

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Jim DeMay, Lay Reader**

September 3, 2023

Worship 9:30 AM

PRELUDE *Enigma Variations* arr. Diane Bish

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We are from north and south.

**People: We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.**

Leader: We are from this city and from others far away.

**People: We are from big families and dinners made for one.**

Leader: We are from stages of grief and stages of love.

**People: We are from hot summers and cold winters.**

Leader: We are from kitchens with passed down recipes, and front porches  
with old, familiar swings.

**People: We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.**

Leader: We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.

**People: Today we are together. Holy God, gather us in.**

\*HYMN # 257 *What Wondrous Love is This*

\*INVOCATION

**Holy God, I don't always know how to pray. But you find me anyway. I don't always know how to listen, but you are in my ears all the same. I don't always know how to believe, but you surround me with beauty, and I find myself held together in love. Where I come from there are so many distractions. Where I come from there is so much noise. Find me. Hold me. Be in these words. Help me hear. Amen.**

\*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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

\*GLORIA PATRI # 734

SPECIAL MUSIC *We Are Called* David Haas  
Steve Kane, Soloist

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Exodus 3: 1-15* Pg # 49

\*HYMN # 358 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

CALL TO PRAYER # 489 *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

MORNING PRAYER

EPISTLE LESSON *Romans 12: 9-18* Pg # 149

COMMUNION MEDITATION *Holy Ground* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERTORY *Just As I Am, Without One Plea* arr. Dale Wood

\*DOXOLOGY

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We give our best, Gracious God, lest in gaining the whole world we lose life itself. As a covenant people, we seek to do our part to witness to your will and way. As we give, help us to perceive more clearly what you would have us do with the wealth entrusted to our management. As we contribute to the needs of the saints, we present ourselves as living sacrifices. Direct us according to our will. Amen.**

\*COMMUNION HYMN # 699 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table, Consecration, and Sharing of the Bread and Cup, Thanksgiving  
(*The communion bread is gluten and nut free so that all may partake together*)

\*HYMN # 480 *Open My Eyes That I May See*

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**\*Please stand if you are able.**

*Call to Worship and Invocation reprinted from [Sanctified Art: Words for Worship](https://sanctifiedart.org/) <https://sanctifiedart.org/>;  
Prayer of Dedication reprinted from [Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2](#) by Lavon Bayler*

***Greeters This Morning:*** Carla DeMeco, George Herren

***Ushers This Morning:*** Daniel Casellas - Head Deacon, Jim Hilton, Tim Schneider, Jean Landes

***Live Stream This Morning:*** Matt Berry

***Coffee Hour Host:*** Jim & Karen DeMay



**If you are visiting with us, welcome!**

**Please fill out a green card and place it in the offering plate.**

If you would like to use our hearing assistance system please see an usher

## Happy Birthday

- 3 Judy Holcomb
- 4 Alexi Janiszeioski
- 5 Daniel Rice
- 6 Putt Moore ~ Bryan McGuire
- 7 Kurt Rudolph ~ Matthew Schroeter
- 8 Scott Warnshouse
- 9 Colleen Pierce

## Prayer List

**Allie and Seamus, friends & family of Josh A.** friends of Fred Henry; **Carol Birx** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Marjorie Case; Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Judy Clark** (friend of the Casellas Family); **Abby Coons** (Carl & JoAnn Reed's friend); **Carol & Kent** (Karen's friends); **Cathy Coots; Betsy Cox; Glenn & Karen DeHond;** Bob DeSantis (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friend); **Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Carin Herren; Barb Iglewski; Anne Jensen** (friend of Jim & Connie Fredericks-Malone); **John** (Lin's nephew); **Sue Kotalik; Ron & Lu Krahl; Michelle List;** (friend of Joann Reed); **Dennis Maxfield; Paul** (Dennis Maxfield's brother); **Frank McAlpin** (Patrick McAlpin's father); **Okke Postma; Chris Pritchard** (Rick & Cindy Mullen and George Herren's friend); **Don Raw, Sr.; Alexander Saxby** (Son-in-law of Phil and Kathi Nevin); **Pat Smith; Dr. Steven Smith & Family** (Jessica & Dan Casellas' friends); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Jim Ziegler; those who struggle with poverty and homelessness, especially those who receive food and gas card support**

## Calendar

Sun Sep 3	9:30	Worship In-Person & Live Stream
Mon Sep 4		<b>Labor Day ~ Office Closed</b>
Tue Sep 5	8:00	Men's Group
	10:00	Rug Hookers
	10:00	Literacy Volunteers/Hayes Room
	10:30	Literacy Volunteers/Classroom
Wed Sep 6	10:00	TOPS
Thu Sep 7	10:00	Literacy Volunteers/Hayes Room
	3:00	Literacy Volunteers
Sun Sep 10		<b>Rally Day! ~ Service Time Changes</b>
	9:00	Choir
	10:30	Worship In-Person & Live Stream, Sunday School
	6:00	Reader's Theater Rehearsal/Chapel

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

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## We're a Different Kind of Church

- ❖ We value and respect diversity in the ways we express our faith.
- ❖ We enjoy thoughtful dialogue about faith issues.

❖ **We encourage each other to work for justice and to care for people in need in our community and in our world.**