

Welcome, All Worshipers

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

"I pray because I can't help myself. I pray because I'm helpless. I pray because the need flows out of me all the time, waking and sleeping. It doesn't change God; it changes me." ~C.S. Lewis

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

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BILL DEMPSEY, LAY READER

*OPENING HYMN: #26 WE WORSHIP YOU, GOD ALL VERSES

*Call to Worship

Leader: What right have we to invoke God's name on what we say and do here together?

All: In Christ we have been called to be God's people, and given God's Spirit and Word.

Leader: Have we the courage to worship in spirit and truth, knowing that it may change us?

All: We have come to seek, to find, and to be found, with confidence not in ourselves, but in God.

*Opening Prayer:

All: Merciful God, just God, faithful God, God of blessing and God of our most difficult times, we come to you for a moment of quiet in our self-made busyness. We come to you for energy in our weariness. We come to you for challenge when we are willing to settle for our own small plans and dreams. We long for the peace of your presence, even as we are afraid of the urgency of your call. Enter, Spirit of God, into each of our lives and enliven us; enter, Spirit of God, into our community and enable us to love and serve you and all your children. Amen.

*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.

SCRIPTURE: PSALM 138

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*HYMN: #508 PRAYER IS THE SOUL'S SINCERE DESIRE ALL VERSES

GOSPEL READING: LUKE 11:1-13

SERMON: DO NOT LOSE HEART

REV. EUGENE BACON

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS, PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER

*CLOSING HYMN: #506 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS ALL VERSES

*BENEDICTION

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.

Minister: And the blessing God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us, be with you now and forever. 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.

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Postlude

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

Lay Reader: **Bill Dempsey**
Altar Guild: **Jackie Bell**
Ushers: **Ron & Lynn Borke**

Live Stream Operators: **Jay Kettler**
and **Lynn Borke**
Fellowship Hosts: **Penny Anderson,**
and **Bill & Dottie Haase**

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 24, 2022

This Week's Calendar

Sunday July 24 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Announcements:

- ❖ The Congregational Conversations gathering scheduled for this morning has been postponed. The next gathering is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 18.
- ❖ Fellowship hosts are needed for the month of August. Please complete the sign-up sheet at the back of the sanctuary or call Bill Haase at 989-916-4104 for more information.
- ❖ We are pleased to announce Reverend Cheryl Burke, Associate Conference Minister, is scheduled to lead our worship service next Sunday, July 31.

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



Transitional Ministers: *Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case (Pastor Emeritus)*
and *Reverend Eugene Bacon*

Organist & Choir Director: *Kat Tomaszewski*

Office Administrator: *Judy Suszek*

Treasurer: *Denise Fusina*

Custodian: *Mike LaMarre*

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

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Scripture Reading

Psalm 138

¹I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

²I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

³On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

⁴All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

⁸The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Gospel Reading

Luke 11:1-13

11 He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." ²He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." ⁵And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' ⁷And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ⁹"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"