

First  
Congregational  
Church of St. Louis  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all



SUNDAY • AUGUST 22, 2021

**First Congregational Church of St. Louis**  
**United Church of Christ**  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*

***Welcome!***

*Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

**Restrooms** are located down the hall on the main floor.

**All Gender Restrooms** are located at the back of the sanctuary and downstairs in the Fellowship Hall (which is accessible).

**Changing tables** are located in the Nursery on the main floor and at the back of the sanctuary.

**\*An asterisk** is an invitation to rise, in body or spirit.  
**Bolded text** is an invitation for the congregation to read or sing in unison.

**For everyone's health and safety:**

- Masks are required for everyone ages 5 and over while indoors.
- Please practice physical distancing.
- Ushers will not collect offerings. Instead, you may place your offerings in the baskets located in the Tower Room and Narthex.
- Children should sit with their parents in the pews. Children may get activities from the Playground and then return to the pews.
- At the conclusion of worship, attendees should exit the sanctuary promptly to avoid prolonged, close contact.
- Social hour following worship will be held without coffee or food on the Garth, weather permitting.

**Bells Calling to Worship**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude**                    "Variations on Amazing Grace"      *Gwyneth Walker*

**Opening Prayer**

**\*Call to Worship**

**Leader:** We gather together as the people of God,

**People:** With hopes, dreams, and visions.

**Leader:** As the Body of Christ, we honor the gifts of all,

**People:** Guided by the Spirit we minister together –  
young and old alike. Let our worship be only  
the beginning of what is yet to come!

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**\*Opening Hymn**      "My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff"                    #418

**My faith, it is an oaken staff,  
the traveler's well-loved aid;  
My faith, it is a song of trust,  
sustains me undismayed.**

**I'll travel on and still be stirred  
by silent thought or social word;  
By all my perils undeterred,  
a pilgrim unafraid.**

**My guide is Jesus Christ whose steps,  
when travelers have trod,  
Whether beneath was flinty rock  
or yielding grassy sod,  
They carried on, their joy unspent;  
through pain and trial they onward went,  
Unstayed by pleasure, still they bent  
their zealous course to God.**                    (Continued on the next page)

My faith, it is an oaken staff,  
O let me on it lean.  
My faith provides the ground of hope,  
supports a purpose keen.  
Your Spirit, God, upon me send,  
that I may be what you intend.  
With patient courage, we'll contend  
as radiant saints serene.

### Prayers of the People

#### *The Prayer of our Savior*

Our Mother, Father, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

#### Scripture                      1 Peter 4:10-11 (NIV)

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

#### Reflection

Rev. Mia White

## Honoring "Mama Cat" Daniels

Paul Brady

## Ceremony of Conferral of Honorary Degree

Jim Morice, Doctor of Humane Letters

David Greenhaw, President Emeritus of Eden Theological Seminary

## Solo

"L'Heure Exquise"

*Music by Reynaldo Hahn, text by Paul Verlaine*

*A vast and tender calm descends from the firmament.*

*This is the exquisite hour.*

## Blessing

## Postlude

"The Ash Grove"

*Melissa A. Kalbfleisch*

*Our guest organist this morning is Karen Olsen.*

*Up until last Friday, Karen worked for Gaylord Music Library at Washington University. Starting September 1st, she will be Music & Fine Arts librarian at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. In the meantime, she is thrilled to have one last organ gig in St. Louis. She has a PhD in historical musicology; her research interests include 19th century American sheet music, ecomusicology, and the music of British composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies. She also makes quilts and spoils her cat, Pentecost.*

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## First Congregational Church: Here and in the Community

FCC Ministry Teams      Music Ministry      Church grounds volunteers  
FCC Search Committee      Sunday school teachers  
Christian ed volunteers      FCC Council      Worship volunteers  
St. Louis Audubon      The National Park Foundation  
Southern Poverty Law Center      MOBot Board      Blood donation  
St. Andrews Resources for Seniors System Board      Potbangerz volunteer  
Epiphany Breakfast volunteer      Eden Theological Seminary Board  
Supporting friends who need help  
Court Appointed Special Advocate      Tutoring      Interfaith Partnership  
Legal Services of Eastern Missouri      Black Lives Matter vigils  
Political action projects      American Friends Service Committee  
Yale Club of St. Louis volunteer interviewer  
Habitat for Humanity volunteer      Wounded Warrior Project  
St. Louis Association Committee on Ministry      Foster care and adoption  
BJC Healthcare Board      ACLU      Pedal the Cause      Gateway ONA  
Mental health outreach  
President of local Democratic Club      Ring Lake Ranch volunteer  
American Society for the      Metro Theatre Company Board  
Prevention of Cruelty to Animals  
Protests      St. Louis Symphony  
Operation Food Search  
Friends Committee on National Legislation

And more!

*Thank you to those serving today.*

**Greeter:** Bert Merrell

**Liturgist:** Jim Hartley

**Soloist:** Dan Brodsky, tenor

**Our Ministry Team:**

**Dr. Sarah Bereza** (MM, MA, PhD), Minister of Music  
(sbereza@firstcongregational.org)

**Anne Chao**, Preschool Director  
(anne@firstcongregationalpreschool.org)

**Mehran Moslehikhah**, Maintenance

**Hannah Rice** (MDiv), Minister of Administration and Membership  
(hrice@firstcongregational.org)

**Emily Stokes** (MAPS), Minister of Children & Families  
(estokes@firstcongregational.org)

**Rev. Mia White** (MATS, MDiv), Senior Minister  
(revmia@firstcongregational.org)



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