



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST · BOULDER



**...I praise you, for I am fearfully
and wonderfully made...**

Psalm 139:14

Access Sunday
Accessible to All (A2A)
June 23, 2024 | 10:00 AM

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

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.

The living flowers in the front of the sanctuary have been donated by Kevin Pettit who hopes their beauty reminds you of the beauty of your life, as well!

Childcare for **INFANTS AND PRESCHOOLERS** is available with Ms. Laura downstairs. **CHILDREN** will start in the sanctuary and then may leave for Sunday School with Lianna. **YOUTH** will remain through the worship service.

We have a **HEARING LOOP SYSTEM** in the Sanctuary which sends sound directly into a hearing aid/cochlear implant. Switch your hearing aid to T-coil. Or, in both the Sanctuary and Chapel, pocket-sized FM receivers are also available from the ushers. BYO earbuds or use the new ones provided. **WHEELCHAIRS** are also available, please ask an usher for assistance.

Through **YOUR GIVING** online or in-person, you can count on the nurturing ministry of FCC Boulder Church. Each one of us plays an important part, including through our financial support.

MOBILE

Text JOY2GIVEFCC to 73256

ONLINE

www.firstcong.net/give

ENVELOPE

Cash or Check



STAFF

Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman *Senior Minister* | Rev. Linda Kowatch *Associate Minister*

Dr. Kajsja Teitelbaum *Director of Music* | Lianna Campos *Minister of Faith Formation*

Sam Bauman *Director of Youth Ministry* | Julie Griffiths *Office & Facilities Manager*

Christopher Carter *Communication Specialist* | Renee Loewen *Accountant*

Anne Martinez *Director of Children and Youth Music* | Jessica Kressin, *Chancel Choir Accompanist*

Er-Hsuan Li *Children's Choirs Accompanist* | Laura Bowen *Child Care Coordinator*

Angie Dickinson *Mickle AV and Event Specialist*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Many of the prayers in this worship service were written by members of the United Church of Christ Disabilities Ministries (UCCDM).

PRELUDE

Prelude on St. Denio
Kajsa Teitelbaum, organ

R. H. Haan

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Linda Kowatch

One: Accessible, inclusive, multi-sensory God, in celebration of You and Your Creation today, we give thanks for all.

All: We give thanks for people of all experiences, disabilities, and abilities.

One: God, you invite us to learn more, to connect more, to offer helpful accommodations; so people of all abilities and disabilities, minds and bodies, can thrive.

All: God, all minds and bodies echo Your reflection.

One: God, You are accessible to all. Opening our awareness to You on this Access Sunday, together may Your Creation be joyful and reflective. There is work to celebrate and work to continue in making Your world fully accessible.

All: Amen.

written by Stephanie Niemela (UCCDM)

*PASSING THE PEACE

*HYMN #1

Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise

OPENING PRAYER

Sarah Raessler

God of all of our senses and all abilities and disabilities,
we come before you, preparing our bodies, hearts, and minds for worship.
Whether having a singular or multiple focus;
whether comfortable, uncomfortable, or somewhere in between;
feeling included, excluded, or somewhere in between:
we are celebrating the ways that our minds and bodies experience the world,
and reflect and echo your love, truth, and grace.
God, we thank you for diversity in abilities,
which we celebrate today. Amen.

written by Stephanie Niemela (UCCDM)

Children are released to go to church school with Lianna. Youth will remain in Worship.

**The asterisk is an invitation to rise in body or spirit.*

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139:13-18

Rev. Linda Kowatch

READINGS AND REFLECTIONSLoving Our Own Bones
by Julia Watts BelserRev. Linda Kowatch
Kevin Pettit
Deborah Raessler***HYMN**

Amazing Grace

with new lyrics by Jacob Nault (UCCDM)

*Amazing grace!
How good that I'm
Forgiven, loved and free!
All that I am is blessed by God,
who made each part of me.*

*When we've been there
ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.*

*'Twas grace that taught
my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.*

*Amazing grace!
How good that I'm
Forgiven, loved and free!
All that I am is blessed by God,
who made each part of me,
who made each part of me.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Chris Braudaway-Bauman

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.**

MUSICAL MEDITATION**INVITATION TO COMMUNITY LIFE****INVITATION TO OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Alma Alber

*adapted from prayers by Gayle McGlaufflin (UCCDM)***OFFERTORY**Draw the Circle Wide
Pop Up Choir Jessica Kressin, piano

G. Light and M. Miller

*Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side.
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

*Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still.
Let this be our song: no one stands alone.
Standing side by side,
Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

***AN A2A AFFIRMING STATEMENT OF FAITH**

Mary Catherine Molpus, Kevin Pettit

One: Will you please stand in body and/or spirit so that together we may renew our covenant as an A2A, Accessible to All, congregation of the United Church of Christ.

