



*Psalm 126*

*Let Us Dream  
God's Dream*

**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.

**Children** are invited to remain in worship. There are activities  
at the Prayground at the front of the sanctuary.

**The Coffee Bar** is available at the back of the sanctuary from 9:30–11:30.

**\*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.

Liturgical resources for this service:

"Prayer" by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org  
<http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service  
obtained from One License with license # A-720972

## Worship September 18, 2022

---

Welcome & Announcements

Linda Morice, *Vice Moderator*

Prelude

"Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now"

*J. S. Bach*

### \*Call to Worship

Leader: The power of dreams lies in waking up.

For when we close our eyes,

**People: We can see a better world.**

Leader: When we close our eyes,

**People: We can dream a better dream.**

Leader: But when we open our eyes,

**People: We begin the work of faith.**

Leader: The power of worship is the same.

When we enter this space,

**People: We can see a better world.**

Leader: When we enter this space,

**People: We dream a better dream.**

Leader: But when we leave this space,

**People: We begin the work of faith.**

Leader: So, come in. Dream your dream.

**People: Find hope here. For in an hour, we will begin the work of faith.**

Let it be so.

### \*Hymn

"There Is a Balm in Gilead"

#553

BALM IN GILEAD

[Refrain] There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,  
there is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. [Refrain]

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
who, if you ask for knowledge, will never fail to lend. [Refrain]

If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus, who died to save us all. [Refrain]

## Prayers of Petition and Thanksgiving

### *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.

## Anthem

### "Be Not Afraid"

Craig Courtney

*Be not afraid: for I have redeemed you;  
Be not afraid: I have called you by name.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
when you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;  
when you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;  
you are mine, you are precious in my sight.  
  
My love for you is everlasting,  
my love for you shall have no end.  
  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
when you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you;  
when you walk through the fire, you will not be consumed;  
you are mine, you are precious in my sight.*

## \*Passing of the Peace

## Children's Moment

Emily Stokes

## Scripture

### Psalm 126 (The Message)

It seemed like a dream, too good to be true,  
when God returned Zion's exiles.  
We laughed, we sang,  
we couldn't believe our good fortune.  
We were the talk of the nations—  
"God was wonderful to them!"  
God was wonderful to us;  
we are one happy people.

And now, God, do it again—  
bring rains to our drought-stricken lives  
So those who planted their crops in despair  
will shout "Yes!" at the harvest,  
So those who went off with heavy hearts  
will come home laughing,  
with armloads of blessing.

**Anthem**

"Sicut Cervus"

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

*As the hart is athirst for streams of clear running water,  
so do I long for thee, with my whole being, O Lord, my God.*

**Scripture Reflection**

Rev. Mia White

**\*Hymn**

"Born of God, Eternal Savior"

#542

WEISSE FLAGGEN

Born of God, Eternal Savior, source of life, of truth and grace,  
Human One, whose birth incarnate hallows all our human race,  
Come again, in all your glory; come to us, inspire and lead;  
Fill us with your lovingkindness; heal our wrongs, and help our need.

Christ, as you have lived for others, so may we for others live;  
Freely have your gifts been granted, freely may your servants give.  
All the wealth that we may gather is for use in causes just.  
We are stewards of the bounty loaned to us in solemn trust.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, granting love and joy and peace;  
Hush the storm of strife and passion, bid its cruel discords cease.  
By your patient years of toiling, by your silent hours of pain,  
Quench our fevered thirst for pleasure, shame our selfish greed for gain.

See the Christ-like host advancing, high and lowly, great and small,  
Lined in bonds of common service, answering the Savior's call.  
Jesus Christ, we hear your pleading that your people should be one.  
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: here on earth, your will be done.

**\*Blessing**

Leader: We have been found by our God,

People: So now we will go to search for those forgotten by the world.

Leader: We have been welcomed by Jesus,

People: So now we will go to embrace the ones  
people look down their noses at.

Leader: We have been gathered as a community by the Spirit,

People: So now we will go to be a family  
to the people who long to draw near to hope.

**Postlude**

"Come God, Creator, Holy Ghost"

J. S. Bach

# Announcements -

## Zoom Coffee Hour is Back!

Sundays at 11:20 AM

Join us online for Zoom coffee hour after worship each Sunday at 11:20 am! FCC member and online worshiper, Jane Feagans-King, will lead the discussions. Meeting ID: 314 721 5060  
Passcode: coffee

## WOW Brown Bag Lunch

Today, September 18, 11:30 AM

The September gathering of the Women of Wydown is today after worship at the home of Kathy Botney (4 Woodcliffe Rd 63124). All women of the church are welcome! BYO lunch and Kathy will provide beverages and a sweet treat. There are 3 spots in her driveway - otherwise look for parking on her street or up the hill on the cul de sac.

