



Pentecost Sunday  
June 8, 2025

**DIVIDED TONGUES, AS  
OF FIRE, APPEARED  
AMONG THEM ...**

**ACTS 2:3, NRSV**

**Welcome!** The mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ is to: **Live by faith, embody love, proclaim hope, and seek justice.** If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we hope that you will find God's presence among us. When the Friendship Folder is passed during the announcements, please sign it, and then pass it back across the pew to the inside aisle.

**All are welcome.** Jesus called us to welcome all into the family of God. We welcome you to our Fellowship Hour after worship in the Community Room where everyone is invited to enjoy conversation and refreshments. A bathroom for all genders is located off the kitchen connected to the Community Room.

**Children are welcome in worship!** Activity bags are available in the narthex. There is an area for parents and children at the front of the nave which allows children to be close to the action in worship. Our staffed nursery (downstairs) is an option as well. Kids Pre-K through rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will begin Summer JAM this Sunday. They will go down to their class after the kids' message.



**Please ask an usher** if you would like a large print bulletin, or if you need directions or any other assistance. A Hearing Loop system is available. Turn your hearing device to the "T" setting.

## Serving in Worship Today

Leading Worship.....	Mary Runyon
Organist.....	Nancy Allen
Reading Scripture.....	Barbara Strohm
Head Usher .....	Shelby Webb
Ushers .....	Cameron Roberts
Greeters.....	Carlene Roberts
Nursery.....	Greta Runyon, Zach Schilling
Fellowship Hour .....	Allan Beatty

\* In the order of service indicates all who are able, please stand.

# Gathering

*in the presence of God*

## Gathering Music

"I Love to Tell the Story"

"Amazing Grace"

Arr. by Keveren

Arr. by Cindy Berry

## Welcome and Announcements

*Thank you for joining us this Sunday where all are welcome. You are invited to pass the Friendship Folder through your row and share your name. Pass the folder back down the row and take note of those worshipping with you.*

## Prelude Music

"How Can I Keep From Singing"

Arr. by Lorie Line

## \*Call to Worship

**One:** The Spirit descends like a dove,  
bringing peace to unite the world  
in a just and caring community.

**Many:** The Spirit comes like a breath,  
bringing life to renew the people of God.

**One:** The Spirit spreads like fire,  
bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.

**Many:** Spirit of the living God,  
come to us and transform our lives by your power.



## Moment of Silence

*Take this moment of silence to be still and listen for God.*

### \*Hymn 136 *(All join in singing the hymns.)*

*"Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty"*

NICAEA

### \*Sharing the Peace

*One:* The peace of Christ be with you.

*Many:* **And also with you.**

*Please greet those near you with a wave or bow and with words such as:*

*"Peace be with you. / And also with you."*

## Listening

*for the Still-speaking God*

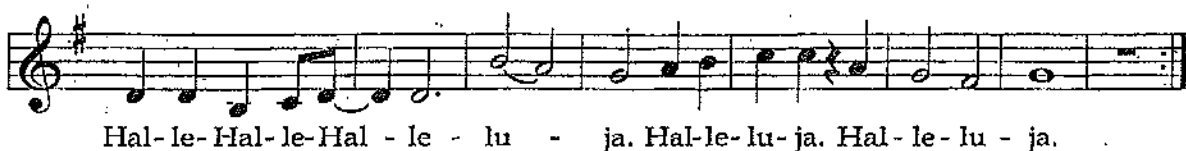
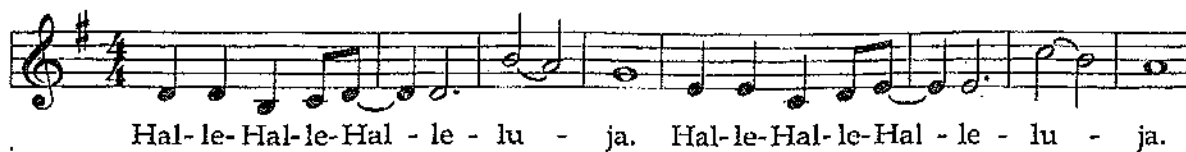
### The Word for Children

*Children will join the pastor in the center aisle as we walk forward for the Word for Children. Kids will go down with to Summer JAM following the Kids' Message.*

### Acclamation *(Sung by all.)*

*Halleluja*

*All:*



### The First Lesson

Barbara Strohm

Acts 2:1-47

### The Psalter

Psalm 104:24-25, 27-35 *(Read Responsively)*

*One:* O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all;

the earth is full of your creatures.

