

First Congregational United Church of Christ

June 5, 2021



Photo by Cook County Pride Committee

Outdoor Worship

Pentecost Sunday

Ministers: All who are a part of this church

Pastor: Rev. Enno K. Limvere

Musician: Francie Beaster

Choir Director: Ann Russ Guest Preacher: Matthew Lewellyn-Otten

Peace Candle Lighter: Bob Carter

Liturgist: Linda Noble

Gathering Music

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Words to Enter Worship

People who love the sunshine: When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

People who love the rain: Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.

People who love the breeze: They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.

People who love the rainbow: All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

****Opening Hymn: The Kindom**

1. Do you know how loved you are? You are God's own shin – ing star. All the parts that make you whole. Shine your light, your love, your soul.
2. Do you know how good you are? God has filled with love your heart. All – so joy, peace, gen- tle - ness. Help-ing you to live your best.
3. Do you know what joy you bring? Hug-ging you make my heart sing. O - pen hearts, and mind and soul. Show-ing love's healthy and whole.
4. Do you know you're wel - come here? Gay or straight, trans – gendered, queer. Your I - den – ti- ty is blessed. God's di – ver – si -ty en – fleshed.

Chorus:

The kindom of God starts with fam– mi –ly.

It includes you, it in-cludes me

With – out you we can – not be. Fu-llly Who-lly Christs' bo - dy.

Words of Lament

Most merciful God, we come before you as a people full of joy, as well as sorrow. Joy for the love we celebrate this month. And sorrow for the pain we see in the world. Forgive us, God, for the ways that we have failed to love deeply... for the ways we forget your way of peace... May we be a people of reconciliation and love... May the hearts and minds of others be stirred to see a better way. A way of love. Amen

Words of Blessing (Based on Psalm 104)

One: O God, how manifold are your works!

Many: There's the sea, wide and deep, with its countless creatures— living things both small and large.

All: All your creations wait for you to give them their food on time.

One: When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled completely full!

Many: When you let loose your breath, they are created, and you make the surface of the ground brand-new again. All: I will sing to God as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I'm still alive. Let my praise be pleasing to God, rejoicing in all they have done.

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.


Breathe. As in. (shadow)

Rosamond S. King

Breathe

. As in what if
the shadow is golden?

Breathe. As in
hale assuming
exhale. Imagine
that. As in first
person singular. Homonym

:  . As in subject. As
in center of the world as in
mundane. The opposite of spectacle
spectacular. This is just us
breathing. Imagine
normalized respite
gold in shadows
. You have the
right to breathe and remain
. Imagine
that

Passing of the Peace

****Hymn: 261 Let Every Christian Pray***

- 1. Let every Christian Pray, this day and every day.
come, Holy Spirit , come! Was not the church we love
commissioned from above? Come, Holy Spirit come!*
- 2. The Spirit brought to birth the church of Christ on earth
To seek and save th elost: God never has withdrawn
Since that tremendous dawn, the gifts of Pentecost.*
- 3. Only the Spirit's power can fit us for this hour:
Come, Holy Spirit, Come! Unite, instruct, inspire
And fill us with your fire: come, Holy Spirit come!*

Scripture Readings

1st Scripture Acts 2:1-21 (Common English Bible)

2 When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them. 4 They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak.

5 There were pious Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd gathered. They were mystified because everyone heard them speaking in their native languages. 7 They were surprised and amazed, saying, “Look, aren’t all the people who are speaking Galileans, every one of them? 8 How then can each of us hear them speaking in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; as well as residents of Mesopotamia, Judea, and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the regions of Libya bordering Cyrene; and visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism), 11 Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the mighty works of God in our own languages!” 12 They were all surprised and bewildered. Some asked each other, “What does this mean?” 13 Others jeered at them, saying, “They’re full of new wine!”

14 Peter stood with the other eleven apostles. He raised his voice and declared, “Judeans and everyone living in Jerusalem! Know this! Listen carefully to my words! 15 These people aren’t drunk, as you suspect; after all, it’s only nine o’clock in the morning! 16 Rather, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17 *In the last days, God says,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy.
Your young will see visions.
Your elders will dream dreams.*

18 *Even upon my servants, men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days,
and they will prophesy.*

19 *I will cause wonders to occur in the heavens above
and signs on the earth below,
blood and fire and a cloud of smoke.*

20 *The sun will be changed into darkness,
and the moon will be changed into blood,
before the great and spectacular day of the Lord comes.*

21 *And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*^[a]

2nd Scripture John 20:19-23 (The Message)

19-20 Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, “Peace to you.” Then he showed them his hands and side.

20-21 The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were awestruck. Jesus

repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you."