All: Made in God's image, as persons loved by God, we are called to fully accept ourselves and all people.

One: We claim our Christian faith as the foundation of our values in human relationships.

All: We envision a community in which all persons know, celebrate, and have confidence in themselves as whole beings just as they are.

One: We believe it is important to examine our own attitudes and assumptions regarding the issues of accessibility and seek to understand, include and empower people with differing abilities, apparent or unapparent.

All: We believe that barriers diminishing the access of any, diminish the wholeness of all.

One: We believe that persons with disabilities, including but not limited to, physical disabilities, mental illnesses/brain disorders, and/or developmental disabilities are God's beloved children.

All: We affirm that all people with disabilities, seen and unseen, are welcome within our community and are expected and encouraged to share their talents and gifts in the life, liturgy, and leadership of our congregation.

One: We will commit to working with disability groups outside our congregation to extend our hospitality and to find opportunities to be in shared mission and ministry together.

All: We offer support and thanksgiving for persons who have disabilities which last for a limited time or for a lifetime.

One: We recommit ourselves to working for justice for persons with disabilities in our community and society.

All: We proclaim and participate in God's wide welcome, extending the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, and boldly living out our faith in the practice of love. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto God. Amen.

*HYMN

I Danced in the Morning (Simple Gifts)



1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but
3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The
4 I danced on a Fri-day when the sky turned black. It's
5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. †



danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I
ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They
hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They
I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll



came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At
danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and
bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but
live in you if you'll live in me, †



Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
came with me and the dance went on.
left me there on a cross to die.
I am the dance and I still go on.
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Refrain



Dance, then, wher-ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the



Dance, said he, and I'll lead you all, wher - ev - er you may be,



and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

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*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

M. Burkhardt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FCC Get Out the Vote 2024 Campaign - Today, Before Worship Only - The Link

Join the FCC Social Justice Ministries on Sunday, before worship in the Link to continue our Get Out the Vote (GOTV) campaign. Throughout the summer, we will be working with non-partisan organizations to write letters and postcards to encourage low-propensity voters to vote in November. There will be a table in the Link to train you, provide space to write or give you packets to check out and write at home. Contact Caitlin Smith (csmitty12@gmail.com)

All Church Picnic, Today! Following 10:00 AM Worship Service Foothills Community Park, 800 Cherry Ave Boulder

Following worship today, join First Cong folks at Foothills Community Park. Our Board of Community Life will provide pulled BBQ sandwiches, salads including vegan options, baked beans, dessert and beverages. All are welcome and warmly encouraged to join us for food, fellowship, games, and a playground for the kids. Hope to see you there under the picnic shelters!

FCC PIN - Hosting Steven Olberg - Wednesday, 6/26, at 7 PM - Zoom

FCC Palestine Israel Network (PIN) is pleased to host Steven Olberg, EdD., at a special meeting on Zoom. Dr. Olberg will speak and share slides on his dissertation topic, non-violent activism in the Middle East, which is now a book Political Graffiti on the West Bank Wall in Israel/Palestine. For more info contact Jane Thomas jane.thomas@colorado.edu

Fellowship of the Grape (FOG) - Friday, 6/28, Hultgrens' at The Academy, Mapleton

FOG will gather on Friday, June 28, 6-8 PM at Holly and Steve Hultgren's home at the Academy at Mapleton, Boulder. In honor of their recent travels, please bring a Spanish wine. Couples please bring an appetizer and a bottle of wine; singles may bring either. Non-alcoholic beverages provided. All those over 21 are welcome. Come meet new friends and old! Detailed directions can be found in the Weekly email, as this location is not on Google maps just yet.

A Natural History and Bird Walk

Saturday, June 29, 6:30 to 10:00 AM, Location TBD

Join Steve Frye, church member and Ringmaster of the Flying Circus Birders, to enjoy and explore the natural history of Boulder County. All ages are welcome. The walk is gentle, but it will cover two to three miles. Come dressed for the weather conditions. Bring optics if you have them. The location will be announced in the Friday Weekly email from the church on June 28. If you would prefer a notice delivered to your inbox, sign up here (<https://tinyurl.com/bpfen35x>) to receive an email a day or two before the hike.

Difficulty: Easy. Dogs are not allowed on the bird walk.

