



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



FEBRUARY 16TH, 2020

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Welcome

Wi-Fi Password Welcome!

Please silence your cell phones, but please check-in with our Church App and via social media.

For Parents and Children

Activity Bags for children (teal, 2-5 years, navy blue, 6-10 years) hanging in back of sanctuary; professionally staffed nursery, infancy through 6 years old, available downstairs; Hearthside Parenting room, with diaper-changing station, privacy for nursing mothers, and livecast of worship, provided in church office (use side exit and follow the signs).

Live@FCC

Sunday worship is live streamed. Please help support this ministry by sitting in the front two sections. The two sections behind the side aisles are reserved for our guests and for privacy. Children's time is not live streamed.

Sunday Brunch

Please join us for brunch downstairs.

Interested in Membership?

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

Resources

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

Open and Affirming: fccmoline.org/ona

We are an ONA church, covenanting with all people regardless of sexual orientation, gender expression or identity. All people are welcome to participate fully in the life of the church, including the rites, sacraments, and leadership of the congregation.

Today from the life of the church

Someone has written that the Christian religion is a "storm in a golden frame." It occurs to me that the figure ought to be reversed. The storm is not at the center. The storm develops around the edges where God and his will come into contact with human life. The cross is the stormy reminder of what happens when God invades human life.

When a weather front of clear, cold, refreshing air moves down from Canada and hits a mass of hot, humid, stagnant air, storms develop along the edge of the cold front, often with lightning, thunder, and torrential rains. Even so does God's invasion of our world develop storms as it advances into the human scene. And insofar as you and I become in some measure agents or ambassadors of God in the world, we can expect a stormy time of it. If it does not bring actual physical suffering, as was the lot of Christ and Paul and so many of our contemporaries..., it will at the very least bring a tortured conscience and increased sensitivity to the injustices done to others. A Christian cannot ever stand by and be a mere spectator to human suffering and misery without becoming more than a spectator, without entering in some degree into the misery and suffering himself doing whatever may be done at the moment to alleviate some of it.

Are You Looking For God?
Edmund A. Steimle (1907-1988)

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

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**

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on justice.

Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with compassion.

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

***OPENING PRAYER**

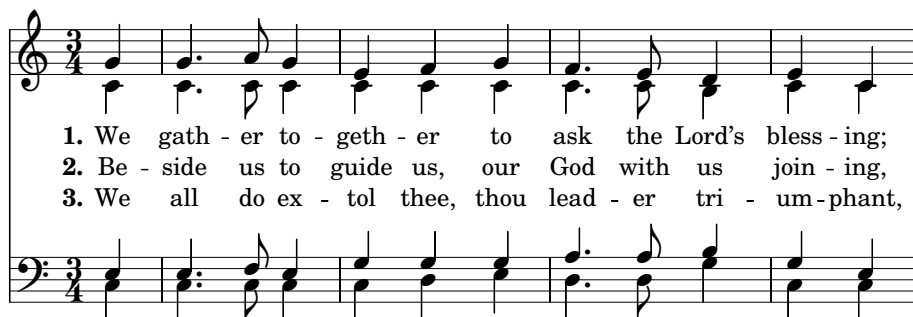
Gracious and living God,
**we give you thanks for this day
and for the promises you give us.
Help us live each day
in the fullness of those promises,
that we might experience healing and wholeness
all the days of our lives.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

We Gather Together
(Music on the next page)

