



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST · BOULDER



Growing Like Weeds

June 20, 2021 | 10:30 am

1128 Pine Street Boulder CO 80302 | 303.442.1787 | www.firstcong.net

For those of you who would like to participate in our offering using a credit card, you may donate by *texting* 73256 with the message *joy2givefcc*. You will be prompted to click on a link to complete your donation information.

All music and words reprinted, recorded and livestreamed by permission under OneLicense.net, License #A-708196 and CCLI #11415391.

Welcome to The First Congregational Church, Boulder, a community of faith on a journey of faith. Founded in 1864, the first church built in Boulder, we have been gathering ever since as a community of kindred hearts to worship, to learn and grow in the light of God's grace, to extend ourselves in compassionate service, and to be instruments of God's transformation in the world.

As a member congregation of the United Church of Christ, we believe "God is still speaking."

We listen and open our lives to the movement of God's Spirit stirring us up in the new thing God is always doing in our midst. We trust as our Pilgrim forbears prayed, "There is yet more light and truth to break forth from God's holy word."

Our commitment to the extravagant love of Jesus makes the words, "All are Welcome," as inclusive as they sound. We are glad you are here: believers and agnostics, conventional Christians and questioning skeptics, people brimming with hope and those who wander in despair, people of all races, cultures, and abilities, of all gender identities and sexual orientations. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

STAFF

Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman Senior Minister | **Rev. Pedro Silva** Associate Minister
Rev. Deborah Voss Director of Christian Education | **Dr. Kajsa Teitelbaum** Director of Music
Calvin Hardy Director of Youth Ministries | **Julie Griffiths** Office & Facilities Manager
Christopher Carter Communication Specialist | **Renee Loewen** Accountant
Julia Wirth Director of Children's Music | **Jessica Kressin** Chancel Choir Accompanist
Er-Hsuan Li Children's Choirs Accompanist | **Ginger Johnson** Child Care Coordinator

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Sometimes I Feel Like a Motherless Child
Jean Abbott

Traditional

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman

HYMN

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Spiritual

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and bass lines. The first system includes three numbered verses. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system includes the phrase 'all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney, when my heart is al - most break - ing, when my head is bowed in sor - row,'. The fourth system repeats the phrase 'Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.' three times.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

May our eyes be opened to the Word of God
scribed on every leaf and petal, on every wing and paw.
As the seasons unfold in their vibrant dance of change,
may we hear the call from their pages to blossom forth,
to bear fruit, to surrender and yield, to rest into mystery.
Let the journey of caterpillar to moth teach you the path of transformation.
Let the patience of mountains and singing of stones
give guidance for what it means to endure.
Let the rise and fall of the sun and moon circling the blue-tiled sky
teach you about journeys to fullness and to rest and release.
May Holy Wisdom be revealed in each season,
reading grace at every turn.

*Christine Valters Paintner
The Work of the People*

READING

The Seven Of Pentacles
Marge Piercy

Deborah Voss

Under a sky the color of pea soup
she is looking at her work growing away there
actively, thickly like grapevines or pole beans
as things grow in the real world, slowly enough.
If you tend them properly, if you mulch, if you water,
if you provide birds that eat insects a home and winter food,
if the sun shines and you pick off caterpillars,
if the praying mantis comes and the ladybugs and the bees,
then the plants flourish, but at their own internal clock.

Connections are made slowly, sometimes they grow underground.
You cannot tell always by looking what is happening.
More than half the tree is spread out in the soil under your feet.
Penetrate quietly as the earthworm that blows no trumpet.
Fight persistently as the creeper that brings down the tree.
Spread like the squash plant that overruns the garden.
Gnaw in the dark and use the sun to make sugar.

Weave real connections, create real nodes, build real houses.
Live a life you can endure: Make love that is loving.
Keep tangling and interweaving and taking more in,
a thicket and bramble wilderness to the outside but to us
interconnected with rabbit runs and burrows and lairs.

Live as if you liked yourself, and it may happen:
reach out, keep reaching out, keep bringing in.
This is how we are going to live for a long time: not always,
for every gardener knows that after the digging, after
the planting,
after the long season of tending and growth, the harvest comes.

SCRIPTURE

Mark 4:26-34

SERMON

Growing Like Weeds
Chris Braudaway-Bauman

SOLO

Love's In Need of Love Today
Rebecca Flintoft

Stevie Wonder

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Linda Kowatch

THE 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.

PRAYER IN SONG

Lord, I Want to be a Christian

Spiritual

2 Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart;
4 Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart;

Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

In my heart, in my heart,
In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY LIFE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

In gratitude for life itself and this ministry we share,

we give ourselves to you, O God.

Bless every gift and every giver.

Ask much of us. Encourage many through us.

This we pray in the name of Jesus and the Gospel we proclaim. Amen.

MISSION MOMENT

Mindful Works

Video by Samuel Bauman

Mindful Works provides job-driven training and real employment opportunities to those in recovery from mental illness. Trainees learn skills needed for successful employment as well as experiencing a sense of community and family which are key to recovery.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Julie Griffitts, Karen Cumbo, Deborah Voss

Elise Burnor, Kea Giles, Roy and Mary Grossnick,

Linda Richer, Greg Slough, Caitlin Smith

COVENANT OF THE CONGREGATION

With joy, we receive you as members of First Congregational Church.

