

faith-full

TASTE

HEAR

SMELL

SEE

TOUCH

5



First Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

MAY 11, 2025, AT 10:45 A.M.

Welcome! If you are worshiping with us for the first time, we hope that you will find God's presence among us. Your presence with us enriches our vision of the Body of Christ, and we give thanks that you have joined us today. We encourage you to sign in using our online connect card at uccmanhattan.org/online. If you're worshiping with us in the sanctuary you can also sign in at either door, if you'd rather. Immediately following worship, we hope you'll join us for conversation or just stay put in the Zoom room if you're worshiping online. We look forward to greeting you there. If you have questions, please ask.

If you need accommodations, please let one of the ushers know. Hearing assist devices, wheelchairs, and walkers are available. The elevator provides access to all three floors of the building. Restrooms are located on each floor. Our lower level has wheelchair accessible, all-gender restrooms. Diaper changing stations are located in both restrooms on the main floor.

Children are welcome in worship (and we know they may need to wiggle!). Please reach out to Brandy McDonald (brandy@uccmanhattan.org) if you have questions about children's ministries. You may visit our website for information about Sunday School for children and adults during the school year.

WiFi password for *FCUCC* guest:

YouAreLoved

Our service is recorded so we can share it with those who may have missed worship today. If you are present in the sanctuary, you may be included in this recording. Please contact one of the pastors for more information.

----- Assisting in Today's Worship -----

Greeter: Julie Appino

Zoom Sharer: Kerri Keller

Reading Scripture: Judy Ahrens

Fellowship Host: Judy Ahrens

Tech Team: Anne Fredrickson, Craig Weston

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC

“Trust and Obey”

Mary Ellen Sutton, keyboard

Arr. Rodriguez

CALLED INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

One: When we long for the special effects we think life should offer:

Many: **it is enough, for us, that God comes in a soft, summer shower.**

One: When our hearts are cracked by the drought of doubt:

Many: **it is enough, for us, that God opens up the fountains of faith for us.**

One: When our senses are deadened by the sales pitches of our culture:

Many: **it is enough, for us, that God wraps us in the silence of grace.**

Thom Shuman

✦ HYMN 28 (See page 7.)

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Dix

✦ *Indicates all who are able, please stand.*

✦ MEDITATION ON THE TALLGRASS PRAIRIE: MOURNING CLIMATE CHANGE TOGETHER

A gentle, movement-based reflection for all ages

Written by the Rev. Christian Watkins

Inspired by a reflection from a Unitarian Universalist “Flower Ceremony”

✦ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

As a sign of our reconciliation, please greet those around you with words such as: “Peace be with you. / And also with you.” If you are worshipping online, you can use the chat feature in Zoom. Please be mindful of other people's preferences about physical contact. If you prefer not to shake hands, you can let others around you know by pressing your palms together in front of your heart (as if in prayer).

✦ **ACT OF PRAISE**

(all join in singing Hymn #236)

"Halleluja"

Halle, halle, halleluja.
Halle, halle, halleluja.
Halle, halle, halleluja.
Halle, halle, halleluja.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Pastor Caela

☞ LISTENING

for our Still-speaking God

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Judy Ahrens

1 Kings 19:9-13 *(See page 11)*

Psalm 22: 19-31 *(See back cover. **Read responsively**; all join in singing the refrain as indicated by the symbol R.)*

SERMON

Rev. Caela Simmons Wood

"Let those with ears to hear listen"

☞ RESPONDING

in hope and thanksgiving

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Prefer to make an electronic contribution? Scan the QR Code at right with the camera on your smartphone to be taken directly to our donate page or visit uccmanhattan.org/giving to learn how to set up automatic giving. Thank you for being a part of our ministry.



OFFERTORY

Choir

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

✦ **DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host:
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*You are invited to type your prayers into the chat.
We respond: Merciful God....**hear our prayer.***

PRAYER OF JESUS *(said in unison)*

You are invited to use whatever name for God you find most meaningful (Mother, Father, Creator, God, Friend, Holy One, etc.). Together, our names for God will create a beautiful chorus reaching out to the Holy.

**Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us,
we call upon your names.**

**Your wisdom come. Your will be done,
in all the spaces in which you dwell.**

Give us each day sustenance and perseverance.

Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the limits of others.

**Separate us from the temptation of empire,
and deliver us into community.**

**For you are the dwelling place within us,
the empowerment around us, and the celebration among us,
now and forever.**

Amen.

*A womanist version of the prayer by the Rev. Yolanda Norton,
used at Grace Cathedral for the Beyonce Mass.*

GOING FORTH

to be messengers of good news

✦ **HYMN 21** *(See page 8)*

"God Reigns o'er All the Earth"

Terra Beata

**SHARING OPPORTUNITIES TO LOVE UNCONDITIONALLY.
CHALLENGE SPIRITUALLY. MINISTER FERVENTLY.**

*New to First Congregational? We'd love to meet you. Use the QR code at right
to complete a Connect Card.*



✦ **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Alleluia"

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *To repeat* *Last time*
lu - ia.

Music: Jerry Sinclair, © 1972, Manna Music, Inc.; arr. by Betty Pulkingham

POSTLUDE

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

Patterson

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First Congregational UCC, Manhattan—an Open and Affirming Congregation

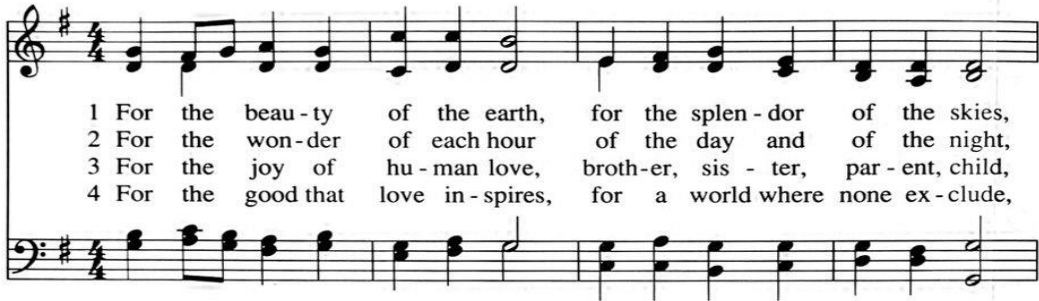
In the spirit of love, openness, and inclusiveness we welcome persons of every race, culture, nationality, age, family configuration, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, and socio-economic status to participate fully in all aspects of our church's life and ministry. —from *Open and Affirming Statement* adopted May 11, 2003

The Mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ is

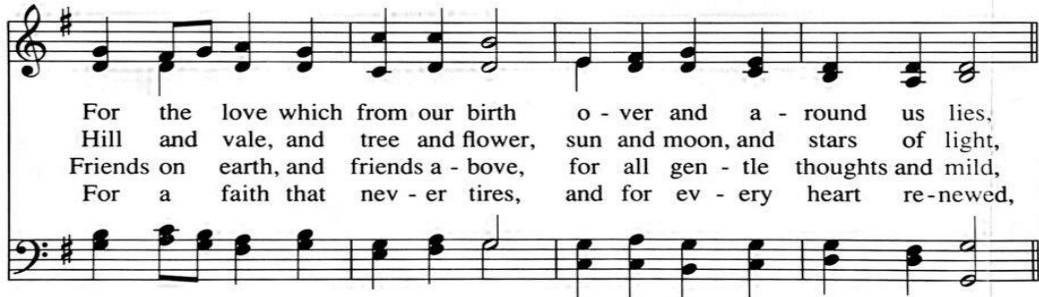
- To love and accept others unconditionally as God loves and accepts us, and by example, to encourage others to do the same.
- To challenge ourselves to grow spiritually through worship, education, nurture, reflection, discussion, fellowship, and outreach.
- To minister to others locally, nationally, and globally with the same fervor as we minister to ourselves, through the sharing of our talents, gifts, and resources.

We hold ourselves accountable before God for this mission statement.

