

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

The Vision of First Church is to be an inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE—WE STRIVE FOR IT.

In the spirit of Jesus Christ, First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins commits to offering a community in which persons of diverse age, color, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity, economic status, and physical or mental ability are all welcomed and affirmed. To all who have known pain of exclusion or discrimination from church or in society, we seek forgiveness and offer a place of respite and welcome.

IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH and would like more information, please ask one of our greeters or ushers or visit the **Welcome Center**. They can direct you to classrooms, nursery, restrooms, food, and fellowship, as well as introduce you to our staff. We would be honored to get to know you better and learn about your life and spiritual needs. Our community may not know you yet, but we already love you and hope you will make this your spiritual home. Thank you for joining us today, and God bless you!

WEEKLY FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES—9:45 A.M.

Please sign your children in at the Children's Ministries check-in desk, south entrance, before the 9:30 a.m. worship service begins. Children join their parents/guardians for worship in the Sanctuary until the conclusion of Children's Time.

Then, parents of preschoolers escort their children to Room 121, and children grades K-5 meet outside the Sanctuary. The teachers will escort elementary children to their classrooms.

Parents, please pick your children up from their designated location following the service.



SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP: If you are a teen, we have something for YOU! Youth (grades 6-12) are welcome to participate in our Sunday Morning Youth Group that happens at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Join our Youth Director and leaders in the Youth basement for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth that are fun and relevant to students!

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT GROUPS—Please join us.

9:30 a.m. Samaritan Class—Parlor; Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)

11:00 a.m. Open Hearts Class—Village Commons

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please stand as you are able

Gathering Music *Do Lord* arr. John Gage
First Church Instrumental Ensemble

Welcome Dr. Melanie Rosa

Prelude *In the Garden* arr. Hamby
First Church Instrumental Ensemble
Allyssa Banister, *flute solo*

*Call to Worship 9:30 Rick Norton
11:00 Jerry Wiese

*Hymn of Praise *All Creatures of Our God and King, vs. 1-4* UMH #62

Chorus (9:30) *We Are Marching* TFWS #2235B
African Freedom Song

Children's Message Barb Grauberger

Chorus (9:30) *We Are Marching* TFWS #2235B
African Freedom Song

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Anthem *Every Time I Feel the Spirit* arr. Dawson
Sanctuary Choir

Offering Our Gifts to God Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Ways to give to First Church:

1. Give online at <https://fcumc.net/> or on the First UMC App (Click on Give).
2. Text to give 1 800 364 GIVE (4483) (Text Message FirstChurch).
3. Automatic draft through online giving.
4. Check or cash
(Every loose \$1 bill goes to those in need).

Offertory *The Mystery of Years* arr. Forrest
Sanctuary Choir

*Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH #94

Scripture Luke 6:17-26 9:30 Rick Norton
11:00 Jerry Wiese

Sermon "Unusual Blessings" Dr. Melanie Rosa

*Hymn of Dedication *Blest Are They* TFWS #2155

Benediction Dr. Melanie Rosa

Postlude *Praise to the Lord* Calvin Hampton

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION

Richard Hagen Community Lecture – VIRTUAL BEYOND POLARIZATION: MAKING OUR DIFFERENCES AN ASSET

Rev. Allen Hilton, PhD: Politics is everywhere in our time. Mostly it divides us, so we operate in tribal echo chambers. Imagine left, right, and middle talking and listening to one another long enough to discover that our differences actually helps us. It's hard, it's risky, and it may just be worth it!



Tuesday, March 1, 2022

7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Register: visit www.fcumc.net



Save the Dates

3/2-4/13-The Lenten Journey for kids. This class is for Kindergarten-5th grade. Each Wednesday evening we will participate in an activity in preparation for Lent. New activities this year! Space will be limited. To sign up, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090c49aaab22a7fc1-lenten1>

6/6-6/10-Vacation Bible School from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The theme this year is Food Truck Party! Before you fill up your Summer calendar, make sure you block out this week. Your kids will not want to miss it. Look for information regarding registration, coming soon.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