We welcome you to this progressive Christian church

committed to faith as a journey, compassionate service, and inclusion of all.

We pray that through loving and being loved,

through serving and being served,

we all may be strengthened by our mutual concern for one another;

and that through our shared witness this church

may faithfully serve the realm of God on earth.

SONG

Welcome Song

Voice

Wel - come to this house O - pen and af -

firm - - - ing In God's Son we are all one

Hand in hand we stand Wel - come to this

house Car - ing and ac - cept - - - ing

In God's Son we are all one Wel - come to this

house of God God rit.

HYMN

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

Unison



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con - fess - ing, the
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er liv - ing, the

peo - ple of God from this dwell - ing take leave. The ser - vice is
 tasks of our ev - ery - day life we will face. Our faith ev - er

end - ed, O now be ex - tend - ed the fruits of our wor - ship in
 shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em - brac - ing God's chil - dren of

all who be - lieve. The seed of the teach - ing, re -
 each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with

cep - tive hearts reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for
 your light now lead us, u - nite us as one in this

God and for all. God's grace did in - vite us, and love shall u -
 life that we share. Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks -

nite us to work for God's realm and to an - swer the call.
 giv - ing give hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.

From *The New Century Hymnal*, Copyright 1995, The Pilgrim Press. Lyrics: O. Westendorf, 1964. Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh Folk Melody. CCLI copyright license no 11415391 Size C, CCLI streaming license CSPL181210 Size C

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

YOUR GIVING

In this time when we are physically apart, the ministry of the church continues. Thank you for the ways we support each other. To make a payment on your pledge or a contribution to the church, you may:

Write a check to the church and mail it to:

First Congregational Church Boulder, 1128 Pine St. Boulder, CO 80302

To pay electronically, sign in to your account in Realm, the church's database, where you may make an ACH payment from your bank account or contribute by credit card.

Or contribute by Text-to-Give by texting to 73256 with the message joy2givefcc

Kevin Pettit provided the living flower arrangement at the front of the church today.

He would like to encourage you to consider all the diverse and changing beauties in creation!

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

Following worship, meet church members and friends on Zoom for a time of fellowship. (Bring your own coffee). <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/349641499?pwd=OXZkYk0wVnpZU2hZdGxQeXY1TmN6Zz09#success>

HOW ARE THE PALESTINIAN CHILDREN? UCC RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL/PALESTINE AND NEXT STEPS

NOON - 1:00 PM (PART 2) - ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89489898849?pwd=MzBtY25Ub0xzaFpBM3pXczBFcUZSQT09#success>

Meeting ID: 894 8989 8849 Passcode: Children

Barbara Hanst (720) 667-8321 or Jane Thomas (303 570-2447)

Join us to study and discuss the Resolution going before UCC General Synod in July from the UCC Palestine Israel Network. Joining are Rachel Malmborg, who volunteered at a refugee camp in Palestine, and Erika Blum, an aide to Rep. Neguse. Please join us!

WHAT'S NEW WITH MISSION PARTNER, MINDFUL WORKS | SUNDAY AT NOON - ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85803695554?pwd=elpoVldPcTRFakpNaWZBTzVMcXo5UT09#success>

Meeting ID: 858 0369 5554 Passcode: Mindful

In 2019 we entered into a mission partnership with Mindful Works, a social enterprise which provides vital job training for those with mental health challenges. Despite the pandemic, they have continued not only to provide job training but have expanded their product line. Susan Williams, the executive director, will update us on their work and provide information as to how we can work together in partnership going forward.

FIRST CONG SMALL GROUP SOCIAL GATHERINGS

Gather with church friends in groups of 6 to 10 for a variety of events. Gatherings are typically BYO - bring your own chair, food, beverages, etc. Click below to see the openings that are currently available. Check back for more additions. <https://firstcong.net/form-view/36>

ARTS CAMP WORSHIP | JUNE 27, 10:30 AM - IF JESUS CAME TODAY WHAT STORIES WOULD HE TELL?

As I write this, we are in the middle of our Middle School ARTS Camp week and children are being recorded in our self-designed recording booth. Beautiful music, joyful play, spirit-filled reflections on parables and the very special community we have formed are the foundation of a week together in the context of a strange year of covid dictated behaviors. Discovering the joy (and necessity) of play has been the highlight of our time together. Worship with us on the 27th and see how our middle schoolers contemporize parables.

ARTS Camp Blessings from Deborah

SUMMER SERIES OF CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICES | SUNDAYS, 6/27 TO 8/1, 9:30 TO 10:15 AM IN THE CHAPEL

and on Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82949233148?pwd=anhZV1ZQTTdTc-GdsZ3RxR2srcGdZUT09#success>

Join us for a time of quiet contemplation in community on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15 am.

Limited in-person services in the Chapel and simultaneously on Zoom. Join Charley Rastle for Contemplative Prayer Worship, Rev. Bob Von Trebra for Guided Meditation on Scripture, and Judy Ludwig-Keller for Mindfulness Practices.