For the Beauty of the Earth


*St. 1-3, Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.**St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993*


1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,



For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
 Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
 Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
 For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain



God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Follitt S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

*Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain
 Conrad Kocher, 1838
 Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861*



TAKE TIME FOR TAIZÉ

Join us on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. for Taizé Worship. Taizé is a 30-minute service of singing, scripture, prayer and silence based on the pattern of worship in use at the ecumenical community at Taizé, France.

God Reigns o'er All the Earth

21

Jane Parker Huber, 1981

Isa. 52:7-10

1 God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and val-leys low, the
2 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Through youth and ag-ing years, in
3 God reigns o'er time and space! In his-tory's by-gone days, Christ's
4 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! God with us ev-ery day, in

farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beau-ty show.
death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.
faith-ful folk in rev-erence spoke to bring God earn-est praise.
all our past and to the last, our com-fort and our stay.

God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spread-ing plains, in
God reigns o'er hu-man life! Our in-spi-ra-tion still. Through
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er gal-ax-y and sun, through
God reigns! Em-man-u-el! Let praise to Christ be sung! God's

rain-bow hues—reds, yel-lows, blues—of streams and coun-try lanes.
all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reign-ing will.
time-less years the cos-mos hears the heaven-ly mu-sic run.
pres-ence here makes all things dear. Let joy-ful bells be rung!

The author's notes on this text describe it as a progression of awareness of God's reign among us—in physical surroundings, in the various stages of life, in time and space, and supremely in Christ, God with us.

Tune: TERRA BEATA S.M.D.
Traditional English melody
Adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

THIS SUNDAY, MAY 11 – BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

WORSHIP AT LONG'S PARK

8:30 a.m. Choir Practice

10:15 a.m. Fellowship Donuts & Coffee before the service

10:45 a.m. Service of the Word

MONDAY, MAY 12

5:30 p.m. UFM Yoga Class, Blachly Room

TUESDAY, MAY 13

11:30 a.m. Book Study, Zoom

12:15 p.m. UFM Yoga Class, Blachly Room

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

12:00 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Andover Hall

6:30 p.m. Side by Side rehearsal, Theatre

6:30 p.m. Board of Justice & Witness meeting, Zoom

7:00 p.m. Board of Facilities meeting, Andover Hall

7:00 p.m. Turning Point AA meeting, Andover Hall

THURSDAY, MAY 15

7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Andover Hall

FRIDAY, MAY 16

7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Andover Hall

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 18

8:30 a.m. Choir Practice

9:30 a.m. Last day of Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Service of the Word

12:00 p.m. Fellowship Hour

Ecumenical Campus Ministry at Kansas State University is a cooperative ministry supported by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the United Church of Christ, and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). For more information on ECM's activities and schedules, please visit us on Facebook (ECM at K-State) or at www.ksu.edu/ecm



*Join us on Facebook at
[facebook.com/uccmanhattanks](https://www.facebook.com/uccmanhattanks)*

Volunteers for Sunday, May 18

Greeter: Eiselein Family

Reading Scripture: Eiselein Family

Fellowship Host: Eiselein Family

Zoom Screen Sharer: Kerri Keller

Tech Team: Janet George

Visit
uccmanhattan.org/sign-ups
to volunteer.

Generosity Spotlight – This week we give thanks for...

those who help with snow removal in the winter. Not only do they shovel snow and spread ice melt on our sidewalks, ensuring our building is accessible not just for our congregation, but also for the many groups that use our building during the week. Thank you for using your time and energy to keep us all safe.

Thank you for Being the Church!

Staff Availability –

Please note that Pastor Caela will be primarily working from home this summer (mid-May to mid-August). She is still available for meetings via Zoom, on the phone, or in person. Please just reach out to her (pastor@uccmanhattan.org) to set up a meeting time.

Sandy will be away from the office May 15-30 as she works remotely while caring for a family member. During this time Sandy may take an extra day to return phone calls, but she will be monitoring email messages closely. She will continue to be on-site June - August and the office will be open regular hours (Monday-Friday, 9am-noon and 1-3pm).

Board of Mission Project – Are you feeling like you need to help others, but don't know where to start? Your Missions Committee has contacted local organizations to ask what they need. Believe it or not, we have a long list of local needs. Our committee decided to feature an organization each quarter and we will try to help fulfill the wish lists for our friends and neighbors.

