



**First United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming, Just Peace Congregation
January 9, 2022
10:30 a.m.**

Welcome to worship! Are you visiting us today? We invite you to fill out our [virtual visitor card](#).

Prelude *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* arr. David Evan Thomas (2020)

Welcome & Announcements

Gathering Music *Nothing Can Trouble* #772

Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. Those who seek God shall never go wanting.
Nothing can trouble, nothing can frighten. God alone fills us.

Call to Worship adapted from Isaiah 43:1–7

One: God says: “Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name. You are mine.

**Many: When you cross deep rivers, I will be with you.
When you walk through fire, you will not be burned.**

One: I am your God, the Holy One.
You are precious in my sight and I love you.

**Many: So do not fear, for I am with you.
No matter where you are scattered,
I will gather you and bring you home.**

One: I created you for my glory.
I made every one of you and I call you by name. You are mine.”

Many: Thanks be to God!

Opening Hymn *On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry* Winchester New
(see page 7)

Time With Children

**Let the children come unto me, for theirs is the realm of God.
All who believe must become like a child; theirs is the realm of God.**

Anthem *The Baptism of Jesus* Paul Stetsenko (2000)

Now when all the people had been baptized, and when Jesus had been baptized and was praying,
the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him as a dove,
and a voice came from heaven: “Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased.”

Scripture Luke 3:15–17, 21–22 Marie Gery

Sermon Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Prayer Hymn

Down to the River to Pray
(see page 8)

The Prayers

We will begin prayers in song, then a minister will pray, and there will be time for silent prayer. Then we will sing again. All joining worship on Zoom are invited to share prayers with the congregation by using the chat function at any point during this time.

Sung Response

One: As your spirit moved upon the waters,
Many: **God, let your spirit move in us.**

Prayer of Jesus

You are invited to speak the words most meaningful to you, or follow with the version here:

Our God, 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.

Offertory

Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

arr. Alice Parker (2009)

Brethren, we have met to worship
And adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power
While we try to preach the Word?
All is vain unless the spirit
Of the Holy One comes down;
Brethren, pray, and holy manna
Will be showered all around.

Sisters, will you join and help us?
Moses' sisters aided him;
Will you help the trembling mourners
Who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior,
Tell them that he will be found;
Sisters, pray, and holy manna
Will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely,
Let us love each other, too.
Let us, love and pray for sinners
Till our God makes all things new.
Then he'll call us home to heaven,
At his table we'll sit down;
Christ will gird himself and serve us
With sweet manna all around.

Prayer of Thanks

Life-giving God, we praise you for your unbreakable love. You call each of us by name and claim us as your own. May the love that shines in Jesus empower us, too, that our gifts might increase Christ's love, justice, and peace in the world. Amen.

Hymn of Sending

Go, My Children, With My Blessing

#82 (Ar Hyd Y Nos)

v1 Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever,
Go my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

v2 Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you,
here with tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

Benediction

Postlude

Fugue in D Major

Felix Mendelssohn (1835)

We are so glad you worshiped here today!
Zoom breakout rooms are available for friendship and conversation after the service.
We hope you will stay!

News to Note

Worship Information

First UCC worships at 10:30 a.m. in person on Sundays, no registration required. Worship is also live streamed each week on Zoom. Whether you are joining us in person or online, we are glad to have you here! Are you visiting today? [Fill out our virtual visitor card.](#)

Giving to the Church

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of First UCC's ministry. [Give online now.](#) or send in your gifts via mail.

News & Announcements

Keep up to date with all of the latest news and upcoming events! [Subscribe to The Chronicle, First UCC's weekly e-newsletter](#), and find First UCC on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). Past issues of The Chronicle are available at firstucc.org.