** Indicates when to stand in body or spirit*

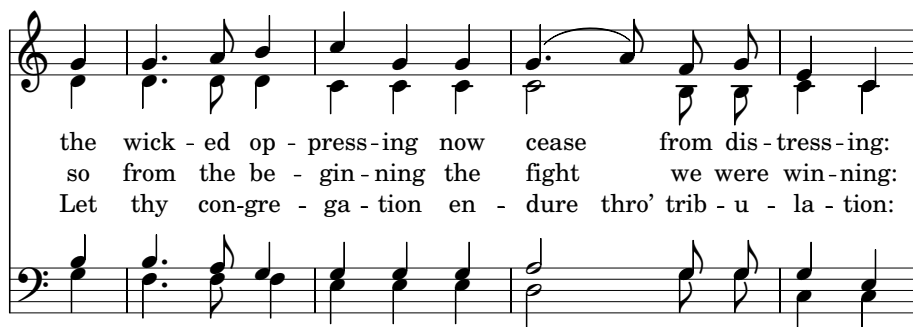
We Gather Together



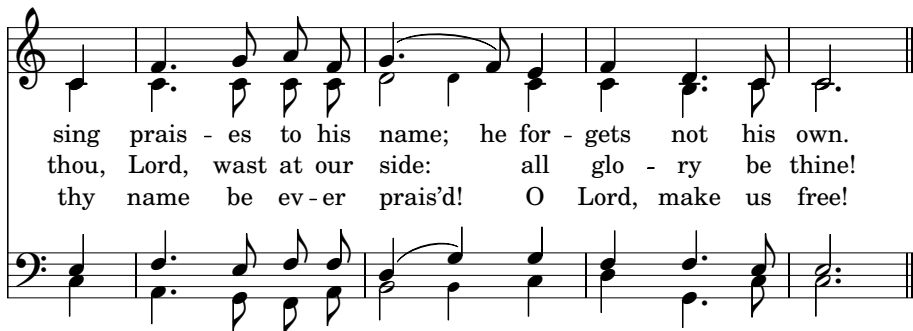
1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
2. Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
3. We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,



he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.



the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing:
so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning:
Let thy con - gre - ga - tion en - dure thro' trib - u - la - tion:



sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glo - ry be thine!
thy name be ev - er prais'd! O Lord, make us free!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Silence is kept for reflection

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God who searches us and knows us,

**you have shown us what is good,
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.
We have not been just in our dealings with others.
We have chosen revenge over mercy.
We have promoted ourselves instead of walking humbly with you.
With what shall we come before you? Forgive us our sin,
and show us your salvation
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. 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

Proclaiming the Good News

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:1-8

Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the Lord!
Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,
who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.
You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.
Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might keep your statutes!
Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.
I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgements.
I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.

SCRIPTURE

1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarrelling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? For when one says, 'I belong to Paul', and another, 'I belong to Apollos', are you not merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL*MATTHEW 5:21-37**

'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

'It was also said, "Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce." But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord." But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let your word be "Yes, Yes" or "No, No"; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon

*HYMN

Take My life and Let It Be

1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold; not a mite would I with - hold;

5

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - ery power as

8

cease - less praise; let them flow in cease - less praise.
ful for thee, swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
ges from thee, filled with mes - sa - ges from thee.
thou shalt choose, ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Deep River - arr. Douglas E. Wagner

***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**

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!
(Music on the next page)

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



*The altar flowers are given to
the glory of God and in loving memory of
Don and Lois Florence*

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

1. Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For
2. Long years have come and gone, And still God reigns su - preme, Em-
3. Let cour - age be our friend, Let wis - dom be our guide, As

The first system of music is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of four measures.

5 (Refrain)

Christ the Lord has led us through the a - ges long! In bold ac-
power - ing us to catch the vi - sion, dream the dream! In bold ac-
we in mis - sion mag - ni - fy the Lord most High. In bold ac-

The second system of music is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of four measures.

10

cord, come cel - e - brate the jour - ney now and praise the Lord!

The third system of music is in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff contains the melody, and the bass clef staff contains the accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of four measures.

SERVING TODAY

Ushers/Greeters

Olivia Glenn
Cliff Carlson
Shirley Morton
Pam Wendt

North Door Greeters

Bill Keller

Bus Driver

Lucy Manis

Lector

Phil Koenig

Liturgist

Mary Newcomb

Live@FCC

Lucas Eaton
Jeff Newcomb

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

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Organist/Pianist
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Campanella Ringers Director
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