

**FOURTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

JULY 6, 2025

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. There is no fellowship hour today. If you would like to volunteer to host fellowship hour please sign up in the Narthex.

All are welcome. Jesus called us to welcome all into the family of God. 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 pick up 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
Heart Strings Harp Circle	Regina Chihak, Karen Cowen, Eliza Mitchell, Nancy Stevenson, and Allan Beatty
Reading Scripture.....	Erin Hussey
Head Usher	Shelby Webb
Ushers	Diane Schumacher, Katie & Judy Clements
Greeters.....	Katie Clements
Nursery.....	Zali Stanton

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

Gathering

in the presence of God

Gathering Music

"Pavane: Belle Qui Tiens Ma Vie"

Arr. by Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher

"The Water Is Wide" by Sharon Thormahlen & Anna Thormahlen Jenkins

"Bouree No. 1" by Johann Sebastian Bach, arr. by Rhett Barnwell

Welcome and Announcements

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

"Dona Nobis Pacem"

Arr. by Angi Bemiss

*Call to Worship

Inspired by Luke 10

One: God, send us out—not alone, but together,
not with heavy bags, but with hearts full of peace.

Many: **We come ready to walk in the way of Jesus,
bringing welcome and nearness to the kingdom.**

One: Let us rejoice—not in power or success—
but that our lives are part of God's great movement of love.

All: **Come, let us sing to the Living God—
who calls and sends us in peace and joy.**



Moment of Silence

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

***Hymn 111** *(All join in singing the hymns.)*

"When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Laudes Domini

*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

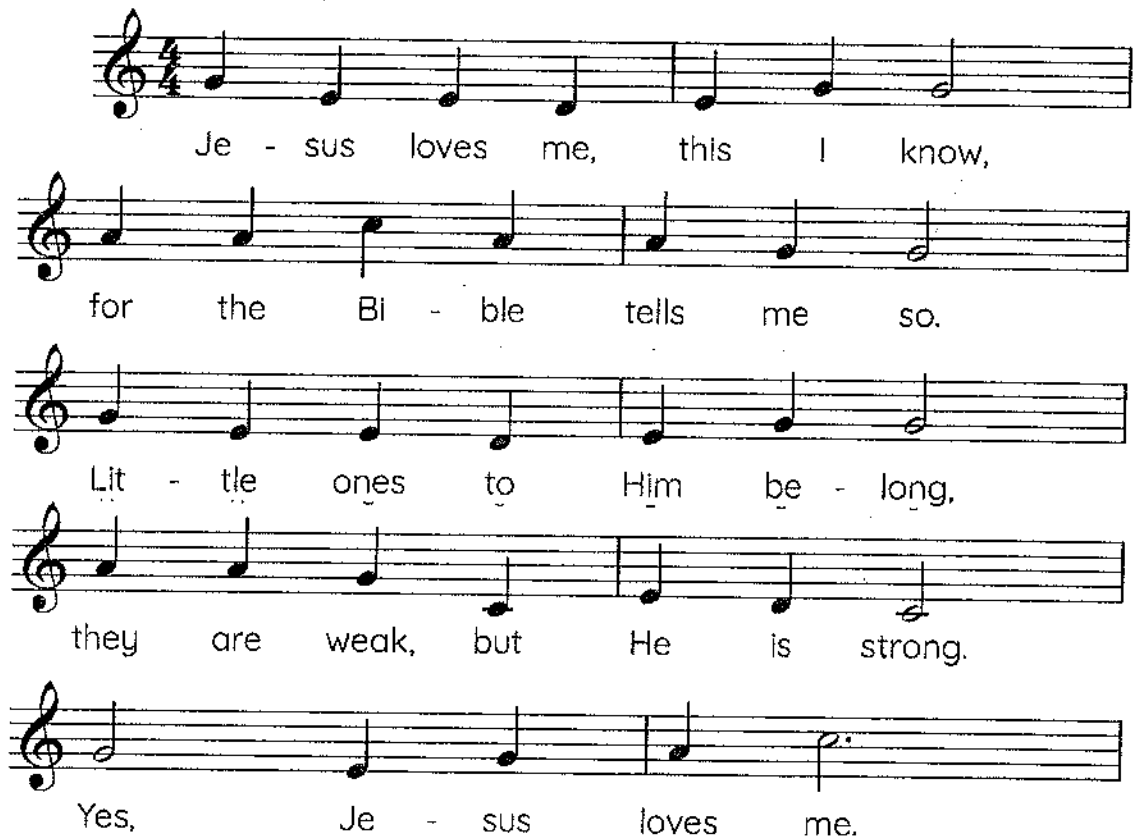
The Word for Children

Children will join the pastor in the center aisle as we walk forward for the Word for Children. Younger Kids (rising Pre-K through rising 3rd grade) will go down to Summer JAM following the Kids' Message.

