

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Pues si vivimos: In All Our Living
Congregational Bells

K. McChesney

WELCOME

Rev. Christina Braudaway-Bauman

*PASSING THE PEACE

*HYMN 20

God of Abraham and Sarah

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Joanne Corson and Laura Riihimaki

One: Dear Creator God, You who know how many stars are in the sky, you who feel when a sparrow falls to the ground, and who knows each of your children by name.

All: With grateful hearts, we thank you and honor our siblings, the Indigenous First Peoples, for their care and stewardship of this land. In our world today, eighty percent of global biodiversity is on land managed by Indigenous people, evidence of their love, contributions, and wisdom. (silence).

One: God, your heart must break when you see how your children treat each other. Give us the courage and humility to see the truth of our history and the deep wounds of injustice created by our ancestors that continue to scar our hearts and our lands.

One: We acknowledge that the land where we live and worship today is the territory of the Arapaho, Cheyenne, Ute, and many other Native tribes. We honor Chief Left Hand, leader of the last Arapaho band to spend their winters in the Boulder Valley. We remember the many Arapaho and Cheyenne people brutally massacred by the Boulder-trained US Cavalry at Sand Creek, Colorado, in 1864, the same year First Congregational United Church of Christ was founded. The survivors were forced out of Colorado to reservations in Wyoming and Oklahoma, where most Arapaho live today.

One: We acknowledge the truth that these Native peoples were violently killed and barbarically uprooted by our ancestors and continue to be marginalized through European settler colonialism. We live in luxury now because of this displacement.

All: With sorrowful souls, we take a moment now to deeply feel the devastating and senseless loss of millions of Indigenous human beings. (silence)

One: We also grieve the loss of the Colorado that could have been. We grieve the loss of leadership and wisdom with the murder of chiefs at Sand Creek who were advocating for peace.

One: We grieve that instead of connection and community and hospitality, the originators of this town left us a legacy of theft and violence and inter-generational trauma.

All: We grieve the loss of cultural richness--the songs and dances and art, the food, the language and words and names for this land that we do not know. (silence)

One: God, hear us as we pray:

All: With the guidance of your unconditional love, we confess that we are living on stolen land, and we need to reconcile with our Native siblings. Please help us, God, to work toward creating authentic relationships and partnerships that recognize and build upon the continuing sovereignty of the Native peoples whose land we now occupy. God, you know what is in our hearts. Please guide us in actively committing to partnering with our Native siblings to learn how to lovingly care for this land together and live in harmony with all our kin. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Children and Youth may go to church school with Lianna and Louisa.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:14-21

REFLECTION

Pilgrimage

Stewart and Karen Hoover

VISUAL REFLECTION

Photos from the Pilgrims Video
by Phil and Sam Bauman

WITNESS

The Sand Creek Massacre

Kent Fraser

VISUAL PRAYER

Earth, Teach Me to Remember

Attributed to the Ute Nation

WITNESS

Amache

Allison Tatterson

*HYMN

May We Be Free

H. Brown

1. May we be free, all peo - ples, tribes, and
 2. May we be free, pur - su - ing trans - for -

na - tions, as some have dreamed but
 ma - tion till bi - as, greed, and

none have yet a - chieved. May we ful -
 ex - ploi - ta - tion cease. May we re -

fill the hopes of gen - er - a - tions
 pent, en - gage in rep - a - ra - tion,

with strength and will to live what they be -
 join in la - ment, and strug - gle for re -

lieved. May we be free, our
 lease. May we be free, as

longed-for lib - er - a - tions grown from the
 fresh im - ag - i - na - tion helps us make

seeds of all who fought and grieved.
 real a just and last - ing peace.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jane Ireland

THE LORD'S PRAYER

From A New Zealand Book of Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe;
May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world,
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings,
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trial too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

INVITATION TO COMMUNITY LIFE

OFFERTORY

Servants of Peace
Chancel Choir
Kajsa Teitelbaum, director
Jessica Kressin, accompanist

K. Lee Scott

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Great God of Every Blessing

AURELIA

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,
you are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.
How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:
sincerely and completely, I offer you my heart.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

"God, grant that we will get on board and start marching with you,
because we got orders now to break down the bondage
and the walls of colonialism, exploitation, and imperialism.
To break them down to the point that no person will trample over another person,
but that all people will respect the dignity and worth of human personality.
And then we will be in Canaan's freedom land. Amen."

