

The First Congregational Church

Chappaqua, New York

United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming Church

All Are Welcome



"A Greater Claim"
Rev. Siobhan Sargent

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 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

office@fcc-chappaqua.org • fcc-chappaqua.org

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

First Congregational Church
Sunday, October 11, 2026 • 10:00 am
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Solemn Prelude

-YOUNG

Welcome

Celebration of Autumn Harvest

Autumn Carol

-SCHULTZE

FCC Handbells

A Time for the Young at Heart

*Call to Worship (responsively):

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: The earth is God's, and all that is in it.

All: We gather giving thanks for all of God's creation.

One: For the land beneath our feet, for the people beside us, for all that has been entrusted to our care.

All: May we open our hearts to the presence of God's Spirit and receive these gifts with humility and joy.

One: Come, let us worship God together, not just with the words of our mouths, but with our whole lives.

All: We joyfully offer ourselves with thanksgiving and praise.

*Opening Hymn

Take My Life (*see last page*)

Prayer of Invocation:

Holy and Loving God, as we gather in this holy place, take these moments and set them apart. Quiet what might distract us and help us to become fully attentive to the ways your Spirit is present with us this morning. Bless this time together, that we might leave this place transformed by your love and renewed by your grace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. And now, let us, as one body in Christ, continue to pray 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:

There are moments when the lives we are living do not quite reflect the lives we hope to live with God and with one another. We become weary. We lose patience. We carry hurts longer than we mean to. And sometimes, we miss opportunities to love well and to love boldly. But thankfully, God does not call us to be perfect. God invites us to keep turning toward love, toward grace, toward the life that is always opening before us. Confession is not about dwelling on our failures. It's about making space for God's grace to meet us, renew us, and transform our lives. So let us come before God with honest hearts, trusting that in grace there is always room to begin again.

Unison Prayer of Confession:

All: Gracious God, make us instruments of your peace. Where we have drawn the circle too small, teach us to make room. 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, shape us by your grace, until your love becomes more fully alive in us. For it is in giving that we receive, 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.

*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 22:15-22*

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

One: The word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God

*Hymn No. 586

Softly and Tenderly

Softly and tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me;
patient and loving, he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

Refrain: Come home, come home, ye who are weary, come home;
earnestly tenderly, Jesus is calling —calling, "O sinner, come home!"

Why should we linger when Jesus is pleading, Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we wait, then, and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? (*Refrain*)

O for the wonderful love he has promised,
Promised for you and for me; tho' we have sinned he has
Mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. (*Refrain*)

Prayers of the People

Announcements

Stewardship Moment

The Offering

Call to Offering

Offertory Anthem

Speak To Me, Lord

-John Ness Beck

*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 continue to call ordinary people of every generation into the work of your kingdom. Bless these gifts and the ministries they support. May they help us put our faith into action, sharing your love with the world around us, especially with those who need it most. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

* Congregation Standing (if you feel comfortable)

*Closing Hymn No. 595

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won,
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever be fall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*Benediction

Postlude

Festival

-YOUNG

* Congregation Standing (if you feel comfortable)

Thank you

- Robin Stout is our Host Deacon
- Mark Barth is our Liturgist
- Judy Jones and Jim Colby are our Ushers
- Judy Jones is Hosting Sunday Fellowship

Take My Life, and Let It Be

1. Take my life, and let it be con - se - cra - ted,
 2. Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly,
 3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no

Lord, to thee. Take my mo - ments and my days;
 for my King. Take my lips, and let them be
 long - er mine. Take my heart, it is thine own;

let them flow in cease - less praise. Take my hands, and
 filled with mes - sag - es from thee. Take my sil - ver
 it shall be thy roy - al throne. Take my love, my

let them move at the im - pulse of thy love.
 and my gold; not a mite would I with - hold.
 Lord, I pour at thy feet its trea - sure - store.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.
 Take my-self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