SO, HOW ARE THOSE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS GOING? If you are like most people, maybe not so well. Here is one resolution you can make that goes WAY beyond yourself, and can even save a life (or more) in the process. February 14th is National Donor Day. Donor of what? Glad you asked! You can donate blood or plasma on a regular basis. You can donate a kidney and help save a life. You can choose to donate organs and tissues after you die and save a number of lives. For more information, read: <https://www.organdonor.gov/> Or Google "Where can I donate blood or plasma in Larimer County." Donna Newkirk, Faith Community Nurse (970) 744-8812/D.NewkirkANP@gmail.com

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS 9:30 a.m. Sarah Johnson, Joe Ahlbrandt, Jeff Johnson
11:00 a.m. Daphne Bear, Bonny Thomas

9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Robert Kiser

ALTAR FLOWERS: The altar flowers are given by Sandra Stille. "Happy Valentine's Day—Love one another."

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR HEALTH: We at First Church are vigilant about protecting all who enter our building from the spread of illness in light of the coronavirus. We take your wellness seriously and will do all in our power to minimize any risk of infection or transmission. Please wear a mask and maintain safe practices. Thank you.



This morning we celebrate David Reid's 10-year ministry at First Church as Director of Adult Faith Formation and NoCo Faith Library before he transitions to his new calling, passion, and role in Community Organizing. A cake reception to honor David Reid will be held between worship services in the Fellowship Hall. Although David Reid will continue to be on staff and around at First Church, it is important to celebrate and thank David for his commitment, dedication, and a job so well done for the last decade.

MUSIC IN WORSHIP TODAY

The music chosen for worship today, in addition to settings of familiar Children's songs and hymn tunes played by the instrumental ensemble, also includes one Negro Spiritual sung by the Sanctuary Choir, "Every Time I Feel the Spirit." The roots of this spiritual may be found in the antebellum south, prior to the Civil War. The enslaved Africans could not conceive of a God who could not be felt. It is this feeling of the spirit of God that is conveyed so powerfully in this spiritual. Not unlike most spirituals, "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" also alludes to hope of a brighter day in Jordan or the afterlife. We sing this music in recognition of the injustice done to those who were brought to this country in slave ships, and to their descendants who continue to suffer injustice, both openly and covertly.



Shrove Tuesday

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

Tuesday, March 1st 5:30-7:00 PM

Join us in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate Shrove Tuesday! Our youth will be serving pancakes and more to help raise funds for summer mission trips. Stick around for a cake walk, crafts for kids, and good music. Your free will offering will help our students participate in a life changing mission trip this summer!

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Pastors

Dr. Melanie Rosa, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Cynthia Paquette, *Executive Pastor*

Music Staff

David Adkins, *Director of Music Ministries & Communications*
Dr. Joel Bacon, *Organist/Artist in Residence*
Brenna Martin, *Children's Choir Coordinator*
Abigale Gilson, *Children's Choir Director*
Karen Stoody, *Organist Emeritus*

Program Staff

Barb Grauberger, *Director of Children and Family Ministries*
Victoria Burkett, *Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
David Reid, *Director of Adult Faith Formation & Library*
Laurie Elliott, *Childcare Coordinator*
Liza Judd-Salimbeni, *Kids' Closet Coordinator*
Kelly Boettger, *Director of Preschool*
Gail Farnum, *Director of Parent's Day Out*

Administrative and Facilities Staff

Jim Doser, *Worship Technology Lead*
Nathan Abrahamson, *Worship Technology Assistant*
Shelley Nelson, *Administrative & Communications Assistant*
Sauna Bjork, *Accountant*
Julie Iven, *Financial Secretary*
Gail Wells, *Membership Secretary & Volunteer Coordinator*
Henry Reyna, *Facilities Manager*
Jake Kinner, *Custodian*
Max Reyes, *Custodian*
Michael Shestak, *Custodian, Sunday Hospitality Coordinator*

Coming Next Week: February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
Transfiguration Sunday
"Solitude and Our Souls"
Mark 6: Selected Verses

FIRST United Methodist CHURCH

1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524

(970) 482-2436

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 13, 2022 "Unusual Blessings"



You are most welcome at First Church.

We are a fully inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

Sunday Worship Services are at 9:30 and 11:00.
There are many opportunities for spiritual growth and connection for all ages.

Thank you for joining us today!