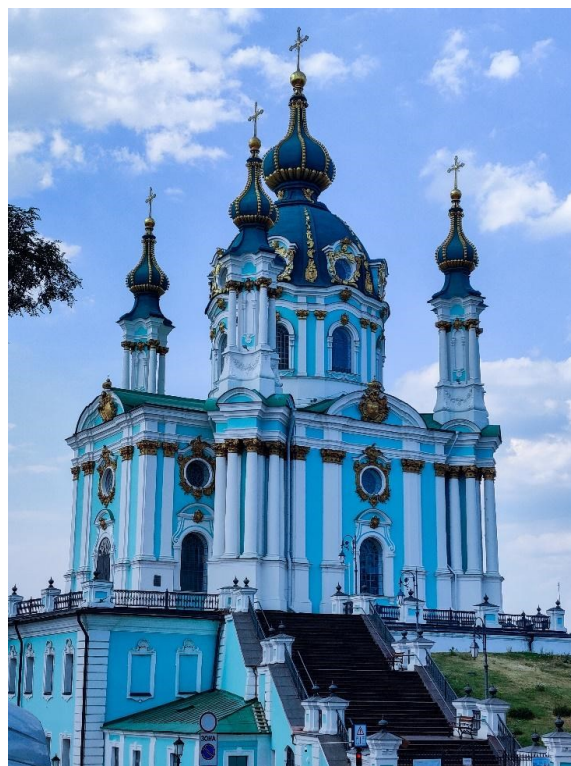


# First Congregational United Church of Christ

July 31, 2022



St. Andrew's in Kiev, Ukraine Photo by Iurie Ciala

## 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Ministers: All who are a part of this church

Pastor: Rev. Enno K. Limvere    Musician: Francie Beaster

Choir Director: Ann Russ

Peace Candle Lighter: Ann Russ

Liturgist: Bob Carter

### **Gathering Music**

### **Words of Welcome**

### **Prelude**

## **Words to Enter Worship (Based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)**

*People who read newspapers: **Everything on earth has its own time and its own season. There is a time for birth and death, planting and reaping,***

*People who read magazines: **for killing and healing, destroying and building, for crying and laughing, weeping and dancing,***

*People who read blogs: **for throwing stones and gathering stones, embracing and parting. There is a time for finding and losing, keeping and giving,***

*People who read books: **for tearing and sewing, listening and speaking. There is also a time for love and hate, for war and peace.***

## **Opening Hymn #73 Enter Rejoice and Come In**

1. Enter, rejoice, and come in.  
Enter, rejoice, and come in.  
Today will be a joyful day;  
enter, rejoice, and come in.
2. Open your ears to the song.  
Open your ears to the song.  
Today will be a joyful day;  
enter, rejoice, and come in.
3. Open your hearts ev'ryone.  
Open your hearts ev'ryone.  
Today will be a joyful day;  
enter, rejoice, and come in.
4. Don't be afraid of some change.  
Don't be afraid of some change.  
Today will be a joyful day;  
enter, rejoice, and come in.
5. Enter, rejoice, and come in.  
Enter, rejoice, and come in.  
Today will be a joyful day;  
enter, rejoice, and come in.

Music - ©1993 Pilgrim Press, The Contributors: The New Century Hymnal

## **Words of Lament**

**Merciful God, we live in a material world where profits are the goal and the reason for life. We live in a world where the gap between the rich and the poor is staggering. We live in a world where money, not the wellbeing of people, guides our laws, our customs, and our lives. We need a revolution, a revelation of what is good, and a jubilee that brings us justice and our systems into account. Rouse yourself, O LORD, and wake us up to the harm we do to each other and the world, your creation, but working for that which is not bread, and striving for that which does not fill. May your kingdom come, may kindom be done. Amen.**

## **Words of Blessing** (based on Psalm 107)

**One:** O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good; for steadfast love endures forever.

**Many:** Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those God redeems from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

**All:** God turns a desert into pools of water, a parched land into springs of water. And there the hungry live, and they establish a town to live in.

**One:** They sow fields, and plant vineyards, and get a fruitful yield.

**Many:** By God's blessing they multiply greatly, and their cattle do not decrease.

**All:** The upright see it and are glad; and all wickedness stops its mouth. Let those who are wise give heed to these things, and consider the steadfast love of the LORD.