Acclamation *(Sung by all.)*

Jesus loves me

All:



Je - sus loves me, this I know,
for the Bi - ble tells me so.
Lit - tle ones to Him be - long,
they are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Je - sus loves me.

The First Lesson

1 Kings 5:1-14

Erin Hussey

The Psalter

Psalm 30:1-7, 11-12 (*Read responsively.*)

One: I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

Many: **O LORD, my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.**

One: O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
you restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.

Many: **Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.**

One: For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.

Many: **Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**

One: As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved."

Many: **By your favor, O LORD, you had established me as a strong
mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed.**

One: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my
sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

Many: **O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.**

The Gospel

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

Sermon

"Travel Light, Speak Peace"

Rev. Dr. Laura Wright

Responding

with the voice of hope

*Hymn 23 (*All join in singing the hymns.*)

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

Lasst uns erfreuen

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

"Les Pins de Charlannes"

Arr. by Henriette Renie

*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

*The Great Thanksgiving

One: God be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

One: Open up your minds.

Many: **We open them to God.**

One: Let us say thank you to God.

Many: **It is wise and healthy to give God thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly wise and our greatest joy ... Therefore, we join our voices with all the ancestors in the faith to sing forever:

All:

ev. 2,3

1 Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al-might - y!

5 ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to

8 thee; ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and

12 might - y! God in three per - sons, bless - èd Trin - i - ty!

The Congregation may be seated.

One: On the night before Jesus was betrayed... Then Jesus said after supper, "This cup that is poured out for you – this is my new promise to you – my new covenant. So now we can proclaim,

All: Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.

One: Jesus promised his disciples that though he was about to leave them in death – he would send the Holy Spirit to be with them ... Let us eat of this meal together – remembering that God has provided for all of us and God's Spirit is now with us.

Sharing Communion

This is the table of Christ, not of this church. All are welcome and encouraged to join in the sharing of communion at Christ's Table, regardless of age or tradition, for it is this meal which binds all of us, different as we are, together.

We will receive communion by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup). All bread is gluten-free to welcome all at the table of Christ. Please come to the front of the church by way of the center aisle and return by the side aisles. If you need to receive communion where you are seated, please let an usher know.

Music at the Table
"Ave Maria"

Regina Chihak, Flute
Arr. by Rhett Barnwell

Thanksgiving after Communion

 **Going**

to be messengers of good news

*Hymn 14 (All join in singing the hymns.)

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Nun danket alle gott

*The Blessing

Postlude Music

"The Road to Lisdoonvarna"

Arr. by Chris Neiburger

Acknowledgements: "When Morning Gilds the Skies," words and music in the public domain. "All Creatures of Our God and King," words and music in the public domain. "Now Thank We All Our God," words and music in the public domain. Hymns and service music reprinted and streamed with permission under Onelicense.net #A-728014.

Cover Image: Image on the cover was uniquely produced for today's worship and used with permission.

*Flowers today are given by Dorothy Wetterlin
in memory of Ray Wetterlin.*

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 6

WAFER Sunday

10:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion
10:00 am JAM & Nursery
11:00 am Confirmation (CR)

Monday, July 7

Office Closed ~ Michelle On Vacation

2:00 pm Monday Meals (Trinity Lutheran)

Tuesday, July 8

5:00 pm Creation Care Committee (Zoom)

Wednesday, July 9

10:00 am Sip & Scripture at Church
6:30 pm Building & Grounds Meeting (CR)

Friday, July 11

Office Closed

Sunday, July 13

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



THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED

MONDAY, JULY 7TH.

**MICHELLE WILL BE ENJOYING A DAY
OF VACATION.**

Our Next All-Church Sunday Funday

Sundaes on Sunday

Sunday, July 20 | 3:00–5:00 PM

At the Church

Bring your favorite ice cream.

We'll provide the toppings!

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



Sundaes on Sunday



For Everyone! (Note the new time)

Join us Tuesday, July 22nd at 3 PM for a cozy coffee hour at **Havenwood** (3770 Emerald Drive)! Whether you're 9 or ninety—or anywhere in between—you're invited. You don't have to live at Havenwood to stop by. Just bring your love of good conversation and a friendly smile. We'll bring the coffee (and maybe a treat or two)!

All ages. All welcome. All the better together.

Hope to see you there!





Coffee Fellowship Hour – Summer Hosts Needed!

Do you enjoy the warmth and connection of our church community? Help keep that spirit going this summer by signing up to host Coffee Fellowship Hour!

It's easy — just serve coffee, lemonade, and store-bought cookies (all provided by the church). The sign-up sheet is on the stone ledge in the Narthex.

Your help makes our summer Sundays extra welcoming. Thank you for being part of what makes our church feel like home!

Available Dates:

July 27th

August 17th

August 10th

August 24th