Contact: Chris Braudaway-Bauman chris@firstcong.net

Backpack School Supply Drive for Family Learning Center (FLC) - 6/30, 7/7 & 7/14

Donations Accepted in the Link

Help the kids of Boulder's Family Learning Center get a good start for the new school year! From June 30-July 14 we will be collecting school supplies like notebooks, pencils, pens, crayons, markers and more to fill backpacks for students. You can pick up the full list of school supplies needed on the table in the Link, write a check to First Congregational Church with "Backpacks" in the memo, or give electronically with the QR code.



First Cong Booth at Boulder Pride - Volunteer! - Sunday, 6/30, 11:30 AM -5 PM Centennial Park

In 1987 First Cong became an Open and Affirming Congregation, meaning we invite and affirm our LGBTQ+ siblings into membership and leadership. To live into that covenant, we invite everyone to participate in Boulder PRIDE on June 30. We need volunteers to help host and welcome people at our booth. Sign up to volunteer in the Link before worship or email Carmen Valdes valdesc@hotmail.com to become part of the First Cong PRIDE Booth Team.

Special Announcement: Welcoming Congressman Joe Neguse - Sunday 7/7 at 9:30 AM

Join us for worship on Sunday, July 7, as we welcome Congressman Joe Neguse as our preacher for the morning. Elected to his first term in November 2018, he became the first Black Member of Congress in Colorado history, representing Colorado's 2nd District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Music by our Easter Brass Quintet and Chancel Choir. Following worship, Former U.S. Representative and beloved church member David Skaggs will join Joe Neguse for a community conversation. Musical Prelude at 9:15 AM. Invite friends and neighbors.

Memorial Service for Helene Willis - 7/1 at 2:30 PM, Sanctuary

Helene Willis was a treasured member of First Congregational Church since 1997. She died on Thursday, June 13 at the age of 91. A Service in Memory and Thanksgiving for her life will be held on Monday, July 1 in the Sanctuary. A reception in the Standish and Heritage Rooms will follow. We extend our deepest sympathy to Helene's husband Roe, to their children and grandchildren as we place Helene in God's eternal care.

Heartsaver First Aid, CPR, and AED Training - Wed, 7/17, from 6 to 8 PM - Grace Gallery & Online

Join Kelly McDevitt from First Cong's Safety Team for this important emergency training, which include three hours of online learning and two hours of hands on skills. This American Heart Association course trains participants to provide first aid, CPR, and use an automated external defibrillator (AED) in a safe, timely, and effective manner. There is a \$20 fee for the online learning component, but the rest is a gift to us from Kelly McDevitt. Sign up to participate here (<https://tinyurl.com/mre5m3ys>).

Flowers for Sunday Morning Worship

Is there a special occasion, an anniversary, a memorial, a birthday, or just any ordinary day you'd like to honor by donating flowers for worship? Is your garden overflowing with blooms and you'd be glad to put some in vases on the communion table for Sunday morning? We'd be delighted to provide an opportunity for you to share them. Please sign up here (<https://tinyurl.com/mdywh59v>) for your Sunday. Please let us know if you'd like to give money so that Anne Byrne can purchase flowers for you, or if you'd like to select and bring flowers yourself. Add a message if you'd appreciate a note in the bulletin to commemorate the occasion. Contact: annebyrnehome@comcast.net

Women's Retreat 2024 - Friday to Sunday, 8/30 - 9/1 - Highlands Retreat Center, Allenspark

As we enter the fall, we'll take a weekend to reflect on friendship, its gifts, its necessity, how friends enfold us in times of deepest joy and keenest sorrow, and how we help each other grow and thrive. Join us for a time of sharing, connecting, and nurturing our faith and friendships together. Our time together begins with dinner on Friday and concludes mid-morning on Sunday. Can't attend for the whole weekend? A Saturday only option is available. Register (<https://tinyurl.com/3sbc2t7c>) by Tuesday, August 13.

Racial Justice Ministry Pilgrimage: Sand Creek Massacre and Amache Internment Camp: 10/19 & 20

Registration is now open and accessed with this QR code. All ages including families are invited to participate. Registration will remain open through Sun, Sept 22. Maximum number of participants is 40. Contact: karenwhoover@gmail.com To prepare for the pilgrimage, visit (<https://tinyurl.com/ys5zcpjr>) to access a resource list for your summer reading and video viewing.



Social Justice for Immigrants - What can WE do? ...

I was a stranger and you welcomed me... Matt. 25:35

The laws on immigration in Denver and all of Colorado continually change. The needs of Newcomers (migrants) are immense and overwhelming. To advocate and provide hospitality to our siblings from other lands the Racial Justice Ministry of First Cong found some practical ways we can help. You will find a flyer in the Link or online (<https://tinyurl.com/mr34mvdd>) for more information. Contact: Kristen Aldretti (kaldretti@gmail.com)