*Many:* There is the sea, great and wide;

creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.

*One:* These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;  
when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

*Many:* When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.

*One:* When you send forth your spirit, they are created,  
and you renew the face of the ground.

*Many:* May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works —

*One:* who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

*Many:* I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.  
May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.

*One:* Let sinners be consumed from the earth,  
and let the wicked be no more.

*Many:* Bless the Lord, O my soul.  
Praise the Lord!

The Gospel

John 14:8-17

## Sermon through Conversation

"The Spirit of God is always at work"

Rev. Mary Runyon

## Responding

*with the voice of hope*

### Hymn of Response #131

"Surely the Presence"

Words & Music by Lanny Wolfe

## The Community Invited into Prayer

### Prayers of the Church

*The petitions end with: God, in our stillness,  
The people respond: hear our prayers.*

The Prayer of Jesus (*Said by all. Use language that reflects your view of God.*)

Our (Father / Mother / Creator) 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, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

Amen.

## Thanksgiving

*for the gifts of God*

### Stories of Generosity

### Music at the Offertory

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Arr. by Keveren

\*As the Gifts Are Presented: Sing to the tune of Old 100th (Hymn 34).

*(All who are able are invited to stand and sing.)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Praise God, for all that love has done,  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One!



### Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Going

*to be messengers of good news*

**\*Hymn #461** *(All join in singing the hymns. We will sing verses 1, 3, 4, and 5.)*

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

TRENTHAM

### \*The Blessing

### Postlude Music

"Praise to the Lord"

Arr. by Shackley

**Acknowledgements:** Hymns and service music reprinted and streamed with permission under Onelicense.net #A-728014.

**Cover Image:** The image on the cover of today's order of worship is used with permission.

*Flowers today are given in memory of  
Christopher McMahon Jordan by his family.*

### First Congregational UCC Ministry Team

All the Members..... Ministers  
Rev. Dr. Laura Wright..... Senior Pastor  
Rev. Mary Runyon..... Associate Minister of Faith Formation  
Nancy Allen..... Organist & Choir Director  
Sue Retzlaff..... Bell Choir Director  
Michelle Logan..... Office Manager

**Contact Information:** First Congregational UCC, 2503 Main Street, La Crosse, WI 54601,  
608-784-8137 or [office@firstcongolax.org](mailto:office@firstcongolax.org), or visit us on the web at [www.firstcongolax.org](http://www.firstcongolax.org).

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What gifts did you give God this week?

Do you mind if we share your gift to God with the  
congregation? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **This Week in our Church:**

**Sunday, June 8**

**Pentecost**

**Strengthen The Church Offering**

10:00 am Worship w/JAM & Nursery

11:00 am Fellowship (CR)

**Monday, June 9**

7:00 pm Christian Education Meeting (Zoom)

**Tuesday, June 10**

5:00 pm Creation Team Meeting (Zoom)

**Wednesday, June 11**

10:00 am Sip & Scripture (L)

6:30 pm Building & Grounds (CR)

**Friday, June 13**

**Office Closed**

**Sunday, June 15**

**Trinity Sunday**

10:00 am Worship w/JAM & Nursery

11:00 am Fellowship (CR)

### **CALENDAR KEY**

CR = Community Room, C = Chapel, L = Lounge, N = Narthex, S = Sanctuary, J = JAM Rooms

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**Strengthen The  
Church Offering  
is  
Today!**