

May 15, 2022
Fifth Sunday of Easter



Miller, Mary Jane. *A Mother's Love Holds the World*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter 839 2872 7469#. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the livestream.

Prelude

Welcome

If you're new to First Church, we'd love to get to know you better. You can sign up to receive our email communications on the home page of our website, www.firstchurchmn.org (scroll down to the heading "stay connected" on the right side of the page). You find us on Facebook by searching for "First Congregational Church of MN, UCC." You're also welcome to introduce yourself in the chat or comments.

Gathering Words: “Perhaps the World Ends Here” by Joy Harjo

Hymn: *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* by Sylvia Dunstan and W. Moore

Scriptures: Acts 11:1–18; John 13:31–35

Response: “Celtic Alleluia” by Fintan O’Caroll and Christopher Walker

Sermon

Hymn: *Draw the Circle Wide* by Light/Bloss

Prayers of the People

You may write your prayer request on the clipboard by the entrance to the sanctuary, share your joys and concerns verbally, in a sentence or two. You may choose to end with the phrase, “God in your mercy” or another phrase, after which the congregation will respond, “Hear our prayer.”

Lord’s Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

Our 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. May’s Special Offering is given to MN Interfaith Power & Light (MNIPL). You can give electronically by going to our website: www.firstchurchmn.org and clicking on the “Support Us” link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: “\$(amount) Special” (for the monthly offering) or “\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with “MNIPL” in the memo line. Thank you!

Offertory

Offertory Response: “Celtic Alleluia” by Fintan O’Caroll and Christopher Walker

Prayer of Dedication

**All: Risen One, we give ourselves to your ever-widening circle of love.
Amen.**

Announcements

Hymn: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*, NCH 4

Benediction

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Coffee Hour: Community Kitchen volunteers

Flowers: Mary Byers

Ushers: Marilyn Burns, Mary Byers

Reader: Kris Felbeck

Special Music: Jean Anderson

Tech Support: Ruth Lemire, Hikaru Peterson

Valet: Bill Lindberg

Coming up this week

Today

Sunday, May 15

9:30a: Coffee Hour

10a: Worship

11a: Coffee Hour

12:30p: Worship team

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89444838595?pwd=TXRxWERlOHVtanFFaGhNZ1RDS3Jodz09>

2p: Parent/Grandparent Gathering (infant-6th grade)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87893401316?pwd=QU9HU3JqbmxPL0w2ME8yckI2R1lJQT09>

Monday, May 16

7p: Knitting Group @home of Cynthia Hobbie

Tuesday, May 17

12:30p: Building Committee

1p: Book Study (in person in parlor)

Wednesday, May 18

noon: Elder lunch on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85155521848?pwd=bWpac0xOaitvV2pSVkh4QVIBL3E2Zz09>

Thursday, May 19

7:30p: Climate Justice working group

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84758758561?pwd=aVk4MWk2YmVDSmJOt2lBaVQ5eGg3Zz09>

Friday, May 20

Articles due for June/July Chimes

Saturday, May 21

9a: Volunteer morning @Community Emergency Service

Sunday, May 22

9:30a: Coffee Hour

10a: Worship

11a: Coffee Hour

11:30a: All-ministry team meeting (Hybrid: stay on Zoom call after worship)

First Congregational Church of Minnesota, UCC • 500 8th Avenue SE,
Minneapolis, MN 55414 • 612-331-3816; office@firstchurchmn.org;
www.firstchurchmn.org

Ministers The People of First Church

Principal Minister Jane McBride: jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org; ext. 304;
cell: 612-598-2432

Minister of Music Byron Almén: balmen@firstchurchmn.org; cell: 512-809-9789

Parish Administrator Sarah Tittle: office@firstchurchmn.org; cell: 612-205-9870

Facilities Manager Brad Schumann: bschumann@firstchurchmn.org; cell: 651-357-8082

Moderator Melissa Harl: melissaharl84@gmail.com; 612-810-2804

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Pastor Jane's typical work week is Sun.–Thurs. Please call or email her to set up appointments as she is in and out of the office. She hopes you will contact her for support and prayer in times of illness, hospitalization, or crisis. If your need is urgent, please call or text her cell phone at any time of the week.

Announcements

All-ministry team meeting. Next Sunday, May 22, all are invited to a joint meeting of our ministry teams, board and staff. We will reflect on the current program year and begin to set directions for the coming year. This will be a hybrid meeting, in the sanctuary and on Zoom.

The Red Dress Project honors the lives of missing and murdered indigenous women. The red Minnesota reports between 27 and 54 missing women and girls each year. Homicide is the third leading cause of death among Native girls and women aged 10–24 in the United States. You can help! Contact: Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition (MIWSAC.org.) Many thanks to members of the racial justice working group for coordinating our participation in the Red Dress Project, and for installing this exhibit on our grounds.

Elder Lunch. If you identify as an elder, please join us at noon on May 18 on Zoom for a time of sharing and support. If you need the link, please let Jane McBride know (jmcbride@firstchurchmn.org)

Celebrating Graduates. We will be honoring and blessing our graduates during worship on June 5. Please send the office information about graduates in your life who have a First Church connection so that we can include them.

Chimes articles are due on May 20 for the June/July issue. Tell us your summer plans! Please send articles to Sarah Tittle: office@firstchurchmn.org

Summer Book Study! The Faith Formation Team has been mulling over the idea of having a book group this summer as a way to stay in touch. Typically, groups at First Church meet in the fall and during Lent, and the groups focus

on nonfiction material that calls for some study. Not everyone enjoys that, however.

What if we read a novel or a memoir instead? No study per se, but lots to think about. We have a couple of candidates: Diane Wilson's novel, *The Seed Keeper* (winner of a Minnesota Book Award last month), and Diana Butler Bass's new "theological memoir," *Freeing Jesus*. (Both are available in paperback.) No doubt many of you reading this announcement could propose other candidates. We're eager to hear your suggestions! We're in the early planning stages. You can help us with that planning by letting us know:

- Whether you would be interested in joining a small group this summer that would read and discuss a novel or memoir from the perspective of how it informs our faith and spiritual lives.
- What time/day of the week would work best for you.
- Whether you would prefer to meet in person or online.
- Other fiction and creative nonfiction titles/authors you recommend.

Jane McBride and Mary Byers look forward to hearing your ideas. Happy reading!