

The First Congregational Church

Chappaqua, New York

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church

All Are Welcome



“Fruits of the Vine”
Rev. Siobhan Sargent

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2026 • 10:00 am



Welcome to FCC — We're So Glad You're Here

“All Are Welcome” isn’t just a slogan - it’s how we live. Whether you’re grounded in faith or full of questions... Young or old, neuro-diverse or otherly-abled.... Whatever your race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, political views, marital status, income level, or background - You can belong here. We believe every person is a child of God, and every voice is essential to who we are as a family of faith.

Maybe you’ve gone to church your whole life - or maybe this is your very first time in a place like this. Either way, we’re grateful you’re here. It takes courage to show up, especially if church has ever felt like a place of hurt, judgment, or confusion. We hope this community feels different. As a congregation of the United Church of Christ, we’re rooted in a rich history of Christian faith and justice.

As a church, we seek to follow Jesus and explore what that means in today’s changing world. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey—curious, committed, cautious, or questioning—we’re grateful you’re here to grow with us.

If you're worshipping in person for the first time, we invite you to fill out a **Visitor Card**. Prayer requests can also be written and handed to an usher.

Worshipping online? Have a question or want to get more involved?

Pastor Siobhan would love to hear from you at pastorsiobhan@fcc-chappaqua.org. To receive our weekly *Thursday's Word* newsletter, contact office@fcc-chappaqua.org.

And yes, children are joyfully welcome in worship!

Jesus said, *“Let the little children come to me... for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs”* (Mark 10:14). We believe children aren’t just the future of the church—they help reveal the heart of God right now. Their voices, questions, wiggles, giggles—and yes, even cries or joyful shouts—are welcome here. We celebrate the life they bring, even when it doesn’t follow the script. Children are invited to receive communion or a blessing and may also join our Sunday School program (September–June), if families choose. *For more information you can reach our Director of Christian Education Jonathan Riedel at* ce@fcc-chappaqua.org

We hope you feel at home, for truly your presence is a blessing to us.



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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FCC Office hours are Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-3:30 pm

If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Siobhan (917) 892-8521

Find us on YouTube: [@fccchappaqua7354](https://www.youtube.com/@fccchappaqua7354) and Facebook: fcc-chappaqua.org

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Prelude

The Peace May be Exchanged

-DAN LOCKLAIR

Welcome

A Time for the Young at Heart

Opening Invitation: *(inspired by Psalm 105)*

“Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God’s name.
Make God's deeds known to all the people!
Pursue the Lord and God’s strength and seek God’s presence always.”

Centering Music

There’s a Spirit of Love in This Place *(see back cover)*

Call to Worship *(responsively)*:

One: There is indeed a spirit of love in this place.

All: A love that is wide and deep enough to hold us all.

One: A love that is generous beyond measure.

All: A love that invites us to become generous too.

One: Here, we are reminded that grace is not something we earn.

All: It is something we receive, something that shapes us, something we share.

One: So come, let us open our hearts to the love of God.

All: And let that love grow in us and through us.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, and fill us with life anew. Come, family of God, let us worship the One
who calls us and claims us.

*Opening Hymn No. 254 ***Breathe on Me, Breath of God*** *(verse 1, 2, 3)*

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,
until this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Prayer of Invocation:

Holy and loving God, in this sacred hour, we take pause to breathe in your Spirit. Still the distractions that compete for our attention and open our hearts and our minds to the ways your presence washes over us and renews us. Bless our worship. Draw us close to you, O God, and closer to one another. May our service today truly reflect your love and grace in the world. We offer this time, and ourselves, to you with grateful hearts. And now, let us continue to pray together our family prayer:

Lord's Prayer *(using debts)*:

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 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 forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Confession:

Friends, the grace and love of God are always wider than we imagine, and yet we know how easily we draw the circle smaller. We have a tendency to compare and keep score. But thankfully God keeps calling us beyond those calculations and into a love that makes room enough for everyone. Confession is not about shame for where we fall short. It is about a longing to turn back toward the life-giving love of God. It is about making space for God's grace to transform our lives, so that we might become instruments of that same grace in the world. So let us come before God with honest hearts, trusting that God is always ready to welcome us home.

Unison Prayer of Confession *(Inspired by the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi)*:

All: Gracious God, make us instruments of your peace.

