



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*No matter who you are, or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

www.fcindy.org
317.257.5397

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46240

@FirstCongregationalUCCLndy

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome to your Spiritual Home!

We celebrate being a Just Peace making,
Green for care of Creation, WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive,
Supportive and Engaged) for mental health church with
an Open and Affirming covenant supporting the
LGBTQAAI+ community since 1994.

We welcome first time guests and include **all ages** in our worship service. We believe we are called by Jesus to be a transforming presence for God in the world. We are a place to **belong**, a place to **heal** and a place to **love**. **At First Congregational we recognize God as a loving, creating, all-encompassing Spirit who is not limited by usual human boundaries. Therefore, we practice the use of inclusive, expansive, and non-gendered language when speaking of and to God.**

Pastoral Care: Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

We celebrate our church staff:

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle
External Communications Manager/Office Admin, Cassidy Hall
Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker
Just Peace Intern, Allison Welz
Media Technician, David Clark

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Alice Rutherford, Steve Coomer, Larry Eckel
Clerk: Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey
Treasurer: Jim Lootens
Financial Secretary: Cheryl Dillenback

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Quartette

Plymouth Players

Allison Welz

Steve and Gini Coomer, Liturgists



November 28, 2021

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

O Loving Founder of the Stars

INTROIT

Water

Mayflower Quartette

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

CANDLE LIGHTING INTROIT

Mayflower Quartette

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Steve and Gini Coomer

OPENING SONG #122

Come, O Long Expected Jesus

*New
Century Hymnal*

MOMENT OF PEACE

MEDITATION

All Earth Is Waiting

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

Steve Coomer

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

SERMON

Be Encouraged: The God of Creation is With Us

Rev. Dr.
Sarah Lund

ADVENT MONTAGE

WE RESPOND

SHARING GRATITUDES

INTERLUDE

What Child Is This

PASTORAL PRAYER

Holy One, your light brightens our darkest days even when we may not notice it. Your love touches the pain in our souls even when we may not feel it. Give us the courage this season of Advent to both see and be the light. Give us the strength to feel and be your love in this world. Amen.

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (from UCC Book of Worship)

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and

deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

WE GO

CLOSING SONG

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Rejoice!

Mayflower Quartette

POSTLUDE

Angels We Have Heard on High

CALLS to SERVE

"Here am I; send me!" Isaiah 6:8

TODAY! Adult Education at 10:00 a.m. – On Sunday mornings, join us on Zoom for a gathering time for faith formation.

Coffee Hour on Zoom – Immediately following the service we will gather on the church Zoom for Coffee Hour!

Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom) – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being. Contact Pat Larracey at plainandfancy1963@att.net, or 317-625-6801, or Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@fcindy.org, or 386-478-9012.

The Hat & Mitten Tree and Giving Tree are returning this year!

The Hat & Mitten Tree and Giving Tree are returning this year! Please bring your donations of hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves to the narthex Hat & Mitten Tree to benefit Exodus Refugee. In the parlor the Giving Tree is

available for donations of gift cards for clients of Indiana Youth Group, Damien Center, and Trinity Haven. See the December Colony for types of gift cards recommended for these groups. **Because Marion County is orange again, the trees will still be available for drop-offs at any time. Please have all donations at the church by December 19 to allow a timely delivery to the recipients.**

REMINDER: CALLING ALL WRITERS, POETS, AND THINKERS!

The FC Indy Blog is here, “Pew Reflections”: Please email your submissions to Cassidy (cassidy@fcindy.org) anytime to be shared on the blog on any topic. We are accepting prayers, meditations, poems, prose, short stories, and more! Questions about what the blog is or how it functions? Check out <http://fcindy.org/blog/newblog/> or email Cassidy.

Publications - Bulletins, Sermons, Epistles, and Colony are all available on our website: www.fcindy.org

Continue Your Support of First Congregational UCC - Please continue supporting the mission and ministries of your local church by mailing your check to the church or through online giving at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

Members In Need Fund - The Members In Need Fund is available to support financial needs for any of our church family who find themselves in need. All requests for financial support will be confidential and your privacy will be honored and respected. To request funds for you or your family, please contact Pastor Sarah by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) (press 1 for veterans, 2 for Spanish)

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Information HelpLine provides information and referral services. 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) and www.nami.org.

The Trevor Project hotline offers support for LGBTQIA+ youth and families struggling with mental health challenges at 1-866-4-U-TREVOR (488-7386) and www.theTrevorProject.org

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

Please contact our office admin to join Zoom Gatherings: cassidy@fcindy.org

GIVING

*We seek to love and to share our joy.
We offer care, give thanks and praise, when Christ is present among us all.
We know the world's a mission field, needing forgiveness, justice and hope.*

Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Open and Affirming Covenant. We have been an Open and Affirming Church since 1994.

Our current outreach recipients: Indiana Youth Group, Damien Center, and Trinity Haven



THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Sunday, November 28	10:00 a.m.	Adult Education (Zoom)
Sunday, November 28	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB) (Dial-in at 2pm)
Sunday, November 28	After Worship	Coffee Hour on Zoom after worship ends
Sunday, November 28	3-5:00 p.m.	Bill Gillette's Birthday Reception (outdoors)
Wednesday, December 1	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
Thursday, December 2	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, December 2	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)
Sunday, December 5	10:00 a.m.	Adult Education (Zoom)
Sunday, December 5	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB) (Dial-in at 2pm)
Sunday, December 5	After Worship	Coffee Hour on Zoom after worship ends

Today's Scripture

Luke 1:26-38

Six months later, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a young woman named Mary; she was engaged to a man named Joseph, of the house of David. Upon arriving, the angel said to Mary, "Rejoice, highly favored one! God is with you! Blessed are you among women!"

Mary was deeply troubled by these words and wondered what the angel's greeting meant. The angel went on to say to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary. You have found favor with God. You'll conceive and bear a son, and give him the name Jesus—'Deliverance.' His dignity will be great, and he will be called the Only Begotten of God. God will give Jesus the judgement seat of David, his ancestor, to rule over the house of Jacob forever, and his reign will never end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have never been with a man?"

The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you—hence the offspring to be born will be called the Holy One of God. Know too that Elizabeth, your kinswoman, has conceived a child in her old age; she who was thought to be infertile is now in her sixth month. Nothing is impossible with God."

Mary said, "I am the servant of God. Let it be done to me as you say."

With that, the angel left her.

(The Inclusive Bible. Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition)



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