

*First Congregational Church*  
*Our Church in Worship*

November 24, 2019 10:00 AM

Thanksgiving Sunday

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PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue no. 2 in G Major* Adam Peithmann  
- Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME Rev. Kevin Pleas

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME OF SILENCE

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL

INTROIT *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* – arr. Patricia Sanders Cote Sabbath Bells

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

LEADER: Let us gather together in thanksgiving to God.

PEOPLE: **For God has made us and this earth which gives us nurture.**

LEADER: Let us gather together in gratitude to one another.

PEOPLE: **For we are the bearers of God's blessing and love for the earth and its people.**

ALL: **Let us praise God; let us join hands; let us reach out in care and courage so that the goodness of life may be for all God's children.**

\*OPENING HYMN NO. 276 *We Gather Together*

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

**Loving God, you are all mystery, and yet each created moment tells us of your goodness. We are ill at ease in a world we cannot control, but you have given us the secret of love. Grant us so to love our neighbors and ourselves that we may find you whom we seek with heart and mind and soul and strength; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and always. Amen.**

TIME WITH GOD'S CHILDREN

OFFERING FOR OUR CHILDREN'S MISSION PROJECT

SCRIPTURE READING: Exodus 20:8-11 (Common English Bible)

*Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. Six days you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Do not do any work on it – not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the*

*immigrant who is living with you. Because the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

MESSAGE: Thanks for the Sabbath

CLOSING PRAYER

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

(Please see blue bulletin insert)

CHORAL ANTHEM *The Majesty and Glory of Your Name* – Tom Fettke Chancel Choir

When I gaze into the night skies and see the work of your fingers; The moon and stars suspended in space. Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him? You have given man a crown of glory and honor, And have made him a little lower than the angels. You have put him in charge of all creation: the beasts of the field, The birds of the air, The fish of the sea. Oh, what is man? Oh, what is man that you are mindful of him? O Lord, our God the majesty and glory of your name transcends the earth and fills the heavens. O Lord, our God; little children praise You perfectly, And so would we. Alleluia! The majesty and glory of your name.

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Barbara Papagian

LEADER: God, in your mercy

PEOPLE: **Hear our prayer**

SILENT MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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. Amen.**

CHORAL RESPONSE

In this time of quiet reverence, God, fill us now with everlasting peace, and may each and every day we live bring true faith in your abiding love.

\*HYMN NO. 717

*Let All Things Now Living*

OUR MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

\*DOXOLOGY

Chalice Hymnal No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

**Lord God, heavenly King, we offer these gifts as a sign of our love, devotion, and  
praise. Through these, as through our praises, we acknowledge that you are our Lord.  
In your name we pray. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 1:3-8

Peter Perich

SERMON:

We Always Give Thanks

Rev. Kevin Pleas

\*CLOSING HYMN NO. 714

*For the Fruit of All Creation*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fantasy on *Now Thank We All Our God* – arr. Fred Bock

\*You are invited to stand if you wish.

SCRIPTURE READING: Colossians 1:3-8 (New Revised Standard Version)

Pew Bible: New Testament page 184

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

**First Congregational Church**

United Church of Christ

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***You are welcome here! • We are an Open & Affirming Congregation***