

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	<i>Chaconne in E minor</i>	Dieterich Buxtehude
Welcome		Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Prelude	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	Samuel Adler
Introit	<i>All Things Bright and Beautiful</i> Children’s Choirs	Vicki Hancock Wright
*Call to Worship		9:30 Sandy Merriweather 11:00 Cindi Ross-Bell
*Hymn of Praise	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	UMH #529
Chorus (9:30)	<i>We Are Marching</i> African Freedom Song	TFWS #2235B
Children’s Message		Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30)	<i>We Are Marching</i> African Freedom Song	TFWS #2235B
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer		Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Anthem	<i>Soon-Ah Will be Done</i> Sanctuary Choir	arr. Dawson
Offering Our Gifts to God		Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Ways to give to First Church: 1. Give online at https://fcfmc.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	<i>City Called Heaven</i> First Church Singers	arr. Poelinitz
*Doxology	<i>Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH #94
Scripture	Mark 6: Selected Verses	9:30 Sandy Merriweather 11:00 Cindi Ross-Bell
Sermon	“Rest for the Soul”	Rev. Cynthia Paquette
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>Be Still My Soul</i>	UMH #534
Benediction		Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Postlude	<i>Postlude in D minor</i>	Anton Bruckner

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 help 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.fcfmc.net

Lent is a good time to reflect and here are three ways to do so:

- First Church member Stephanie Matthews will lead a study of Kate Bowler’s book, *No Cure for Being Human (And Other Truths I Need to Hear)*, at noon in person and at 7 p.m. online for four Mondays during Lent. Class sessions are scheduled for March 21 and 28 and April 4 and 11. Books are \$23 and available to order at the Adult Faith Formation table.
- Join the Open Hearts class for a video discussion study of Amy-Jill Levine’s *Witness at the Cross*. The study starts at 11 a.m. March 6 and runs 5:30-6:45 p.m. for six Sundays beginning March 6.
- “Just Love: Live in Faith, Act with Courage, Work for Justice” is a six-week online offering of the Mountain Sky Conference. Look for “Just Love 2022 Lenten Series” at www.mtnskyumc.org to register.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE



So, did you do like I suggested and schedule your eye visit last month? If you didn’t, here’s another good reason to do so. February is National Age-Related Macular Degeneration/Low Vision Awareness Month. Macular degeneration is another eye disease that can damage your retina and steal your vision. For more information, read the following from the American Academy of

Ophthalmology at: <https://www.aao.org/eye-health/diseases/amd-macular-degeneration>.
Donna Newkirk, Faith Community Nurse
(970) 744-8812/D.NewkirkANP@gmail.com

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS 9:30 a.m. David Rubenthaler, Christi Bickley, Dana Sampson
11:00 a.m. Peter Stackhouse, Karen Knuckey

9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Susan Massa

ALTAR FLOWERS: The altar flowers are donated by Bill and Jan Whitaker.

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.



Our church is exploring ways that we can discern God's calling in the coming months. As a part of our Discipleship as a church, we want to identify ways to reach new people and help address some of the greatest needs in our community. To that end, we need your input! Please take 15 minutes to complete this survey. Your input is very important to us, and will help us to identify future ministry opportunities. Log into the site below and enter the Survey Code. You do not need a Pin number. Thank you!

<https://app.readiness360.org/survey/login>

Survey code: 5115144582



MUSIC IN WORSHIP TODAY

The music chosen for worship today includes two pieces of choral music in recognition of Black History Month. The first, "Soon-ah Will Be Done" comes from the genre of Negro Spirituals. The original tune and text were sung by slaves in the deep south in hope of a better day to come. The second is a selection of African American gospel music. Although written in the style reminiscent of a spiritual, it does not date back to the time of slavery, and thus is not truly a Negro Spiritual. No less powerful, it tells a more recent story of suffering, injustice, and racism inflicted upon the African American population. *City Called Heaven* was premiered by the All-City Youth Chorus of the Chicago Public Schools under the direction of the composer, Josephine Poelinitz. She later composed the arrangement we are singing today.



The **Emergency Assistance Fund Committee** is available to provide financial assistance to members and constituents with urgent needs pertaining to: food, housing, utilities, health, and transportation. The EAF committee is composed of five church members who administer the funds and are knowledgeable about community programs in Fort Collins and Larimer County. Those needing assistance can contact the EAF committee through one of the pastors or by calling the EAF phone number at 970-494-5960. Information shared with the committee is confidential.

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 27, 2022

Eighth Sunday after Epiphany

Transfiguration Sunday

"From Emptiness to Wholeness"

Luke 9:28-36



1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524

(970) 482-2436

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022

"Rest for the Soul"



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!