



PHILIPPIANS 1:27

Radical Inclusion

Striving Together in Faith

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.

Parade into the Sanctuary

*Opening Hymn

"For All the Children"

*David Lohman
United States*

God, we gather as your people
to raise our song above,
and we dare to claim the promise of Your love.
Though the day may not yet be here,
we trust it soon will be
when your children will be free.

REFRAIN

Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.
May there be room enough for everyone inside.
For in God there is a welcome,
in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.

God, we're working for the future
when children far and wide
can live their lives with dignity and pride.
As they grow in strength and stature,
may they join us hand in hand,
as against all hate we stand. *Refrain*

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture

Philippians 1:27 (NIV)

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner
worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you
or only hear about you in my absence, I will know
that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together
as one for the faith of the gospel.

Call to Worship

"God is Here Today"
(Dios está aquí)

*Traditional, Mexico,
arr. C. Michael Hawn
& Arturo González (Mexico)*

*God is here today; as certain as the air I breathe,
as certain as the morning sun that rises,
as certain when I sing you'll hear my song.*

Anthem

"Ubi Caritas"

*Music by Maurice Duruflé,
text attr. Paulinus of Aquileia,
c. 796 France*

*Where charity and love are, there God is.
The love of Christ has gathered us into one.
Let us exult, and in Him be joyful.
Let us fear and let us love the living God.
And from a sincere heart let us love each other and God.*

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.**

Passing of the Peace

Most of us in the United States have descended from immigrants from other parts of the world. During the Passing of the Peace, make your way to our map and mark the location(s) where your family is from. The following song will call us back together.

Song

"I Will Sing
of Your Love, Love, Love"

Christopher Grundy
United States

I will sing of your love, love, love,
of your steadfast love for as long as I live.
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

I will sing of your love so wide
that it welcomes the neighbor and will not divide.
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

I will sing of your love, love, love,
of your steadfast love for as long as I live.
And I will sing of your love, love, love for as long as I live.

Solo

"Alleluia!" *Music by Ferdinand Hummel*
Text from Psalm 63 and Psalm 23
by Frederick H. Martens, Germany

*O Lord! My God! Early did I seek thee out,
My soul for thee was thirsting Lord,
It longed for thee in a land of drought!
O thou didst lead me by the hand
Who languished in a barren land
Thy mercy, I sing with joy devout!
Alleluia!*

*O thou, dear Lord, art my shepherd,
Thy mercy doth my soul restore;
Thy rod and staff they are my comfort,
My cup of joy, behold it runneth over!
Beside the waters still me leading,
In pastures green thou bad'st me live,
My soul exalts thee, my voice shall rise,
Thy mercy praising to the sky:
Alleluia!*

Message

Rev. Mia White

*Closing Hymn "Siyahamba"

#526, South Africa

We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Oo,
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, Oo,
we are marching in the light of God.
(Repeat)

Blessing

Choral Benediction "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth" *José Aguiar*
(“Enviado soy de Dios”) *trans. Gerhard Cartford,*
arr. Ronald F. Krisman, Puerto Rico

Postlude “Mountain of Youth” *Chelsea Chen*
from *Taiwanese Suite* *Taiwan, United States*

Thank you to those serving today.

Greeters: Ann Kittlaus, Karen Safe
Liturgist: Michele Bryan

Welcome back, Chancel Choir,
and welcome to our new Staff Tenor, Darren Tucker!

*Darren Tucker is excited to be joining the church in worship as a staff tenor!
He is a St. Louis U High graduate and is in his senior year at Webster
University studying music. He has had appearances locally at The MUNY,
Powell Hall, Sheldon Concert Hall and Opera Theatre of St. Louis.
Instagram @darrenmtucker*

Our Ministry Team:

Dr. Sarah Bereza (MM, MA, PhD), Minister of Music
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Anne Chao, Preschool Director
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Mehran Moslehikhah, Maintenance

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Rev. Mia White (MATS, MDiv), Senior Minister
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UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

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