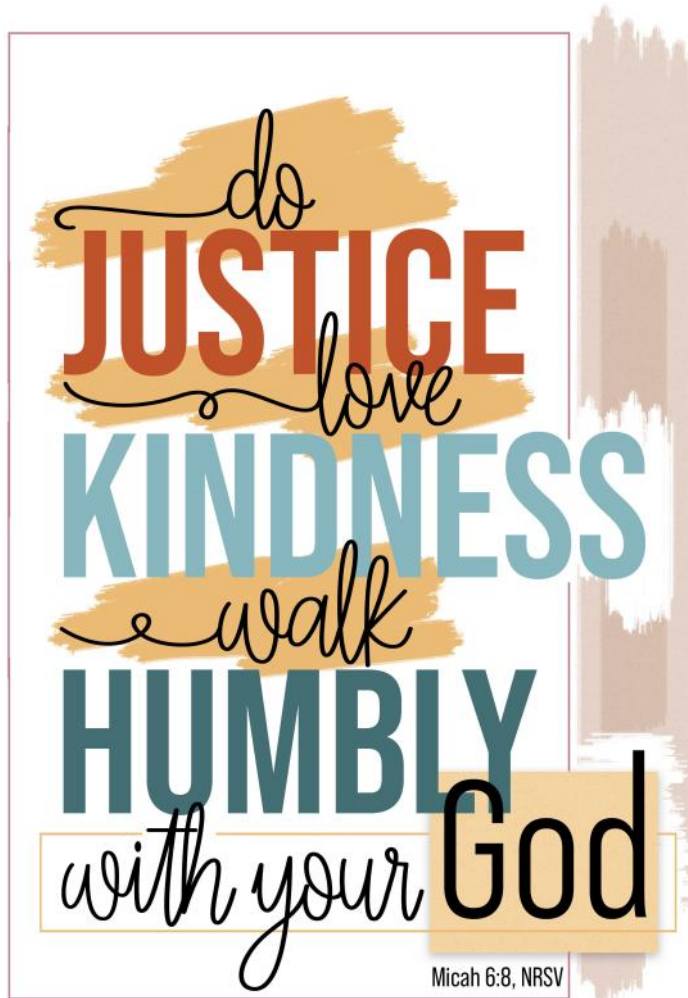


Service Sunday August 24, 2025



Vision Statement:

We Are a Nurturing, Beloved Community.
We Are Growing Authentic Christian Faith.
We Are Living Christ-Inspired Action.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
August 24, 2025 10:00 am

10:00-10:15 am IN THE SANCTUARY

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

RINGING THE BELL

WELCOME SONG

"God Welcomes All"

AMEN THEMBA

Energetically

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
God's love is strong and it ne - ver ends.

The musical score is written for a piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of music. The first system has two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff contains chords and single notes, while the bass staff contains single notes. The lyrics are written below the staves. The second system also has two staves, continuing the melody and harmony. The lyrics continue below the staves. The score ends with a double bar line.

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WELCOME

Sharon Benton

We love children in worship—their noises and wiggles are welcome, too. There are pillows and a coloring, book, and play area in the front and in the corner near the windows. Younger kids may enjoy the Narthex play area. Their movements back and forth are a joy for us as they participate fully.

**Rise in body or spirit*

ACTS OF SERVICE OPTIONS

Scott Ward

Service will go through 11:30am, then we'll reconvene in the Social Hall at 11:45am for a potluck lunch and sharing about our experiences of service worship.

- Trash pickup (guided by Kendra Wagner)—meet at the Memorial Garden
- Writing letters to the governor and legislators (guided by Janet Ott)—meet in Rooms 12/14.
- Making lunch for Garden View Tiny Home Village (guided by Scout Mitchell, Paula McGrath, Joyce Sweeney)—meet in the Kitchen
- Knitting prayer shawls for people going through difficulty (guided by Cheryl Smith)—meet in the Fireplace Room
- Handing out food and water to people hanging out downtown (guided by Briana Mihelich)—meet at the south doors in the Narthex

Questions? Ask Pastor Sharon or Scott Ward.

COMMISSIONING

Sharon Benton

One Voice: Today we turn our worship into service—tangibly enacting what we believe and why we worship. Today we go out from our worshiping space to live our faith in different ways than usual.

Congregation: **We stand together as a cloud of witnesses and today proclaim:**
Where hatred roars, we will sing of love.
Where fear stalks, we will stand with courage.
Where bigotry rages, we will call for justice.
Where pain overwhelms, we will extend kind comfort.
Where systems oppress, we will work for change.
Guide us, Jesus, that we may live according to your way, always.

One Voice: We go out with courage and grace, sowing God's message of love with all, then returning to share the bounty of love.

Congregation: **Amen.**

SERVICE SONG

“Thuma Mina (Send Me, Jesus)”

Judy Widrig

Leader All

Send me, God Send me, Je-sus, send me, Je - sus,
send me, Je - sus, send me, God.

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11:45 am IN THE SOCIAL HALL

POTLUCK

Fill your plate and find a seat. We will begin our sharing shortly.

REGATHERING SONG

“Thuma Mina (Send Me, Jesus)”

Leader All

Fill me, God Fill me, Je-sus, fill me, Je - sus,
fill me, Je - sus, fill me, God.

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SHARING OUR EXPERIENCES

Each service group will have a chance to share what this experience was like for you as worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION AND CLEANUP

*Thank you for helping to clear tables, run the dishwasher
and anything else that may be needed!*

REFLECTIONS FOR SHARING OUR EXPERIENCE



REACTIONS TO THE SHARING OF OTHERS EXPERIENCES



Open and Affirming (ONA): As an Open and Affirming congregation believing in a loving God, all people are welcome in this church without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, economic or social status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

We Try To Use Language which will help people feel included in our worship. Since not everyone is comfortable with the same language, we invite you to amend the words of the service as we sing and pray if they do not adequately express your faith. We invite you to assist us in creating new expressions of our common faith and life together.

Technical Support: If you need help streaming our worship services or connecting in other ways, please let us know.

APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTORAL STAFF

Our pastor is available by appointment virtually or in person. Contact her by email or call the pastoral care line, 360-733-4255.

Sharon **sharon@fccb.net**

Our Chaplain is also available at
chaplain@fccb.net.

Or you can email our Office Manager
Cydne at **office@fccb.net**
and she'll pass your message on.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ

An Open & Affirming Congregation

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Church Office: 360-734-3720

24/7 Emergency Pastoral Care: 360-733-4255

office@fccb.net • www.fccb.net

Facebook: facebook.com/fccbucc

Office Hours:

9:30 am-4:30 pm, M-Th. 10:00 am-2:00 pm, F.

PASTOR: Sharon Benton, she/her

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE:

Scott Ward, he/him (scott@fccb.net)

CHAPLAIN: Charlene Epp, she/her

ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her

INTERIM MUSIC COORDINATOR:

Dallas Geil, he/him (music@fccb.net)

CHURCH SCHOOL/YOUTH COORDINATOR

Maya McEachern

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR

Moxxy Rogers, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE:

Kurt Aagard, he/him

BOOKKEEPER: Eric Bowen, he/him

MODERATOR: Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her

VICE MODERATOR: Jordan Sandoval

CLERK: Janet Malley, she/her

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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