Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (Amos 5:24)
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 ----

Sanctuary Greeter: Julie Appino
Word for Children: Brandy McDonald
Zoom Sharer: Kerri Keller

Worship Leader: Sue Gerth
Reading Scripture: Judy Ahrens
Fellowship Host: Rachel Whetstone
Tech Team: Anne Fredrickson, Craig Weston
Gathering in the presence of God

Welcome

Gathering Music
Tower Chimes

Centering Music
Alicia Santee-Davis, piano

Called into God’s Presence

One: This is no ordinary place:
Many: This is the house of God.
One: This is the place where the prophets cry out for peace and justice and righteousness.
Many: It is the place where God reaches down into the corners of our lives, to offer us the mystery of holy love.
One: This is no ordinary gathering.
Many: This is no ordinary place: this is the house of God.

Celebrated God’s Presence, United Church of Canada

Hymn 391 (The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs.)
“In the Midst of New Dimensions” New Dimensions

Indicates all who are able, please stand.

Prayer of Confession

Many: Jesus, who sat at the table with outcasts and sinners, we confess that too often our words and actions are not consistent with our beliefs. Often we ignore the needy, show indifference to the lonely, and reject those who seem different from us. Forgive us, we pray. Empower us to reach out in love and acceptance. (Silence is kept for individual reflection and confession)
One: ...through Jesus Christ, our Ruler and Savior.
Many: Amen.

Words of Assurance

Many: Take comfort in the assurance that even those things that are hidden from memory, or are too deep for our words, are not beyond God’s forgiving love. God, who knows us completely, bestows pardon and peace.

Adapted from Celebrate God’s Presence)
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 worshiping 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

“I Woke Up This Morning”

I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Singing and praying with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Listening for our Still-speaking God

Word for Children

Children ages 3-1st grade are welcome to attend Kids Worship after the Word for Children. Children are walked up by staff/volunteer.

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 138 (Page 714 in The New Century Hymnal read responsively; all join in singing the refrain as indicated by the symbol R.)
Mark 3:20-21 (Second Testament page 35 in the pew Bible)

Sermon

Rev. Lorraine Ceniceros
United Church of Christ
Kansas-OKlahoma Conference Minister
**Responding** in hope and thanksgiving

✠ **Hymn 451** *(The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs.)*

“Be Now My Vision”

Slane

**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.*

Craig Weston, saxophone

Johnny Green

**Offertory**

“Body and Soul”

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav’nly host:

**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

Going Forth to be messengers of good news

✦ HYMN 394 (The New Century Hymnal located in pew backs.)
   “In Christ There is No East or West” McKee


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 (Sung two times)
   “Let Us Live in the Light”

Postlude

Permission to print the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-710121.
THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

THIS SUNDAY, JUNE 9
10:45 a.m. Service of the Word
12:00 noon Fellowship Hour
5:30 p.m. Blue Vista Party/Potluck with UUFM and Mennonite Church
6:00 p.m. Second Helping

MONDAY, JUNE 10
5:30 p.m. UFM Yoga Class, Blachly Room

TUESDAY, JUNE 11
12:15 p.m. UFM Yoga Class, Blachly Room

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12
12:00 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Conference Room
6:30 p.m. Board of Mission meeting, Conference Room
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, Blachly Room

THURSDAY, JUNE 13
7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Andover Hall

FRIDAY, JUNE 14
7:30 p.m. MOA Narcotics Anonymous meeting, Andover Hall

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 9
10:45 a.m. Service of the Word
12:00 noon Fellowship Hour
5:30 p.m. Blue Vista Party/Potluck with UUFM and Mennonite Church
6:00 p.m. Second Helping

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

Volunteers for Sunday, June 16
Greeter: Greg Eiselein
Reading Scripture: Judy Willingham
Fellowship Host: Linda Thurston
Zoom Screen Sharer: Kerri Keller
Tech Team: Anne Fredrickson, Craig Weston

Visit uccmanhattan.org/sign-ups to volunteer.
**Generosity Spotlight** – This week we give thanks for... our Board of Mission. This hardworking crew oversees everything related to our free community meal, the Second Helping, but that's not all! They also invite us to participate in the four special UCC offerings each year, keep tabs on the Blessing Box, share financial gifts with several local nonprofits, and make sure we're represented for our work with Common Table and ECM....and "other duties as assigned." Wow!
Thank you for Being the Church!

