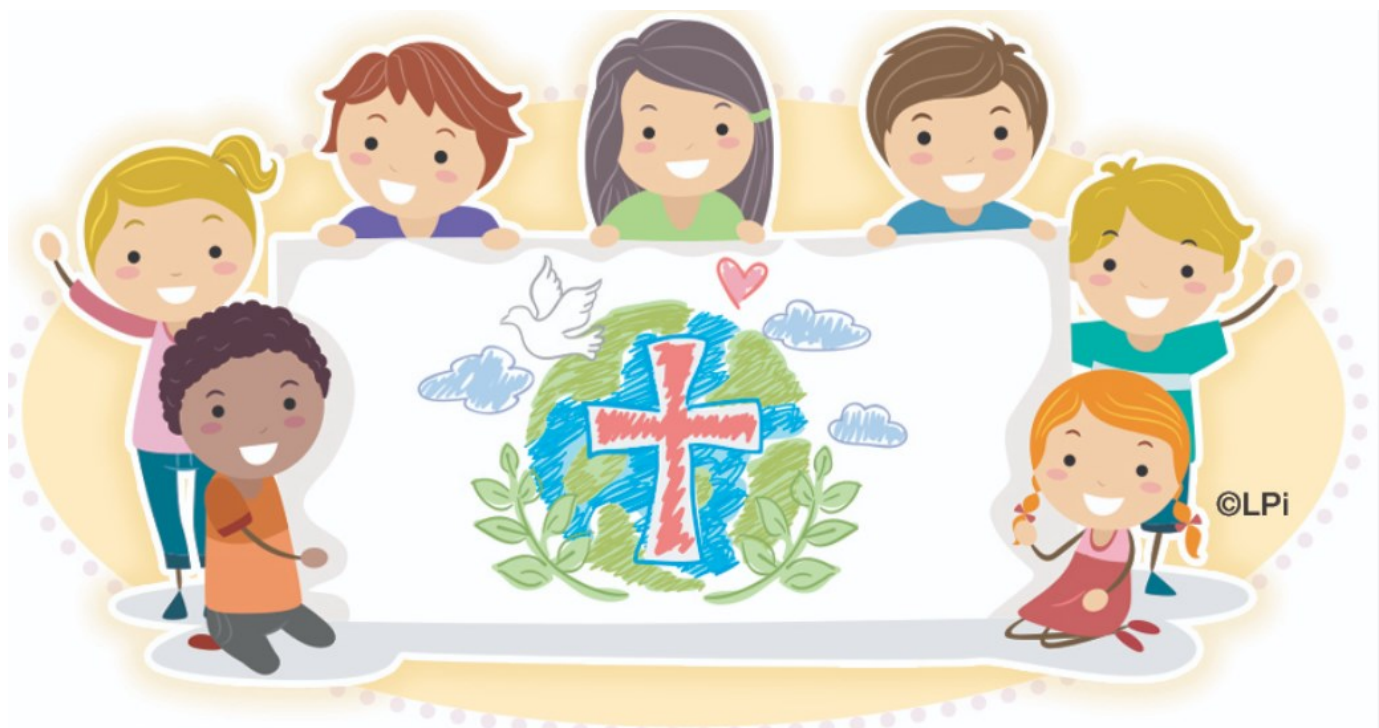


First Congregational Church

Gathered in 1723

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the
United Church of Christ



June 4th, 2023

Deacon's Quote of the Day

*"Train up a child in the way he should go - but be sure you go that way yourself."
Charles Spurgeon*

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PRELUDE

“Andantino” by F. J. Haydn

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, DEACON’S GREETING &
*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Drea DelDotto Bordage

PASTORAL GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dylan DelDotto Bordage

One: Jesus taught people everywhere about God.

Many: Jesus’ teachings were different from what people had heard before. This made people curious about what Jesus had to say!

One: Jesus said, “If someone hurts you, don’t hurt them back.

Many: Wow, that was different!

One: Then Jesus said, “Remember to share what you have with other people”. Jesus had the people thinking.

Many: Then Jesus said a very important thing. “Everyone says, ‘Love your friends and hate your enemies.’ I say love your enemies and pray for people who are mean to you. This is what really makes God happy!”

One: The things Jesus said changed the way people thought about treating others.

***HYMN**

“Little Children Welcome” (NCH 323)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Annabelle Simpson

God made the world and intended it to be a good place for all people. God called us children and came in Christ to bring the best out of us. But because confusion can overtake us despite our faith, because anger, tension, bitterness and envy can distort our vision, because our minds sometimes blow small things out of proportion, we do not allow ourselves to do what God expects of us.

UNISON CONFESSION

Lord, hear our prayers and forgive us when we do not act like your children. Help us to love one another as you have loved us. Help us to know right from wrong and to remember you in our daily thoughts and deeds. Strengthen our faith and our actions so that we show your love to the world.

GOD’S FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news– Goodness is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies. Hope is stronger than fear. God is stronger than our weakness. God loves us, we are forgiven and empowered for service. Amen!

CHIMERS

“Amazing Grace” by J. Newton

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANTHEM “Do You Know Who Made the Day?” by E. Shields & H. Hopson

SCRIPTURE

The Creation Story

Madeline Kilgore & Dylan DelDotto Bordage

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Praise to God Immortal Praise” by A. Barbault & F. Williams

SERMON

Youth Group Members

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

One: Gather us in, the lost and lonely, the broken and breaking, the tired and the aching who long for the nourishment found at your feast.