## St. Louis Association Fall Meeting

Saturday October 1, 8:30 AM - 1 PM

The Fall Business Meeting of the Saint Louis Association of the Missouri Mid-South Conference UCC is Saturday, October 1. The meeting will be at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 5508 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO 63129. Registration, continental breakfast, and displays begin at 8:30 and the meeting begins at 9:00. This will be both an online and in-person meeting. Worship leaders will be Rev. Rebecca Turner and Rev. Monty Jackson from Christ Church UCC in Maplewood. FCC is allowed 5 lay delegates and 2 young adult delegates, so please contact the office if you're interested in representing us at the meeting.

**Thank you to those serving this morning.**

**Guest Organist:** Ruth Tweeten

**Choir Director:** Stephanie Ruggles

**Announcements:** Linda Morice

**Scripture Reader:** Rev. Jim Hartley

**Ushers:** Mark Barlow, Mike McKee

## Pastor Mia on Vacation

September 21 - October 2

Pastor Mia will be on vacation from September 21 through October 2. Valerie Jackson will preach on September 25. Jim Morice will preach and Rev. Jim Hartley will preside over communion on October 2.

## SHED Days of Service

October 8-9

SHED is a resident-driven nonprofit organization focused on housing, youth opportunities, and community engagement in University City's 3rd Ward neighborhoods. SHED Community Days are being held on October 8-9. Sign up to work with your peers to support yard work, painting, or other home repairs! Sign up with the link in the Friday email newsletter or contact the church office.

## Missouri Mid-South Conference UCC

### Conference Annual Gathering

October 27-29

The annual gathering of our conference is October 27-29, in person in Jefferson City and online. This year's theme is Power in Gathering. All are welcome to attend this great opportunity to engage with the wider UCC. \$250 Early Bird registration due Sept. 26, \$295 registration after Sept. 26. Registration fee includes the book "The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why it Matters" by Priya Parker. Visit [www.missourimidsouth.org](http://www.missourimidsouth.org) for more information and to register.





# CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES



## FAITH & FUN

### Faith & Fun Family Events

Once/month

Each month families can come together to explore their faith at a family event! See the upcoming dates below!

### Come Dream With Me

#### Family Fellowship & Dinner

Sunday September 23, 6-8 PM

Our first family event of the fall with Emily is Sunday September 23 at 6 PM - FCC families are invited to come on a journey of dreaming. Let us explore what God's dreams are for us and how we can catch them! **Please RSVP** to Emily.

### Faith & Fun Sunday Mornings

Starting Sunday September 25

Elementary kiddos are invited to join Emily for Faith and Fun - faith-filled activities and lessons - during worship (after the Children's Moment) on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Adult volunteers are needed to help, so please talk to Emily if you're interested!

### Annual Pumpkin Carving

Saturday October 22, 2 - 4 PM

Bring your best pumpkin to decorate with your FCC friends! We'll have all the carving tools you'll need, plus paint for those who don't wish to carve. Join us outside on the Garth (weather permitting). We encourage you to come in your Halloween costume and invite friends!

### First Friday Fun

Fellowship for 4th-6th Graders

First Fridays, 6-7:30 PM

Our upper elementary kiddos are invited for pizza and fellowship with friends on the first Friday of every month! We meet in the Social Hall from 6-7:30 PM. Suggested donation of \$5/child helps cover the cost of pizza and supplies. The next First Friday Fun is October 7.



Keep up with FCC Children & Family Ministries on Facebook!

[facebook.com/FCCchildrenandfamilies](https://facebook.com/FCCchildrenandfamilies)



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
a just world for all

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

**Our Ministry Team:**

**Mehran Moslehikhah**, Maintenance

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

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

**Rev. Mia White** (MDiv, MATS, CSD), Senior Minister  
([revmia@firstcongregational.org](mailto:revmia@firstcongregational.org))



**FCC  
Calendar**



**News  
& Events**



**Give  
Online**

314.721.5060 | 6501 Wydown Blvd. St. Louis MO 63105  
[office@firstcongregational.org](mailto:office@firstcongregational.org) | [www.firstcongregational.org](http://www.firstcongregational.org)  
[facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCC](https://facebook.com/FirstCongregationalUCC)  
[facebook.com/FCCchildrenandfamilies](https://facebook.com/FCCchildrenandfamilies)  
Instagram: @fccstl