**Youth Group Summer Fun** – Calling all youth! Join us for these super fun Youth Group events this summer:

- **Sat, June 29:** Gardening at ECM, with Jack Sytsma and Christian Watkins. Meet at the ECM Building (904 Sunset Ave) for some awesome gardening activities followed by a delicious lunch.
- **Sat, Aug 10:** Bowling Party, with Greg Eiselein and Courtney Hochman. Meet at K-State Student Union bowling alley at noon for bowling and some mouthwatering pizza.

For more information or questions, contact Greg Eiselein, gregeiselein@mac.com or (785) 320-1221, anytime.

**Blue Vista Party/Potluck** – Sunday, June 9 • 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

On Sunday, June 9th from 5:30-8:30 we picnic with our Unitarian Universalist and Mennonite partners at Blue Vista (8399 Secrest Rd, Randolph, KS).

Bring a blanket or chair and a potluck dish to share—it’s a beautiful space on the lake with room for kids and adults to play lawn games and there will be live music, as well.

---

**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.
Summer Shared Worship — Once again, we will join our friends from Manhattan Mennonite Church and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship for 3 shared summer worship services. On these Sundays, we will all gather in ONE building and worship together. Here's the schedule for the remaining special services:
* June 30: shared worship at First Congregational
* July 28: shared worship at Manhattan Mennonite (1000 Fremont)
All services will be offered via Zoom.

Note: we regret that the Mennonite meetinghouse is not fully accessible. If you have specific questions about accessibility, please reach out to the church office.

Sabbatical Coverage — During Pastor Caela's sabbatical (May 1 - August 17) we have designated Ministers of Care who are on call to assist you with any pastoral care needs that might arise. If an urgent situation occurs outside our regular office hours, please contact the Minister of Care who is on call for assistance. Please note: you should leave a voicemail if they do not answer their phone, as many of us receive a high volume of spam calls and do not pick up when the number is unknown. The Minister of Care who is on call for the month of June is Kathy S., (618) 790-3174.

Handbell Choir — We're planning on an Interfaith Handbell Choir during our combined worship on June 30. If you're a regular ringer, or if you'd like to try ringing for the first time, please let Gretchen Lewis (gretchenlouise17@gmail.com) know of your interest. Rehearsal is Saturday morning, June 29, at 10:00 am, and Sunday morning, June 30, at 9:30 am.

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.
June 9, 2024  
Third Sunday after Pentecost  
“God’s Will”  
Mark 3:20-35

Jesus is teaching and preaching, telling stories, and inviting listeners to a new way of life. In the midst of the teaching, someone brings word that his mother, and his brothers are waiting outside.

Jesus responds to their presence with what seems like uncharacteristic harshness. “Who are my brothers and mother?” he asks, looking around at the gathered crowd. And he answers himself. It is not Mary and her sons who are his family, but his gathered family and friends.

It may be the first, but it certainly is not the last time that Christ followers are referred to as a family. Many congregations consider one another a family. Is your congregation one of these? What are some of the pitfalls and positives of calling your congregation a family?

First of all, consider the positives. A family at its best is a place of sanctuary, growth, humor, help, joy in its season, and a willingness to weep when grief comes. Some people find such a place in their families of origin. Others find this sanctuary in found families created in adulthood, including church congregations.

What about the pitfalls? Well, it can be difficult to enter a family with its many customs, rituals, inside jokes, and ideas that may take years for outsiders to understand. And, while healthy families are sanctuaries, families that are unhealthy can be containers for toxic secrets and even abuse. Third, the very intimacy that creates a sense of deep belonging in families can also create a sense of being suffocated or constrained into a particular role.

If your church community considers itself a family, this may be a good Sunday for conversation about what that might mean for you. What are the positives of you considering yourself a family? What are the challenges? What are the ways that you can nurture the intimacy of family and still be open and welcoming to outsiders?