Our first request comes from Indivisible MHK. They are challenging churches to help the Breadbasket and Common Table. These organizations are struggling to provide protein items, fruits, and vegetables. At this time, the Breadbasket can purchase a dozen eggs for \$0.52. We are going to use this egg theme to help track our donations. We have a box decorated with eggs for donations in the sanctuary or you can earmark Missions Egg Project on a check or online. We have a basket located in the lobby with plastic eggs. For every \$10 donated we place a plastic egg in our basket. That \$10 will allow the Breadbasket to purchase 19 dozen eggs. (Of course they can purchase whatever they need with the money, but we thought it would be a fun way to track our progress.)

The Graduation season has arrived! – We would like to recognize all our graduates. If you are graduating or have a family member who is soon to be a graduate: high school, college, technical college, graduate school, or any other, please let the office know soon so that we may properly honor our graduates. We would like to feature the accomplishments of our graduates in the June church newsletter. Drop off information at the church office or e-mail it to office@uccmanhattan.org by May 20th. Thank you!

Heartland Men's Chorus -- Heartland Men's Chorus of Kansas City
Concert: June 15, 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary at First Congregational UCC. Tickets available both online (givebutter.com/heartland) and from the office at FCUCC; tickets are \$20 each. If you're unable to attend but would like to donate a ticket for someone else to use, that would be very welcome. Ticket revenues will be shared by the Heartland Men's Chorus and Manhattan's True Colors Center. For more information, contact the church office. The concert is jointly sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, the Manhattan Mennonite Church, and First Congregational UCC.

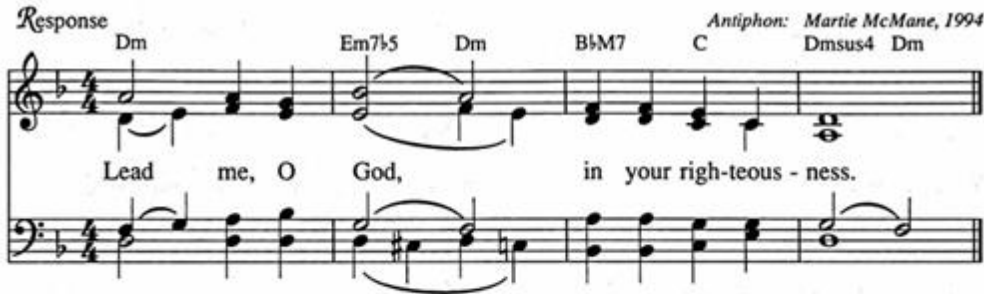
1 Kings 19:9-13

At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 10He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." 11He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; 12and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. 13When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

Psalm 5

Response

Antiphon: *Martie McMane, 1994*
Dmsus4 Dm



Lead me, O God, in your righteous-ness.

℞

¹Give ear to my words, O God;
give heed to my sighing.

²Listen to the sound of my cry,
my Sovereign and my God, for to
you I pray.

³O God, in the morning you hear
my voice;
in the morning I plead my case to
you, and watch.

⁴For you are not a God who delights
in wickedness;
evil will not sojourn with you. ℞

⁵The boastful will not stand before
your eyes;
you hate all evildoers.

⁶You destroy those who speak lies;
God abhors the bloodthirsty and
deceitful.

⁷But I, through the abundance of your
steadfast love, will enter your house,
I will bow down toward your holy
temple in awe of you.

⁸Lead me, O God, in your
righteousness because of my enemies;
make your way straight before me.

℞

(May be sung with double tone.)



First Congregational
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
uccmanhattan.org

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Lisa Tatonetti, Moderator
Sue Zschoche, Pastoral Associate
Brandy McDonald, Director of Children's Ministries
Sandy Nelson, Administrative Assistant

Gretchen Lewis, Music Coordinator
Mary Ellen Sutton, Organist
Alicia Santee-Davis, Pianist
Brent Maner, Treasurer
Jeff Keller, Financial Secretary
Campus Pastor, vacant