Many: Gather us in, the done and the doubting, the wishing and wondering, the puzzled and pondering, who long for the company found at your feast.

One: Gather us in, the proud and the pretentious, the sure and the superior, the never inferior, who long for the levelling found at your feast.

Many: Gather us in, the bright and the bustling, the stirrers, the shakers, the kind laughter makers who long for the deeper joys found at your feast.

One: Gather us in from corner or limelight, from mansion or campsite, from fears and obsession, from tears and depression, from untold excesses, from treasured successes, to meet, to eat, to be given a seat, to be joined to the vine, be offered new wine, become like the least, be found at the feast.

THE HOLY STORY

BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS

SHARING OF THE HOLY MEAL

The Deacons will pass plates of bread and juice. The small self-contained single servings included on the bread tray are gluten-free. Please take the elements as they are passed to you and eat of them once everyone has been served as a symbol of our unity in Christ. FCC celebrates an open table, all are invited to are in this meal.

***HYMN** "All Things Bright and Beautiful" (*Pilgrim 478*)

RECOGNITION OF KIDZONE VOLUNTEERS

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES & SCHOLARSHIPS

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER— PRESENTED BY THE CHILDREN

Penny Detrick & Abigail Fialkow

CALL TO OFFERING

Chayce Couture

Jesus fed 5,000, but he could only do so after a small child brought forth loaves and fish to share. May we learn from this example and bring forth our offerings to be shared by others.

OFFERTORY "Communion Hymn" by D. Buck

***DOXOLOGY** Tune: Lasst uns erfreuen

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jesus teaches us that our gifts grow as we share with others. We ask God to bless these offerings so like the loaves and fishes, they may be multiplied and used for the benefit of all. Amen.

***HYMN** "In Christ There is No East or West" (*NCH 394*)

BENEDICTION

Madeline Lallier

HYMN "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (*Pilgrim 272 vs. 1*)

POSTLUDE "Children of the Heavenly Father" by E. Broughton

** Please stand if you are able*

***Liturgy adapted from Led by Love, Worship Resources for Year A, Lavon Bayler. Today's communion liturgy comes from the Iona Community, Wee Book of Worship.*

The Senior Minister is Rev. Holly MillerShank.

The Director of Music is Curtis Smith.

The Deacon is Scotty Robertson.

*The Readers are Madeline Kilgore &
Dylan DelDotto Bordage.*

The Acolyte is Chayce Couture.

*The Greeters are Deb DelDotto, and
Dylan & Drea DelDotto Bordage.*

*The altar flowers this morning are given to the glory of
God by Bill Davis in memory of
Wendell T. & Betty D. David, his parents,
and his late wife, Annette.*

NO KIDZONE (SUNDAY SCHOOL) TODAY!
ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO REMAIN
IN THE SERVICE.
HOWEVER, NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE.



Give Online



"Like Us" on Facebook

Correction from Sabina: Last week's bulletin omitted the names of Holly, Jonathan and Corrina MillerShank in the list of new members. I deeply apologize. Welcome to ALL new members!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Helen McLaughlin, Jean Folsom, Rosemary Horesta, Rita, Anna, Norma Garcia's sister, Patricia, Roberta Jelinch's sister, Sandi, Jan Smith, Ed and Betsy Giles, Donald Gray, Wendy Ziesemann's sister, Tamara, Rebecca and Jennifer MacKenzie, Barbara Harlow, Bonnie Gibbs, Wendy and Tom, Lisa DiPilato, Florence Stowe.

The people of Ukraine, Sudan, and other countries in our world dealing with war & unrest.

The people of Turkey and Syria.

The mission & works of the First Congregational Church of Shrewsbury.

Those within our church family and all faith communities and beyond, who are dealing with illness, caregiving, grief, mental health, unemployment, hunger, and homelessness in their daily lives.

Also, government officials, first responders, health care workers, military personnel, and all who protect and care for us.

For the end of gun violence, and the families and friends of the victims of the 203 mass shootings since January of this year.

THIS WEEK'S AT FCC

Every morning, 7am: AA, Cushing Hall

Sunday, 06/04:

- 9:30am: Worship Service—**CHILDREN Sunday!**
- **2:00pm-3:30pm: Open House and Tours of the church!**

- 5pm: Middle School Youth Group
- 6pm: Confirmation Class
- 7pm: Youth Group
- 7pm: AA, Adkins Room

Monday, 06/05:

- 10:30am: Parkinson's Chorus, Gifford Hall

Tuesday, 06/06:

- 7pm: Financial Sustainability Committee, Adkins Room

Wednesday, 06/07:

- 7pm: Youth Ministry meeting, Youth Room

Thursday, 06/08:

- 7:15pm: Senior Choir, Choir Room

Friday, 06/09:

- Office Closed

Saturday, 06/10:

- **1pm: Combined tour of the Sumner House and the Shrewsbury Historical Society**

Sunday, 06/11:

- 9:30am: Worship Service—**300th Anniversary Open and Affirming Celebration - Reception to follow.** Last day of Sunday School!
- 6pm: Confirmation Class
- 7pm: Youth Group Meeting
- 7pm, AA, Adkins Room