

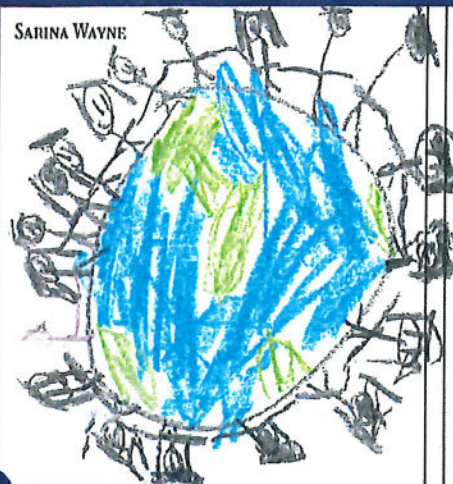


SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 20, 2025



HUXLEY STANTON



SARINA WAYNE



HUXLEY STANTON



HAZEL KEMP

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 3rd grade will have Summer JAM this Sunday. They will go down to their classes after the kids' message. Kids rising 4th grade and above are invited to grab a book as they enter the sanctuary and remain with their families throughout worship.



Please ask an usher if you would like a large print or sensory friendly 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 & Preaching.....	Laura Wright
Leading Worship.....	Mary Runyon
Pianist	Nancy Allen
Reading Scripture.....	Diane Breeser
Head Usher	Randy Breeser
Ushers	Kay Morton, Jean Feeney
Greeters.....	Sue Heuer
Nursery.....	Zali Stanton
Fellowship Hour	Judy and Katie Clements and Shelby Webb

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

Gathering

in the presence of God

Gathering Music

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"
"Amazing Grace"

Arr. by Keveren
Arr. by Schrader

Welcome and Announcements

Abe Ronsman

Thank you for joining us this Sunday where all are welcome. Please pass the Friendship Folder, share your name, and take note of those worshipping with you.

Prelude Music

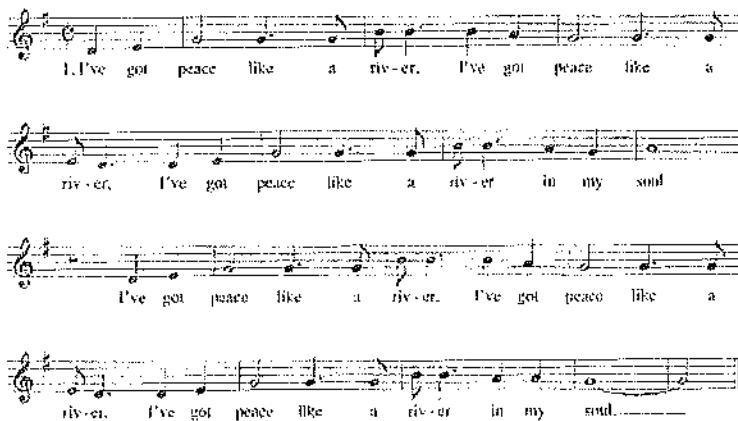
"How Firm a Foundation"

Arr. by Shackley

*Call to Worship

Annabelle Brouwer

One: Welcome to worship. This sanctuary is a special place to be with God.
Many: **In this place, we have all the time we need. So we don't need to hurry.**
One: We can walk more slowly.
Many: **We can talk more softly because someone might be talking to God and we don't want to disturb them.**
One: This is a special place to be with God.
All: **We can get your heart ready all by ourselves.**
One: You don't need me to tell you to get ready. So let us sing about how peace is flowing through us as we prepare for worship: /



Moment of Silence

Ruby Ronsman

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

***Hymn 450** (*All join in singing the hymns.*)
"Be Still and Know"

Be Still and Know

***Sharing the Peace**

Ruby Ronsman

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

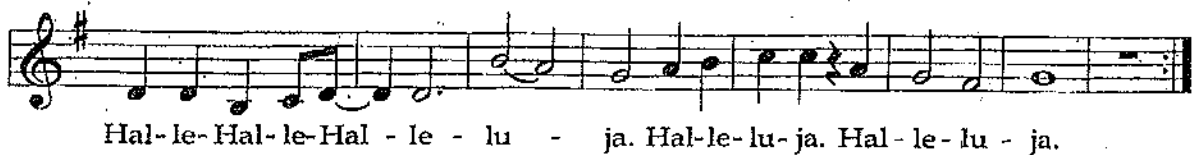
Sami Wayne

Children will join the pastor in the center aisle as we walk forward for the Word for Children. All kids will remain upstairs after the word for children.