## **Words of Poetry & Lighting the Candle of Peace**

It is a custom in our congregation to light our Peace Candle during worship, as a witness to the Prince of Peace and our communal intention to be peace-makers as a Just Peace Church.

### **Fear**

by Rev. Enno K. Limvere

*It is fear that blinds our eyes, our hearts,  
It is fear that lets the violence to start.*

*It is fear that pushes us to control:  
Other people, the world, their souls.*

*It is fear that causes us to pull the trigger,  
It is fear that sends the MIGS there.*

*It is fear that brings war to the Ukraine,  
It is fear that causes the soldiers to remain.*

*Fear causes hate, doesn't make anything great.  
Fear fills us full of vigor, but always has a fate,  
For fear is not what we are created for,  
Fear only leaves us empty, alone, and wanting more.*

*If we can overcome fear, it will only be with love.  
If we can overcome hate, it will only be with love.  
If we can see and have compassion, then fear will release,  
If we can embrace each other, then we will have peace.*

## **Passing of the Peace**

## Hymn #43 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit  
Into every troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit;  
let us find thy promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.
- 3 Come, Almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee with thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Words and Music - © OCP

Contributors: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Pritchard, Charles Wesley

## Scripture Readings

**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture** Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14, 2:18-23 (Revised Standard Version)

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,

vanity of vanities! All is vanity.<sup>12</sup> I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> And I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to the sons of men to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I have seen everything that is done under the sun; and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.

<sup>18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me; <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes a man who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by a man who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What has a man from all the toil and strain with which he toils beneath the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all his days are full of pain, and his work is a vexation; even in the night his mind does not rest. This also is vanity.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture** Luke 12:13-21 (Common English Bible)

<sup>13</sup> A man in a crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to give me my share of what our father left us when he died.” <sup>14</sup> Jesus answered, “Who gave me the right to settle arguments between you and your brother?” <sup>15</sup> Then he said to the crowd, “Don't be greedy! Owning a lot of things won't make your life safe.” <sup>16</sup> So Jesus told them this story:

A rich man's farm produced a big crop, <sup>17</sup> and he said to himself, “What can I do? I don't have a place large enough to store everything.” <sup>18</sup> Later, he said, “Now I know what I'll do. I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones, where I can store all my grain and other goods. <sup>19</sup> Then I'll say to myself, ‘You have stored up enough good things to last for years to come. Live it up! Eat, drink, and enjoy yourself.’ ” <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, “You fool! Tonight you will die. Then who will get what you have stored up?” <sup>21</sup> “This is what happens to people who store up everything for themselves, but are poor in the sight of God.”

**Children’s Message** Who gets what?

**Choir Anthem**

**Message** Pester the Pastor

**Musical Reflections**

**Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, Mother God, 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, forever. Amen**

**Our Time of Giving**

**Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below;*

*Praise God for all that love has done;*

*Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.*

## News of God at Work in our Congregation & Community

### Closing Hymn #28 For the Beauty of the Earth

1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies.

Refrain:

Christ, our Lord, to you we raise  
this, our hymn of grateful praise.

- 2 For the wonder of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain ]

- 3 For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]

- 4 For yourself, best gift divine,  
to the world so freely given,  
agent of God's grand design:  
peace on earth and joy in heaven. [Refrain]

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Contributors: Folliot Pierpont, Conrad Kocher

### Benediction

### Sending Music

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRAYER LIST:** Meredith Eliot (Church-Davison), Vicki Biggs-Anderson, Paulette Anholm, Larry (Jenny Delfs' father), Kris Baxter, Mike Carlson, Gwen Dornfeld, Tom Yuhasey, Rhonda Silence, Community of Uvalde and Highland Park, People of Ukraine,  
Shut-ins and Care Center: Nona Smith, Lou Goodell, Bev Denyes.

### MEASURE OF OUR FAITHFULNESS:

The First Congregational UCC Budget adopted in January 2022 shows a need for a yearly income of \$151,756.

After 29 weeks the Budget Donations and Income should be \$84,633.10

The Actual Donations so far this year have been \$90,829.02

Thank You for all your support.  
Kevin R Le Voir, Treasurer

**DONATE ONLINE!** We now have a Donation button on our church website as another option to give your pledges and offerings. Simply go to [grandmaraisucc.org](http://grandmaraisucc.org), and click the Donation button in the top right corner.