This Week at First UCC

Monday, January 10

6:30 p.m. Braiding Sweetgrass Book Group (Zoom)

Tuesday, January 11

10 a.m. First UCC Women's Group (Zoom; contact wjk@q.com for sign-in link)

1-2:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, January 12

3:45 p.m. CONNECT Group (Library)

6:30 p.m. The Great Escape (Big Room)

7–8:15 p.m. Senior Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Saturday, January 15

9 a.m.– 1 p.m. Northfield ISAAH Caucus Training (Assembly Room)

6 p.m. CYAN

Sunday, January 16

10:30 a.m. Hybrid Worship

TODAY: Presentation on Regenerative Agriculture Alliance with Regi Haslett-Marroquin

Please join the Immigration Task Force today at 12 noon on Zoom only, to hear from Regi Haslett-Marroquin about the exciting work The Regenerative Agriculture Alliance has been up to this year. If you are attending worship on Zoom, simply stay logged into Zoom after the service and the presentation will start at noon. If you are attending worship in person, head home and login! The presentation will be recorded for later viewing. The link for Zoom is found at firstucc.org; simply click the red button that says "Join Us for Online Worship" and enter the passcode "1stUCC".

First UCC Women's Group Zoom Meeting, Tuesday, January 11

The next First UCC Women's Group meeting will be held Tuesday, January 11, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. The Women's Group provides an opportunity for a time of sharing and forming new friendships. We share our stories and discuss current issues as we draw support from each other. All ladies are invited to join the Women's Group. Contact Judy Kinstad at WJK@Q.com or call/text at 507-412-7861 for login information.

Faith Formation Ornaments Ready For Pick Up

Children's Faith Formation Families, did your child(ren) make an ornament or several ornaments for the Children's Faith Formation Christmas tree? Ornaments are ready for pick up in a basket in the Assembly Room. Please pick them up at your convenience, or let Pastor Lauren know if you would like to arrange another method of pick up. Thank you for sharing your Christmas cheer with the congregation!

Set Up Recurring Online Giving for First UCC

It's easy to set up a recurring online gift for First UCC! A reminder that if you had an automatic gift set up through Suran Systems/Engage, all gifts were cancelled in that system December 31. You must arrange to set up your giving in our NEW online giving system, Breeze, or arrange for bill pay with your bank. Visit <https://firstucc.org/giving/donate-electronically-now/> for more information about how to set up your recurring gift. Questions? Call the church office at 507-645-7532 or email church@firstucc.org.

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<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57296> [retrieved January 6, 2022]. Original source: Table View Methodist

Church stained glass, Cape Town, South Africa, <https://tableviewmethodist.blogspot.com/p/bible-story-windows.html>.

First UCC Leadership & Staff



Ministers: All the people

Moderator: Sam Steinberg

Senior Minister: Rev. Cindy Maddox

Minister for Congregational Life: Rev. Lauren Baske Davis

Youth & Family Ministry Development Intern: Katie Johnson

Director of Music: Chris Brunelle

Organist: Theo Wee

Director of Communications & Operations: Green Bouzard

Spirit Voices Director & Arts Coordinator: Bob Gregory-Bjorklund

Audio Visual Technician: Bryn Artley

Sexton: Mark Fischer

Thanks to this Week's Leaders



Ushers: Ann Sullivan, Jeffrey Latterell, Joan Higinbotham, Laura Funke, Dan Funke

Reader: Marie Gery

Digital Zoom Host: Beth Kallestad

Worship Arts: Linda Gagnon

Opening Hymn: *On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry*

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our
4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and

3

nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark-en,
straight the way for God with-in, and let us all our
ref - uge and our great re-ward; with - out your grace we
make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -

6

for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

As I went down to the river to pray



As I went down to the ri-ver to pray, stud-y - in' a-bout that



good ole way and who shall wear the star - ry crown good Lord, show me the



way. Oh, sis - ters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

broth - ers,
child - ren,
pil - grims,



Oh, sis - ters, let's go down, down to the riv - er to pray.

broth - ers,
child - ren,
pil - grims,