Where we have drawn the circle too small, teach us to make room.

**Where we have compared or measured who is deserving,
turn us again toward your generous love.**

Where there is hatred, let us sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is despair, hope;

where there is sadness, joy.

**O Divine One, grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.**

**Shape us by your grace, O God, until your love becomes more fully alive in us and
through us. For it is in giving that we receive, in forgiving that we are forgiven,
and in loving that we discover the life to which you are always calling us.**

Amen

A Moment of Silence and Personal Prayer

Words of Assurance

One: Friends, hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to begin again.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

* Congregation Standing (if you feel comfortable)

***Passing of Christ's Peace**

One: Celebrating God's amazing grace, let us now share that grace with one another. Please rise in body or in spirit, to pass the peace of Christ with one another---either in person or virtually. May the Peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

Scripture: *Matthew 20:1-16*

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

One: The word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

Fruits of the Vine

Rev. Siobhan Sargent

Hymn No. 614

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (verse 1, 2, 4)

THE CHANCEL CHOIR

I'm gonna live so, God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna live so, God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so, God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna work so, God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna sing so, God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

I'm gonna sing so, God can use me, anywhere Lord, anytime.

* Congregation Standing (if you feel comfortable)

Prayers of the People

Announcements

The Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Imagine the People

-MARK MILLER

*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 Dedication:

All: Gracious and Holy God, you call ordinary people in every generation into the work of your kingdom. Bless these gifts and the ministries they support. Continue to shape us into generous people, so that we may become faithful instruments of your abundant love in the world, today and every day. Amen.

*Closing Hymn No. 442

We Are Walking

We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God.
We are walking in the light of the light of God.
We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking,
we are walking in the light of God

We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of the light of God.
We are singing, singing, we are singing, singing,
we are singing in the light of God.

We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of the light of God.
We are praying, praying, we are praying, praying,
we are praying in the light of God.

Benediction

Postlude

Fantasia in G (BWV572)

-J.S.BACH

* Congregation Standing (if you feel comfortable)



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

- Janet Girardeau is our Host Deacon
- Christina Yedowitz-Nessel is our Liturgist
- Robin Stout and Carl Thorsberg are our Ushers

Please join us coffee & snacks and fellowship in the Centennial Hall following worship.



Calendar



TODAY Sunday, September 20

10:00 am Worship - Rev. Siobhan Sargent
preaching (S/YouTube)

11:15 am Sunday Fellowship (CH)

11:15 am Choir Rehearsal (CR)

4:00-6:00 pm Community Dinner (CH)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Monday, September 21

Play Care Closed

1:00-2:30 pm Pop Up Food Pantry (L)

4:00-6:15 pm Soccer Shots (lawn)

6:30 pm Stewardship Committee Meeting (CH)

7:30 pm Trustees Meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, September 22

9:15 am Play Care

7:00 pm Council Meeting (Zoom)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Wednesday, September 23

9:15 am Play Care

10:00 am Herbal Tea kitchen rental (K)

10:00 am Chapp. Garden Club (CH)

7:00 pm Boy Scouts Troop 2 (CH)

Thursday, September 24

9:15 am Play Care

7:30 pm AA (CH)

Friday, September 25

9:15 am Play Care

3:00-7:00 pm Babe's Delectables rental (K)

7:30 pm AA Anniversary Night (CH)

Saturday, September 26

9:00-12:00 Soccer Shots

7:30 pm Mount Kisco AA (MR)

NEXT Sunday, September 27

10:00 am Worship (S/YouTube)

11:15 am Sunday Fellowship (CH)

11:15 am Choir Rehearsal (CR)

7:30 pm AA (CH)

3148 There's a Spirit of Love in This Place



1. There's a spir - it of love in this place, there's a
 (2. There's the) pres - ence of peace in this room, there's the



spir - it of love in this place. You can't
 pres - ence of peace in this room. In God's



see it, but it's there just as pre-cious as the air. There's a
 ten-der-ness is found peace that pass - es hu-man bounds. There's the



spir - it of love in this place.
 pres - ence of peace in this room. O al - le -



lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia! We bless your ho - ly



name. O al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia! There's a



spir - it of love in this place. 2. There's the place.

WORDS: Mark A. Miller
 MUSIC: Mark A. Miller

MEDEMA
 Irr.