



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



MAY 20TH, 2018

DAY OF PENTECOST

Welcome

Please silence cell phones upon entering the sanctuary.

Children in Worship

Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Bags for children are located at the back of the church: teal bags for 2-5 years, navy blue for 6-10 years. We offer childcare in our professionally staffed nursery in our downstairs nursery for children ages infancy through 6 years old.

Sunday School

All are welcome to join us for weekly Sunday School in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level. Preschool through adult Sunday morning learning is offered at 9am.

Sunday Brunch

Please join us for fellowship after worship in the Son Cafe. Today's menu: cream of ham and chicken on biscuits, fruit, green salad, cake and ice cream.

Interested in Membership?

Contact Pastor Craig, (309)-762-0787 or email craig@fccmoline.org.

Wi-Fi Password

Welcome!

Resources

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

Open and Affirming

We are an ONA church, please visit fccmoline.org/ona for more information.

*Today
from the life
of the church*

Of a violinist who is moving his bow over the strings of his violin we do not say he is performing a symbolic act. Why? Because the meaning of his act is in what he is doing, regardless of what else the act may represent. In rendering a service to a friend, I'm not primarily conscious of carrying out an act which should symbolize my friendship; the act is friendship. Symbolism is not something that characterizes all aspects of human life. Why are there *no symbols in morality*? Because a moral deed is endowed with intrinsic meaning; its value is in itself, not in what it stands for.

No one eats figuratively, no one sleeps symbolically; so why should the pious man be content to worship God symbolically?

Those who are in the dark in their lonely search for God; those to whom God is a problem, or a Being that is eternally absent and silent; those who ask, "How does one know Him? Where can one find Him? How does one express Him?" will be forced to accept symbols as an answer.

But the Bible is not a religion of an unknown God. It is built upon a rock of certainty that God has made known His will to His people. To us, the will of God *is neither a metaphor nor a euphemism* but more powerful and more real than our own experience.

*Man's Quest for God:
Studies in Prayer and Symbolism
Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972)*

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness Arr. Greg Howlett

SPIRIT WIND

GREETING AND WELCOME

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Lord, our hearts are on fire this day!

Set the blazes of hope that burn away fear!

Lord, we come here to be empowered to serve you.

Cause the winds of change to blow away doubt and alienation!

Praise to God who has brought to us the Holy Spirit!

**Let us worship and rejoice, for God is challenging
and empowering us this day!**

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Almighty and ever living God, you fulfilled the Easter promise by sending us your Holy Spirit. May that Spirit unite the races and nations on earth to proclaim your glory. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

#131, *Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow*

CHILDREN'S TIME

Sunday School Promotion

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

ACTS 2: 1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs--in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104: 24-34, 35B

How manifold are your works, O Lord!

**In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**

Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number,

living things both small and great.

There go the ships to and fro,

and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

All of them look to you

to give them their food in due season.

You give it to them; they gather it;

you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are terrified;

**when you take away their breath,
they die and return to their dust.**

You send forth your Spirit, and they are created;

and so you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

O Lord, rejoice in all your works.

You look at the earth and it trembles;

you touch the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will praise my God while I have my being.

May these words of mine please God.

I will rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul

Praise the Lord!

SCRIPTURE

ROMANS 8: 22-27

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Celebration of Light by Dale Wood
featuring Joel Kolander, soloist

***GOSPEL**

JOHN 15: 26-27; 16:4B-15

‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

‘I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

***HYMN**

#128, *On Pentecost They Gathered*

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Spirit Wind by Lee Afdahl

*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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rite of Confirmation

Ben Churchill, Rylee Warpehoski, Maya Wennekamp

INVITATION

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

Do you believe in God?

I believe in God.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

***PRAYER OF THE CANDIDATES**

***PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION**

Let us pray. **O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered in this local church and rejoice that you have increased our community of faith. Together may we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

ACT OF CONFIRMATION

...In the name of the living Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION

...pressing toward the goal of life with you in Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

ADDRESS

QUESTION ABOUT PARTICIPATION

*WELCOME

Let us, the members of First Congregational United Church of Christ, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!". The second staff includes a triplet of eighth notes for "al - le - lu - ia" and a fourth note for "al - le - lu - ia".

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

#315, *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

***CHORAL BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Kum Ba Yah Arr. Mark Hayes



*To the glory of God and in loving memory of our parents,
Jane & Bob Brainard, Mary & Dale Reid, Virginia & Paul Lackey
Given by: Nancy and Paul Lackey*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher

Jim Moorhusen

Ushers

Tami Marshall

Christian Marshall

Gayle Haun

Pam Wendt

Dixie Duckett

Lector

Audra Bailey

Liturgist

Patti Ensey

Sound Tech

Jeff Newcomb

North Door Greeters

Carol Freeman

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon, Senior Pastor

Rev. Michael Swartz, Associate Pastor

Maureen Holmes, Chancel Choir Director

Mason Moss, Interim Organist/Pianist

Gail Glockhoff-Long, Campanella Ringers Director

Jennifer Dailing, Office Assistant

Amber Moore, Director of Marketing and Communications

Becca Peterson, Director of Family Ministry

Sara Otta, Finance Manager

Wes Llewellyn, Fellowship Coordinator

Harleigh Jones, Nursery Coordinator

Amanda Peterson, Red Wagon Preschool Director

Mike DeToye and Ron Mahar, Custodians



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered to Share God's Love

3RD GRADE BIBLES - FALL 2013