## **THIS WEEK**

### **FRIDAY, JULY 28**

7:00 AM - AA (FS)

8:00 AM - Harbor Watch

### **SUNDAY, JULY 31**

9:30 AM – CHOIR PRACTICE

10:30 AM – **Outside** AND ON [ZOOM](#) **8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**, in Luke we hear Jesus being asked to settle a dispute about inheritance and he turns that around to talk about where we, as humans, invest our resources and where is the best way to do it. This is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, so you get to ask Pastor Enno a question or two in Pester the Pastor

12:00 PM – Retirement Celebration for Pastor Mark Ditmason

### **MONDAY, AUGUST 1**

7:00aAMm - AA (FS)

3:00PM-5:00PM Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)

7:00 PM - ALANON

Pastor Enno's day off

### **TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**

8:30AM-4:30PM– Explorer's Club

7:00 PM - Zen Meditation

### **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3**

7:00 AM - AA (FS)

8:30AM-4:30PM– Explorer's Club

6:30 PM - Sing-a-Long & Music Jam

### **THURSDAY, AUGUST 4**

10:00AM – Tai Chi

12:00 PM—Women's AA (FS)

Pastor Enno will be gone Thursday through Saturday

### **FRIDAY, AUGUST 5**

7:00AM - AA (FS)

8:00 AM – Harbor Watch

### **SUNDAY, AUGUST 6**

9:30 AM – Pick-up Choir

10:30 AM – **Outside** AND ON [ZOOM](#) **9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**, in the Gospel story Jesus is talking to his disciples about the end times and exhorts them to be prepared

and to never let their guard down. This can be done for maybe weeks at a time, but this cannot be done our whole lives. We live in a time where there is something always for us to guard against, especially as we go through this pandemic. Might we find some good news

**OUR CHURCH OFFICE CONTINUES TO BE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:** Pastor Enno and Office Manager, Nancy Backlund, are in the building at unscheduled times. For pastoral emergencies, please contact our new Settled Pastor, Rev. Enno Limvere at (605) 460-0330.

**FOLLOW US ON:**

Facebook – First Congregational UCC Grand Marais.

Instagram - Grandmaraisucc

Website - [grandmaraisucc.org](http://grandmaraisucc.org)

**FOOD SHELF:** The Food Shelf is distributing food each Monday, from 3:00-5:00 pm, also on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month, 4:30-6:30 pm, downstairs in our church building. You can support their work by sending your checks to Food Shelf, P.O. Box 51, Grand Marais, MN 55604.

**GIVING DURING THIS TIME OF SUSPENDED SERVICES AND PROGRAMS:** It is tremendously heartening, for both your church staff and church lay leaders, to see such generous giving continuing during this time. Your on-going support of our ministries are especially important now. We encourage each of you to find ways to continue to support our ministries. continuing to give to our church by:

1. Download the “VANCO” mobile app on your smartphone, to give with your credit card on-line. Enter our church name or 55604 zip code, then choose our church account. This is a program of VANCO, with whom we already have a contract for such transactions.
2. Contact Kevin LeVoir, our Treasurer, about automatic deposit from your personal bank account, at [krlevoir@aol.com](mailto:krlevoir@aol.com).
3. Send a check in the US mail! P.O. Box 95, Grand Marais, MN 55604.

We extend a warm welcome to all who may be worshipping with us for the first time. If you would like more information about our ministries, contact Pastor Enno at [ennotherev@gmail.com](mailto:ennotherev@gmail.com) or 605-460-0330.

We are a progressive Christian congregation, with roots in the New England Congregational tradition and now are part of the wider denomination of the United Church of Christ. As a Just Peace Church, and welcoming of the LGBTQIA2+ community, we seek to provide a spiritual home for seekers of all ages and backgrounds. Please know that wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you in our congregation.

**Purpose and Mission** First Congregational United Church of Christ is an open, inclusive church that exists to worship God and practice the gospel of Jesus Christ. We welcome all people of goodwill who seek to share the love of God and honor the diversity of creation in a spirit of tolerance and flexibility. As a Just Peace Church, we invite all who seek the reign of God to join us in reaching out in healing ministry, working for justice, witnessing for peace and striving to overcome all forms of oppression. We recognize two sacraments: Baptism and Communion

**Our Open and Affirming Covenant** We covenant to be an accessible, open and affirming community of faith, committed to peace and justice, reaching out in healing love to all of creation. We exist to worship God and practice the gospel. We welcome all persons, including those of all races, ethnicities, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, family structures, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances to fully share and participate in leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

