

October 2, 2022
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost/World Communion Day



Microimages of seeds of various plants

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFOjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

(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 service.

Prelude

Introit: "We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed" by Sally Ann Morris

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.

Grounding

Place your feet firmly on the ground and reach your hands, palms-down, toward the earth.

L: We acknowledge that this is the sacred homeland of the Dakota people, and home to the Ho Chunk and Anishinabe people. We give thanks for their ongoing stewardship of the land and look to them as our teachers.

All: This land is home, life, and community.

Turn your palms up and stretch your arms outward.

L: Let us take responsibility for the harm of broken relationships and oppressive systems.

All: We live, work and worship on stolen land. Many of us benefit from stolen lives and labor.

Place your hands to your heart.

L: Let us pray for the Spirit's guidance as we seek to be agents of healing, repair, and renewal.

All: Spirit, guide us toward a new vision of community.

Sung Response: "Like a Rock" by Kerry K. Wehlander

Greeting Time

We will have a few minutes during each service this summer to connect with each other. This activity is encouraged yet optional! If you are on Zoom, and you want to join in, you can accept the invitation to a breakout room.

This week's prompt is: *What is something small you do to live your faith (or your values)?*

Gathering Words: “Making It Last (A Mustard Seed Pantoum)” Lee Francis IV. (Notes: *Dr. Lee Francis IV (Pueblo of Laguna) is the Head Indigenerd and CEO of Native Realities, the only Native and Indigenous pop culture company in the United States. The pantoum is a form of poetry similar to a villanelle in that there are repeating lines throughout the poem. It is composed of a series of quatrains; the second and fourth lines of each stanza are repeated as the first and third lines of the next.*)

Hymn: *We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed*, (verses 1–4) NCH 540

Scripture: Luke 17:5–10

Response: Xan Laurence

Sermon: “Small Faith” by Jane McBride

Community Response

Hymn: “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

Prayers of the People

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

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. October’s Special Offering is given to Neighbors in Need.

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 “NIN” in the memo line. Thank you!

Offertory: “Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me” arr. K. Lee Scott

Offertory Response: “Rise Up, Rise Up” by Linnea Good

Prayer of Dedication

All: God, we give you our small, humble, everyday acts of faith, trusting that through your grace, these seeds will grow. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Announcements

Communion

Invitation

Communion Prayer

L: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

L: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Retelling the story

Sharing of the bread and cup

If you are worshipping at home, please have some bread or crackers and juice or wine available for communion.

If you are in the sanctuary, please come forward by the center aisle and return to your seats by the side aisle. Allowing distance between worship pods, come to the communion table. There you can remove your mask to eat and drink. Please place used cups in the baskets provided on each side of the table.

Hymn during communion: *Let Us Break Bread Together*, NCH 330

Benediction

Choral Benediction: “Sizohamba naye”; trad. South African; arr. Dave Dargie

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Flowers: Jim and Joy Gullikson

Usher: Sally Wingert

Reader: Xan Laurence

Tech Support: Maggie George, Hikaru Peterson

Coffee Hour: Kris Felbeck

Valet: George Domstrand

Coming up this week

Sunday, Oct. 2

9:30a: Coffee Hour (in person)

10a: Worship (hybrid)

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

11a: Coffee Hour (hybrid—stay on worship Zoom meeting)

11:20: Hospitality and Engagement team (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87656935043?pwd=QkxRUWtxQmtlOVU0L0VoMG11b3o4Zz09>

11:30a: Sharing Faith Small Group (in person)

Monday, Oct. 3

9:30a: SE Playgroup

7p: Faith on Tap

Tuesday, Oct. 4

Noon: Finance Committee

1p: Book Study

Wednesday, Oct. 5

7p: Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Oct. 6

9:30a: SE Playgroup

7p: Climate Justice Working Group (Zoom)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84110117291?pwd=RkpRVWoyYUNzYlRrU1poUDZqN2t4Zz09>

Sunday, Oct. 9

9:30a: Coffee Hour (in person)

10a: Worship (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFOjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

11a: Coffee Hour (hybrid—stay on worship Zoom meeting)

11:30a: Family Gathering @Elwell Park

11:30a: Sharing Faith Small Group (in person)

Announcements

New art exhibit in the First Gallery! Please be sure to take a look at the fabulous drawings of Soon-Wai Wong, now hanging in Pilgrim Hall and the Parlor. Soon-Wai is an intuitive artist who creates his own methods for observing perspective. This exhibit features his illustrations of cities where he's traveled and they are filled with layered, energetic linework. Soon-Wai's work is brought to us through Fresh Eye Arts—a program that supports artists with disabilities. This exhibit will be on display through November and we'll be holding a reception for it some time in early November, so stay tuned!

“Sharing Faith” small groups. There's still time to sign up to attend small group sessions around how we think and talk about faith. See the sign-up sheets in the back of the sanctuary or email your preference to office@firstchurchmn.org.

We will celebrate the life of Jim Scoville in a service on October 15 at 1p. If you would like to help with providing hospitality, please reach out to Jane.