call to Worship* (*responsively*):

One: Come Holy Spirit like rain, refresh, renew, revitalize. Come Spirit like fire, embolden, enlighten, enable.

All: Come Spirit like a mighty wind, move, challenge, enkindle. Come Spirit like wave, move, tear down, lift up.

One: Come Spirit, come Breath, draw us close, make song, bring intimacy. Come Spirit, come Love, make one, make justice, make peace.

All: Come Spirit, come Kingdom, come Love. Come let us worship together.

Hymn No. 261

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

-SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us,
filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

Unison Invocation and Lord's Prayer (*using debts*):

Holy God, on this Pentecost Sunday, we remember that you have filled your people with the Spirit who rested first on Jesus and united us as your Church. Open our hearts so that your Spirit may flow anew within us as we go through these unusual days. We now confidently offer the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray, saying, *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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen*

*Call to worship adapted from Martin Brown/CAFOD

Children's Anthem

This is My Commandment

This is my commandment, that you love one another, that your joy may be full
This is my commandment, that you love one another, that your joy may be full
That your joy may be full, that your joy may be full
This is my commandment, that you love one another, that your joy may be full

Invitation to Confession:

One: When we gather together, we do so to strengthen our faith and our community. When we gather together to confess our shortcomings, we do so knowing that God's grace is infinite, and that we need only confess with our hearts and God will forgive. Therefore, let us come with open hearts and minds to confess our sins and to seek forgiveness from the one who loves us more than we can ever comprehend.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

Holy God, we come before you with joy, with reluctance, with sadness and perhaps even with fear. We know that you receive us as we are. Stay with us as we risk and challenge living out our faith. By your powerful Spirit, turn our fear to courage and our confusion to confidence. Touch us, God, with your healing Spirit. Grant us wisdom and courage for the living of these days, as we silently confess to you our shortcomings.

A Moment for Silence and Personal Prayer

Words of Assurance (*responsively*):

One: To all who seek forgiveness through confession of sin and commitment to change, God responds with mercy and grace.

All: When we seek to live out our faith as best we can, God stays the course with us through the Holy Spirit, who dwells within us and helps us to step out in faith. The power of God's Holy Spirit heals us and renews our hearts. Praise God, we are forgiven.

Passing of Christ's Peace (*responsively*):

One: With gratitude and love, let us now greet each other – either in person or virtually - and pass our tidings of peace. May the peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Scriptures

1 Corinthians 12:4-13

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Numbers 11:24-30

And Moses went out and spoke the Lord's words to the people, and he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and stood them round about the Tent. And the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him and held back some of the spirit that was upon him and put it upon the seventy men of the elders, and it happened, as the spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, but did it no more. And two men remained in the camp. The name of the one was Eldad and the name of the other was Medad. And the spirit rested upon them, and they were among those inscribed, but they did not go out from the tent, and they prophesied in the camp. And the lad ran to tell Moses and said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua son of Nun, attendant to Moses from his youth, spoke out and said, "My lord Moses, restrain them!" And Moses said to him, "Are you jealous on my part? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that the Lord would place His spirit upon them."

Hymn

Thy Word

-THY WORD

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path

Sermon

"What is God Up To?"

Rev. Martha

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

-MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies,
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear:
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
‘teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven descended Dove.
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Prayers of Our People

The Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

God Has Given Me a Song to Sing

-BESIG

Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Unison Prayer of Consecration:

Spirit of love and power, use these gifts to help heal our world. Guide us in acts of service and accept these offerings with our most humble gratitude. May what we give, help to renew our spirits and bring us peace. Amen.

Closing Hymn No. 249

Spirit

-SPIRIT

Refrain: Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness,
calling and free, Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep,
and over the eons you called to each thing,
“Awake from your slumber and rise on your wings.”

Refrain

continued...

You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you gifted your people with a law and a land,
when they were confounded with idols and lies,
then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes.

Refrain

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still,
and down in the city you called once again
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind.

Refrain

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.
With bold new decisions your people arise.

Refrain

Benediction

Postlude

Rigaudon

-ANDRE CAMERA

We thank all who have participated in our morning worship service and in the auxiliary functions.

- Judy Jones is our Host Deacon
- Erin Kirby is our Liturgist
- Judy Jones is our Usher

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Percell and Belia Welch
in loving memory of Belia Cortes*

Please join us for Sunday Fellowship in Centennial Hall



PASTORAL
SEARCH
COMMITTEE

**The Search Committee is having an “Open Meeting”
TODAY at 11:30 am,** in the Memorial Room,
for any/all of the Congregation who would like to attend.

The purpose of the meeting is to review the results of the recent Spiritual Survey and discuss our progress to date regarding the development of the Church Profile.

Please join us! It is important that we accurately reflect views and opinions of all.



Calendar



TODAY Sunday, May 19

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

10:00 am Worship (S/YouTube)

11:15 am Sunday Fellowship (CH)

11:30 am Search Committee Open mtg (MR)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Monday, May 20

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

9:15 am Play Care

9:30 am-12:00 pm Play Care P/T confs (MR)

1:00 pm Play Care Enrichment class (C)

4:00-5:15 pm Soccer Shots (lawn)

7:30 pm Trustees meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, May 21

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

9:00-7:00 pm LPO rental (K)

9:15 am Play Care

9:30 am-12:00 pm Play Care P/T confs (MR)

1:00 pm Staff "Summer" luncheon
- FCC closes at 12:30

7:00 pm Council meeting (Zoom)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Wednesday, May 22

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

9:15 am Play Care

9:30 am-12:00 pm Play Care P/T confs (MR)

7:00 pm Gala Committee meeting (MR)

7:30 pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (CH)

Thursday, May 23

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

9:15 am Play Care

9:30 am-12:00 pm Play Care P/T confs (MR)

9:30 am-12:00 pm Play Care gym class (CH)

7:15-8:30 pm Choir Rehearsal (CR)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Friday, May 24

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

Play Care Closed

Saturday, May 25

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

7:30 pm Mt. Kisco AA (MR)

NEXT Sunday, May 26

Community Yard Sale (Stage, L)

10:00 am Worship (S/YouTube)

- Rev. Katy Cates preaching

11:15 am Sunday Fellowship (CH)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Key: Centennial Hall (CH); Choir Room (CR); Classroom (CL);
Kitchen (K); Library (L); Memorial Room, (MR); Play Care (PC);
Sanctuary (S)

