

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
Adeline Rudolph, Lay Reader

September 27, 2020

Worship 10:30 AM

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Shall We Gather at the River* arr. by Gordon Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of love and mystery: you surprise us with your grace, enrich our life with your wisdom and disturb our complacency with your truth.

People: We give you our thanks and praise for your loving kindness and the subtle ways in which your light shines in us.

Leader: May those who are hungry be fed, and those who are thirsty receive drink. May children be nurtured, those who are oppressed know freedom, and may empty souls find a spiritual wellspring.

People: O God of justice and compassion, we live in a world of injustice and mistrust.

Leader: May your Spirit guide us as we struggle to live meaningful lives in a just society.

People: We pray all this in the name of Jesus, our friend and counsellor, teacher and healer. Amen

HYMN *Christ, You Call Us All to Service* (Please listen but do not sing)

*Christ, you call us all to service, call us all who follow you;
Plant in us a deep commitment all your work and will to do.
Fire a passion for your justice; in us kindle love of peace;
Help us heal the brokenhearted; to the captive bring release.*

INVOCATION (in unison)

God of our journeying, inviting us to travel with you, forgive us when we cling to outworn security, afraid to let go of what is safe and familiar. Give us courage to take the risk of answering your call into joyous adventure. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

*GLORIA PATRI (Please listen but do not sing)

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON *Exodus 17:1-7*

MORNING PRAYER

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 21:23-32*

SERMON *Lip Service or Living Service* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERING OF SPECIAL MUSIC *Jesus Hail The Lamb*
by John Hartley and Gary Sadler; Kelly Meath - Piano

*DOXOLOGY (*Please listen but do not sing*)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Thank you, God, for the generosity that enables us to share. We are rich in so many ways. Help us to empty ourselves of pretense, even as we pour out gifts of gratitude. We dedicate our offerings and ourselves to shaping that community you intend, in the spirit of Christ. Amen.

HYMN *Here I Am, Lord* (Please listen but do not sing)

*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?
Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *How Firm a Foundation* arr. by Wilbur Held
Call to Worship reprinted from Seasons of the Spirit; Invocation adapted and reprinted from Bare Feet and Buttercups. Unison Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2 by Lavon Bayler
***Please stand if you are able.**

Greeters This Morning: Jean Landes, Mickey Ely, Rhonda Nyerges

Happy Birthday

Sept. 27: Samaya Morse Oct. 1: Carrie Ieda
Sept. 28: Sue Kotalik Oct. 3: Fred Moore & Bennett Piokowski
Sept. 30: Don Raw, Jr. and Jan Harter

Prayer List

Muriel Allemand (Jim & Connie Malone's friend); **Steve Beck** (Heidi Schwarz's brother); **Keith Blaker; Brad Bliss; Marjorie Case; Cheryl** (Dennis Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Cathy Coots; Peggy & Bob DeSantis** (Dorice & Don Raw, Sr.'s friends); **Julie English** (Janet & Kim Tenreiro's friend); **Brian Fuscaldo** (Mara Huberlie's nephew); **Jerry Gomez** (Kathi Nacca's friend); **Carin Herren; Jim and Carolyn** (Amy Ogden's friends); **Barb Kutner; Jim Kolesar** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Sue Kotalik; Michelle List** (JoAnn Reed's friend); **Loren** (Meg & Jack Radley's friend); **Lynn** (Joan Ryan's friend); **Eileen McCarthy** (Carla DeMeco & Betsy Dresser's friend); **Sally Mueller; Liz Nelson** (Kathy Ward's friend); **Andy Platou; Chris Pritchard** (Rick, Cindy Mullen & George Herren's friend); **Jack and Meg Radley; Sara** (Meg & Jack Radley's granddaughter); **Scott and Amanda** (nephew and niece of Don & Marilyn DeSmith); **John Paul and Pat Smith; Smith/Dworetsky Family** (Okke & Kathy Postma's friends); **Sally Stowell** (Alice Berry's mother); **Walker** (Don & Dorice Raw's friend); **Gordon Wenner** (George & Carin Herren's friend); **Merle Winn** (Amy Ogden's friend); **Josh Yeo** (Barb Stahl's friend); **Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Linda Zeller** (Kathy Ward's daughter in law)

Lay Readers: We are looking for lay readers **for November**. If you are interested in helping to lead in person worship this fall please contact Dawn. Anyone is welcome to be a lay reader, even if you've not done it before. We would love to have you participate!

Calendar

Sunday Sept. 27 – Worship 10:30 Live Streaming and in person, Zoom Sunday School 11;
Social Action Meeting 1 zoom

Monday Sept. 28 – Study Group 9 Chapel; Adult Ed zoom 2

Tues Sept. 29 – Men's Group 8 Gateway Grille; Study Group 9 Chapel; Rughooking 10 Dining Room; Adult Ed 2:30 outside at Dawn's

Wed. Sept. 30 – Study Group 9 Chapel; TOPS 10 lower level

Thurs. Oct 1 - Adult Ed inside social rooms 10

Sun. Oct. 4 – Worship 10:30 Live Streaming and in person, Zoom Sunday School 11am, World Communion Sunday