Acclamation (*Sung by all.*)

Halleluja

All:



The Psalter

Juni Ronsman

Psalm 8 (Read Responsively)

One: O LORD, our lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Many: **You have set your glory above the heavens.**

One: Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you founded ramparts.

Many: **When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars that you established,**

One: what are humans that you bring them to mind,
children of humans that you care for them?

Many: **Yet you made them to rule over the works of your hands.**

One: You put all things under their watchful eye —

Many: all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field,

One: the birds of the air and the fish of the sea,

Many: whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

One: O LORD, our lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

Gospel Lesson

Mark 10:13-16

Diane Breeser

Sermon

"Wondering & Wandering: Jesus & the Children"

Rev. Dr. Laura Wright

The Light of Christ

Autumn White

Responding

with the voice of hope

Responding to the Word of God

Voluntary

"Monday Morning Faith"

Victoria Ratsch, Vocals; Eli Carr, Bass

SEU Worship

*Hymn *(All join in singing the hymns.)*

"This Little Light of Mine"



1. This lit - tle light of mine I'm gon-na let it shine,
2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine,
3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm gon-na let it shine,
Oh,

4

This lit - tle light of mine
 Ev - 'ry - where I go,
 Je - sus gave it to me,

Oh,

7

I'm gon-na let it shine;
 I'm gon-na let it shine;
 I'm gon-na let it shine;

This lit - tle light of mine
 Ev - 'ry - where I go,
 Je - sus gave it to me,

10

I'm gon-na let it shine, Let it shine,
 I'm gon-na let it shine, Let it shine,
 I'm gon-na let it shine, Let it shine,

Oh,

13

let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine.

The Community Invited into Prayer & Thanksgiving

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

Amanda Brouwer

Music at the Offertory

"Jesus Is All the World To Me"

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 80** (*All join in singing the hymns.*)

"He's Got the Whole World in His Hands!"

Whole World

Postlude Music

"Revive Us Again"

Arr. by Hayes

Acknowledgements: "Be Still and Know," words in the public domain & music arr. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. "This Little Light of Mine," words & music in the public domain. "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands!" words in the public domain and music arr. © 1986 Word Music. Hymns and service music reprinted and streamed with permission under Onelicense.net #A-728014.

Cover Image: The images on the cover of today's bulletin were produced uniquely for our church by Hazel Kemp, Huxley Stanton, and Sarina Wayne.

*Flowers today are given by Sherry Sawle
in memory of Roger Sawle who entered heaven
five years ago on this day.*

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, or visit us on the web at www.firstcongolax.org.

What gifts did you give God this week?

Do you mind if we share your gift to God with the
congregation? Yes_____ No_____

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Week in our Church:

Sunday, July 20

10:00 am Worship w/JAM & Nursery
11:00 am Fellowship (CR)
11:00 am WISE Committee (C)
12:00 pm New Member Class
(La Crosse Distilling)
3:00 pm Sundaes on Sunday (CR)

Tuesday, July 22

9:00 am All-Staff Planning Meeting (CR)
3:00 pm Coffee Klatch @ Havenwood

Wednesday, July 23

10:00 am Sip & Scripture (L)
5:00 pm Kid's Choir Practice

Friday, July 25

Office Closed

Sunday, July 27

New Member Sunday

Noisy Offering

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

Our Next All-Church Sunday Funday

Sundaes on Sunday

TODAY | 3:00–5:00 PM

At the Church

Bring your favorite ice cream and board games.

We'll provide the toppings!

Come enjoy sundaes and board games
with the whole church family!



Sundaes on Sunday

Worship in God's Creation - August 3rd at 10 am

Come be renewed in body and spirit as we worship outdoors under the trees at Red Cloud Park (520 Powell Street) The Creation Care & WISE Teams will provide the main dish. If your last name begins with:

- A–L, please bring a side dish or salad
- M–Z, please bring a dessert

We'll have a kiddie pool of ice available to keep dishes cool.

Don't forget to bring:

- A lawn chair
- A hat for shade
- And your joy for worship in God's creation!



**Worship
in the
Park**

In case of rain, an all-church email will go out with updates. We can't wait to gather with you in the beauty of the outdoors!