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*HYMN 593

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata on "Lift Every Voice"

M. Miller

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES

Our **toddlers and preschoolers** start in the Toddler Room with for play, a story, and a simple snack. The Toddler Room is located in the lower level to the right of the stairs/elevator. New children are always welcome! Parents of little ones will also find rocking chairs in the back of our Sanctuary. Our Heritage Room, down the hall, provides a space for caregivers to watch the service on a large screen while supervising those who like to roam or need a break

Elementary Children and Youth (K-12) will start in Worship and leave with Lianna and Louisa for Sunday School.

HAPPENING TODAY

BoCo 2025 MLK DAY 30 Years: Dream Makers, Mile Markers & Milestones!

Today, at 3 p.m. - Boulder JCC and Monday, 1/20 at 10 a.m. - Silver Creek High School

Join us to celebrate and reflect on three decades of honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy and the progress made toward equality and justice. Come together with the Boulder County community to recognize the "Dream Makers" who inspire us, the "Mile Markers" that paved the way, and the "Milestones" we have achieved. Events are free, but you need a ticket.



Newcomers Coffee - Today, at 11:45 a.m. | Heritage Room

Are you new to the First Congregational Church community, looking to find out more, and get better connected? Join us after 10:30 AM worship to get to know some of staff and leaders at First Congregational, and learn more about the many ways you can get involved including joining us as a member. Childcare is available during the coffee. Kids are also welcome to attend with their parents.

LGBTQ+ and Allies Ministry Lunch-Today, from 11:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

On the third Sunday of each month the LGBTQIA+ and Allies Ministry gather for food, fun, fellowship and ministry business. Bring your own lunch and drink. You can bring a snack to share if you like. If you are a visitor on the third Sunday and want to join us, please see one of the pastors after the service and they will help you find the group. We will have extra sandwiches to share with you. Please join us! If you would like more info, please contact Carmen Valdes (valdesce@hotmail.com).

De-Escalation Training-Wednesday, 1/22, 5 -7 p.m. | Standish Room

The hospitality of our congregation is enhanced by attentiveness to everyone's safety. We are glad to partner with Mental Health Partners who is coming to us to provide De-escalation training. This two-hour training will help you learn useful tools and interventions to help individuals de-escalate during times of stress or crisis, manage a dangerous outburst, and recover from distress. Participants will talk through situations to practice implementing these strategies. If you are an usher, a member of our safety team, a volunteer in the Soup Kitchen, or are interested, email Eric Nickell (justthefactssenor@gmail.com), co-chair of our Safety Team.

Fellowship of the Grape (FOG)-Friday, 1/24, from 6-8 p.m.

Come to the home of Jay Rourke and Karen Cumbo at 3808 Florentine Circle, Longmont for the first 2025 FOG gathering. Bring a wine for the season-something for cozying up to a fire, or whatever will brighten the cold, gray days of January. Couples bring a bottle of wine and an appetizer; singles may bring either. Nonalcoholic beverages available. Everyone 21 and over is welcome, even if you don't drink wine! Park on the street, and walk to entrance on interior drive between buildings. Phone 970-222-0176.

Forum: Five Questions for the New Year-Sunday, 1/26, 2025 - 9:15 a.m | Standish Room

In place of resolutions, the Ministry of Last Things (MLT) invites you to gather to discuss 5 questions for the new year based on the journey of Grammy Award Winner, Jon Batiste, and his wife and best-selling author, Suleika Jaouad. These questions will help us reflect on 2024 and challenge us to align 2025 with the lives we dream to live. For info on MLT or the Forum contact Nancy Wade (nmwade1@gmail.com).

Book Discussion Group with Intercambio

Intercambio, one of our mission partners, is starting a book discussion group that will read a new book every three months. Their first book is *The Newcomers, Finding Refuge, Friendship and Hope in America* by Helen Thorpe. This acclaimed book gives a riveting account of refugee teenagers at a Denver public high school. Intercambio offers in-person (Friday, 1/31, 10:30 a.m. at their Longmont office) and online discussion (Monday, 2/3 at noon). For more details, along with the session you would like to attend please RSVP (irene@intercambio.org).

