

Welcome, All Worshipers

**Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.**

"We may be quite sure that the doctrine of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ cannot be opposed to the work of the Spirit of God, for never without blasphemy can we imagine anything like a division in the purposes and works of the sacred persons of the adorable Trinity. The will of the Father, the will of the Son, and the will of the Spirit must be one; it is a perverse forgetfulness of the unity of the Godhead to suppose otherwise. That which glorifies Jesus cannot dishonor the Holy Ghost, we may be quite sure of that." ~Charles Spurgeon

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(\* ) indicates when those who are able will stand.  
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Prelude

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LORI MAYER, LAY READER

(Please complete the Friendship Book as it is passed during announcements; then pass it toward the center aisle.)

***OPENING HYMN: # 290 SPIRIT OF GOD DESCEND UPON MY HEART** VERSES 1,3, 5

THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

*Call to Worship

Leader: We come today to worship the Triune God, even as we, like the Eleven on the mountainside, have our doubts.

All: Holy Trinity, meet us in our questions and help us embrace your mystery.

Leader: We come to encounter the God who is both immense and particular, greater than words can describe, and yet intimately present with us.

All: Holy Trinity, surround us with your love that brings order to chaos and community to individualism.

Leader: We come to give thanks to the God who created and sustains us, and who calls us to steward the earth and all that live in it.

All: Holy Trinity, empower us to enter into partnership with you for the flourishing of all creation with gratitude and joy.

Leader: We come to receive Christ's commission to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach the gospel wherever we go.

All: God, immerse us in the life of the Holy Trinity that we might go and welcome others into the dance of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*Opening Prayer

All: Gracious God, we confess our sin, which separates us from you. We know how people who belong to you should live, but we fail to live that way. At times we have forgotten that we bear your image and have done evil. At times we have forgotten to live in response to your sacrifice for us and have acted selfishly. At times we have ignored the voice of your spirit speaking to our conscience, and we have followed

the desires of our own heart. As a result, we have lived for self rather than for you or our neighbor, our lives have been diminished, our witness has been stifled, and your image within us has been tarnished. Forgive us, good Lord, through Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, guide us to live as people who know and love you. Amen.

Pastor: The Lord who saves you, says: I am the God who forgives your sins; I do this because of who I am. I will not hold your sins against you. Let us praise the triune God:

*The Gloria Patri (sung)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. *Words: Anonymous, 4th Century.*

Music: Henry Greatorex. This selection is in the public domain.

FIRST READING: GENESIS 1:1-2A

ANTHEM

CHOIR

SECOND READING: MATTHEW 28:16-20

SERMON: KNOWING BEFORE GOING

REV. JON GOUGEON

PASTORAL PRAYER

***HYMN: #283 SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD** SUNG TWICE

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SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERING (PLEASE BE SEATED)

MINISTER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.
WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR
JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD'S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (PLEASE REFER TO INSERT)

***CLOSING HYMN: #292 BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD** VERSES 1-4

THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

*Minister: Let us join together and read responsively:

***All: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those**

who make the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

***BENEDICTION**

Minister: Go, therefore, because you are children of the Triune God and partners in God's work of light, life, and love that even now is at work all around us. May the mystery of the Trinity enfold you, the glory of the Trinity astound you, and the love of the Trinity companion you on your way. Amen.

***UNISON RESPONSE:** And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand. Amen. *Words/music by Michael Joncas. Copyright 1979 OCP. Permission to reprint/stream obtained from One License #A-739847.*

Postlude

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

Lay Reader: **Lori Mayer**

Ushers: **Lynne Stewart and Pat Labadie**

Communion Ministry: **Beth Petty**

Altar Guild: **Jackie Bell**

Greeter: **Ann Diamond**

Fellowship Hosts: **Bill & Dottie Haase and Penny Anderson**

This Week's Calendar

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|----------|--------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday | June 4 | 10:00 a.m. | Worship Service and Fellowship Time |
| Tuesday | June 6 | 4:30 p.m. | Worship Committee Meeting |
| Thursday | June 8 | 5:30 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| Friday | June 9 | 11:45 a.m. | Ladies Lunch |

Announcements

- ❖ Calling all members - If you are interested in serving on one of the following committees, please call the church office (989-356-1795), Deborah Butler (989-255-2812) or Sandy Jarmuzewski (989-354-4542):
Budget/Finance, Comstock, Counters, Investment, Missions, Personnel, Property, Stewardship, Worship
- ❖ Please remember to check for care letters and cards in the middle hall.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- Our Sunday worship services are live-streamed, shown on the Internet, as they are happening and recorded for viewing online later. People in the sanctuary attending the Sunday services may be seen as part of the live-stream and recording.

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A unisex handicap-accessible restroom is located through the doors to your left as you exit the sanctuary. A ladies' room is near the Lockwood Street entrance. A men's room is in the middle hallway.  
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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

June 4, 2023

*We welcome people as they are,
share Jesus as He is, and serve
our community and the world in love.*



Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus
Part-Time Interim Pastor: *Reverend Jon Gougeon*
Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*
Office Administrator: *Judy Suszek*
Treasurer: *Denise Fusina*
Custodian: *Mike LaMarre*

Office hours: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Monday – Thursday

Phone: (989) 356-1795

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