²²⁻²³ Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

Children's Message Visions, Dreams, and Tongues

Message When the Door is Tightly Locked - Matthew

Musical Reflections

Joys and Concerns, Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, Mother God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. The 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

News of God at Work in our Congregation & Community

***Hymn: The Kingdom of God is the Queerest of Nations**

- 1) *The Kingdom of God is the queerest of nations
With peasants its leaders, no borders in sight.
There's kindness and peace at the heart of its creation,
An endless celebration of joy and delight.*
- 2) *The Kingdom of God is an up side down kingdom.
The first are now last and the last are now first.
The humble exalted, the children bearing wisdom.
The wealthy and the poor have their stations reversed.*
- 3) *The Kingdom of God is a lot like the leaven
We use in our baking when we add the yeast.
The work of a woman will point us to the heaven,
Awaiting the lepers, the lost, and the least.*
- 4) *The Kingdom of God welcomes all to the table,
No matter your status, your heart will be fed.
Whatever your sadness, the Realm of Love is able.
Whatever your label, partake of the bread.*
- 5) *The Kingdom of God is our ultimate promise
If we, like the prophet, will open our hearts.
The hour is here and the work is now upon us.
Our lives will be a witness. In wonder we start.*

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Benediction

Sending Music

Guest Preacher on June 5th

Matt Lewellyn-Otten joined the OutFront team in the fall of 2021 as the Religious Organizer. Before joining the team, Matt has spent the majority of their career in Youth Ministry working in United Church of Christ, Episcopal, and Presbyterian churches. As the Religious Organizer, Matt works with faith communities across the state to bring them along in the advocacy and inclusion of queer people in all faith practices.

Matt is a Minnesota transplant originally from South Carolina where he attended Erskine College and studied Bible and Religion. Later, Matt earned their Master of Public Administration degree from the College of Charleston and their Master of Divinity from Boston University School of Theology. In his studies and career, Matt has sought ways to build better understanding across faith communities and create spaces of connection and growth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER LIST: Meredith Eliot (Church-Davison), Vicki Biggs-Anderson, Paulette Anholm, Larry (Jenny Delfs' father), Kris Baxter, Mike Carlson, Family and friends of John Mianowski, Gwen Dornfeld, 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 22 weeks the Budget Donations and Income should be \$64,204.44

The Actual Donations so far this year have been \$73,937.96

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, and click the Donation button in the top right corner.

THIS WEEK:

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

7:00 AM AA (FS)

8:00 AM Harbor Watch

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

- 11:00 AM – Flash Mob Practice at the YMCA
- 12:00 PM – Creation Station at the Arts Colony
- 3:00 PM – Alliance and allyship, & the significance of Pride celebrations
Presented by OutFront MN
Host: Cook County Higher Education (CCHE)
- 5:00 PM Main Event at Harbor Park
Speakers, Music, Dancing
Pride March
Food, Dancing, and Bouncy House

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

10:30 AM – **IN-PERSON** AND ON ZOOM 7th **Pentecost Sunday**, on this Sunday, we will have Matt Lewellyn-Otten from OutFront Alliance to talk to us about how to be an ally for LGBTQA+ community. You can join us on [Zoom](#). We will be outside and singing during the service.

MONDAY, JUNE 6

- 3:00PM-5PM– Food Shelf Open to the Public (LL)
- 7:00 PM– ALANON (FS)
- 7:00 PM—Zen Meditation
- Pastor Enno's Day off

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

- 8:30 AM– 4:30 PM Explorers Club
- 3:00 PM – Ministerial Lectionary Study

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8

- 12:00 – Bold Climate Actions
- 7:00 PM - Sing-a-Long & Music Jam

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

- 8:30 AM– 4:30 PM Explorers Club
- 10:00 AM—Tai Chi
- 12:00 PM– Women's AA (FS)

Pastor Enno will be at the Minnesota Conference Meeting Thursday through Sunday.

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

- 7:00 AM—AA (FS)
- 8:00 AM – Harbor Watch

SUNDAY, JUNE 12TH

9:30 AM – Choir Practice
10:30 AM – **IN-PERSON** AND ON ZOOM **Trinity Sunday**, on this Sunday, Pastor Enno will be at the Annual Meeting for the Minnesota Conference of the UCC. Worship Team will be filling in.

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

FOOD SHELF: The Food Shelf is distributing food each Monday, from 3:00-5:00 pm, also on the 1st 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. Please consider continuing to give to our church by:

1. Download the “GivePlus” 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.
3. Send a check in the US mail! P.O. Box 95, Grand Marais, MN 55604.

NEW TO OUR CONGREGATION?

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 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.