ARTS Camp 2025

ARTS Camp returns June 1-7! All children and youth grades 2-8 (for the 24-25 school year) are invited to a week of summer camp at Highlands Camp in Allenspark, CO. We will put together a musical, learn different arts media, and do traditional summer camp activities like a low ropes course, rock climbing, boating, and a talent show! Registration is \$550 per camper and camperships are available from the Voss Camp Scholarship Fund.



Mission Trip-June 15-21

This year's annual high school mission trip is taking us to Fort Worth, Texas! We will focus on Food Insecurity, doing hands-on work in places like community gardens and food pantries/kitchens and also learning about advocacy efforts to secure and increase affordable access to healthy food. This trip is open to all current high schoolers (grades 9-12).



Pick-a-Party and Silent Auction Invitation

Here's a great way to show your support for the Youth of our Church! The Board of Faith Formation is coordinating an auction (to be hosted in the springtime) and a Pick-a-Party event to raise money for their Mission Trip to Fort Worth, TX in June. Can you donate an auction item/experience or host a Pick-a-Party? Both of these fundraisers require donations of your time, talents or auction items to make it a success! Please use this link (<https://tinyurl.com/3d2h5suw>) to find out more, and sign up for the auction or to host a party. Thank you for your support!

Star Words-Pick up your Star Word in the Link

On Epiphany, we remember how a Star guided the Magi to the place where they found the Christ child. In keeping with their journey to move closer to Jesus, we invite you to join others in moving through the year with intention and in prayer. Enclosed in the Star Word envelope you can pick up from the basket in the Link, you will find a paper star with a word printed on it. Throughout the year, we invite you to reflect on the meaning of that word. Set your Star Word in a place where you will see it regularly. Notice the Star Word, reflect on it, and pay attention to where it shows up in your life, all year long. Our faith tells us that God uses many ways to guide us and speak to us. But we also know how easy it is to miss God's presence in our day-to-day living. Allow the Star Word to be a lens through which you look and listen for God in your midst, both actively and in hindsight. How might it enable you to see and hear God in ways you haven't before?

In Loving Memory of Elena Burton

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Elena Burton. Elena died this past Monday, January 13, 2025. She was a member of First Congregational since 2008. Arrangements are being made for a memorial service to be held at First Congregational Church in the coming weeks.

Memorial Service for Pat Oswald-Tuesday, February 4 at 2 p.m.

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Patricia "Pat" A. Oswald. Pat died on Tuesday, 1/14, 2025, at the age of 98, and was a member of our congregation for more than 60 years.

MacKenzie Lectureship Weekend - February 7 to 9, 2025

We warmly welcome as this year's MacKenzie Lecturer, Dr. Nancy Ammerman, a world-renowned sociologist of religion and leading expert on congregations and congregational life, having conducted major research projects and written countless articles, reports, and books. For Saturday's workshop, she will be joined by Dr. Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi of Iliff School of Theology in Denver, who serves as the regional director for a national project researching the effects of the pandemic on congregations.

Lecture, Friday, 2/7 at 7:00 PM, Sanctuary and YouTube

How Shall We Gather? Reflections on America's Changing Religious Landscape and the Necessary Future of the Church

This lecture will begin with a sober look at the challenges posed by the growing population of unaffiliated people, declining religious organizations, and a culture rife with religious scandals and political polarization. Yet beyond those challenges, churches remain vital to their communities, and we will explore the resources of tradition and imagination that can allow them to move into the future.

Workshop, Saturday, 2/8 from 9:00 to 11:30 AM, Plymouth Hall

Envisioning the Church of the Future

Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi will join Nancy Ammerman as participants explore together the trends that are shaping, and will shape, church life. They will be invited to participate in designing a "Church of the Future" based on key values and commitments, and they will engage in discussion about the joys and challenges of such an endeavor.

Worship - Sunday, 2/9 at 10:30 AM, Sanctuary and YouTube

Chapel Service at 8:30 AM, Chapel

Contemplative Prayer: A service of Taizé singing, Scripture and readings, and extended moments of silent meditation and centering prayer. Rest in God's presence in the mist of gentle community.

Sanctuary Worship at 10:30 AM, Sanctuary and YouTube

Our preacher for this Sunday morning, Dr. Ammerman will offer a sermon on Dwelling in the Wilderness, reflecting on Scripture passages from Exodus and Acts.