



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



OCTOBER 14TH, 2018

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome

Please turn off cell phones in 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

Join us for weekly Sunday School in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level.

Sunday Brunch

Menu: Turkey sausage gravy and biscuits, fruit salad, scrambled eggs, cookies, and toaster items

Interested in Membership?

Contact Pastor Craig, call (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.

Getting connected

Please fill our pew pads to offer us a record of your attendance.

Cover Art *Rich Young Man Went Away Sorrowful*
Tissot, James, (1836-1902)

Today
from the life
of the church



This cross-stitch is from the 18th century and presents an important theme in American history.

Vines and fig trees are a Biblical image. For example, in Micah (4:3-4) we read:

*And God shall judge among many people,
and rebuke strong nations afar off;
and they shall beat their swords into
plowshares, and their spears into pruning
hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword
against nation, neither shall they learn
war any more. But they shall sit every
man under his vine and under his fig tree;
and none shall make them afraid . . .*

American historian, Charles Royster writes that this biblical passage was among the most popular during the Revolutionary war, and the future hope of sitting unthreatened on one's farm, one of its most compelling images.

First, Americans had to accept the misery of war. Then, they would lay down their weapons, pick up the plow, and after the harvest, rest unafraid in the enjoyment with their families of the abundance they had made.

This simple needlework speaks to a deep human desire.

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

Jesus Loves Me - arr. Dino Kartsonakis

GREETING AND WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

So teach us to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Let the favor of our God be upon us,
and prosper for us the work of our hands--

O prosper the work of our hands!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray, **Sovereign God, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

***OPENING HYMN**

#426, *Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Let us pray. **We confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.**

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

*SONG OF PRAISE

Gloria

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!

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

AMOS 5:6-7, 10-15

Seek the LORD and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground! They hate the one who reproveth in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins-- you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time. Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90:12-17

So teach us to number our days

that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Turn, O LORD! How long?

Have compassion on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,

so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us,

and as many years as we have seen evil.

Let your work be manifest to your servants,

and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,

and prosper for us the work of our hands--

O prosper the work of our hands!

SCRIPTURE

HEBREWS 4:12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Shine On Me - arr. Rollo Dilworth

***GOSPEL**

MARK 10:17-31

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.” Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age--houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields with persecutions--and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Michael Swartz

***HYMN**#391, *Take My Life*

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY *Kyrie, Christ the Comforter of the World* - arr. Marcel Dupré

*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

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING** *#282, If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *When I Can Read My Title Clear* - arr. Mark Hayes



*To the glory of God and in loving memory of
Hilton and Beatrice Simpson*

Given by: Kristi Bailey

SERVING TODAY

Ushers

4/5/6 Sunday School Class

Usher Guides

Cliff Carlson

Dixie Duckett

North Door Greeters:

Jack Reimers

Kathy Reimers

Lector and Liturgist

Lucas Nelson

Abraham Peterson

Zachary Wynn

Alex Wandrey

Sound Tech

Bill Henning

Bus Driver

Scott Griffith

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

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Mason Moss

Interim Organist/Pianist

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Campanella Ringers Director

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Ron Mahar

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered to Share God's Love