

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Congregation

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 19, 2005

“And here is the central danger of going to church: here God calls us together in word and sacrament, and in so assembling we risk meeting this God.”~ James J. Buckley

Welcome! In this church we try to be concerned about the things that matter. Your background doesn't matter. It doesn't matter to us if you grew up in a church or never set foot in one before. What matters is that you hunger to know abundant life. We welcome you as you are, because we have experienced God's all-inclusive love.

Please join our members and sign the form in the pew pad or fill out a white visitor card, and place them in the offering plate, so that we can extend a more personal welcome! Childcare for infants and toddlers begins at 10:30 AM on Level 2.

PRELUDE

Beach Spring
Joshua Lawton, organ

Wilbur Held

WELCOME

The Reverend John R. Lilly

CALL TO CELEBRATION**

Come, nations of the earth, to bow before God.
Distant galaxies proclaim the Creator of all things.

We are humbled by the wonders of creation.

We are amazed by God's mighty works.

This infinite God cares for each one of us.
God hears our cries and responds to our needs.

In our days of trouble, we call on our God.

We are confident that God listens and answers.

Let us also call on God with our prayers of thanks.
Let us celebrate the wondrous things God provides.

God cares for us, even when others reject us.

*We gather to glorify God's name.***

***HYMN NO. 12**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

St. Denio

OPENING PRAYER (TOGETHER)

Gracious God, in whose eyes every sparrow has value, and in whose love even the hairs of our heads are counted, lead us to the light, that we might proclaim your love from the housetops and put you first in our lives. May our discipleship reflect the witness of our teacher, Jesus Christ, that all nations may bow down before you and glorify your name. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

(Please take a moment to pass along the pew pad, add your name, and return it so that the person on the aisle can put the top sheet in the offering plate. Please note the names of those with whom you are worshipping and extend a welcome to those whom you do not know!)

ANTHEM

Go Not Far From Me, O God

N. A. Zingarelli

Senior Choir; Susan Setta, director; Joshua Lawton, accompanist

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Sophie Sundin Brandt, daughter of Steven R. Brandt and Kristin Sundin Brandt and sister of Anders. Sophie's godparents are Megan Suzanne Chambers and Stuart Paul Chambers.

WELCOME OF THE CONGREGATION (TOGETHER)

Sophie, we welcome you into the family of faith. God grant you strength for life's journey, joy in your faith, the freedom of love, and the hope of new life in Jesus Christ who makes us one.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

arr. C.Young

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

OFFERTORY

Lullaby on Two Ciphers

Jehan Alain

***SONG OF PRAISE** (Please feel free to use either traditional or inclusive language.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above all heavenly hosts, Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

TIME FOR CHILDREN

The Reverend Victoria Alford Guest

HYMN NO. 258

Morning Has Broken

Bunessan

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 21: 8-21

Alva Chapin

SERMON

Angels and Castaways

The Reverend John R. Lilly

GATHERING OUR COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

THE MORNING PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (TOGETHER)

Our 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***HYMN No. 617**

I Come to the Garden Alone

Garden

BLESSING

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Dialogue sur les Grands Jeux

Nicolas de Grigny

***ALL WHO ARE ABLE ARE INVITED TO STAND**

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We invite you to change any portion of today's service to language in which you feel included. Our purpose is to welcome all into God's presence and worship God in wholeness.

Large print Bibles, worship bulletins and hearing assist devices are available from the Deacons at the entries into the sanctuary. Tapes of morning worship are available from the Deacons or from the church office.

Please take time to greet those around you, especially those whom you do not know, and introduce newcomers to the ministers. Join us downstairs for conversation and refreshments following worship.