



Sixteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

September 9, 2018

First Congregational
Church *of* Wilmette

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



**First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Wilmette, Illinois**

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 9, 2018

10:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

“Prelude and Fugue in C Major” (BWV 553)

J. S. Bach

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Blessed be the Holy Trinity.

Lectern: The one who fashions us.

Pulpit: The one who heals us.

All: The one who reforms us, again and again. Amen.

—From *Sundays and Seasons, Year B*

INTROIT

“Be Joyful in the Lord”

Hopson

+HYMN

“God Is Here! As We Your People Meet”

NCH 70

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Let us confess our sin, calling on God’s transforming power.

A brief time of silence for personal reflection ensues.

All: Source of all life,

we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.

We fear that we are not good enough.

We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.

We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.

Forgive us and reform us to be a church powered by love,

willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,

and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: God sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who are always being made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

All: Amen.

—From *Sundays and Seasons, Year B*

CALL TO PRAISE

Leader: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: And our mouths shall show forth thy praise.

Leader: Praise be to God!

People: God's name be praised!

+GLORIA

Glory to the Creator and to the Christ and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

ANTHEM

"Come to the Feast"

Beall and Harlan
Lyrics: Page 4

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God,
In the reading of the scripture, may your word be heard;
In the meditations of our hearts, may your word be known;
In the faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

† Isaiah 35:4-7a – *Be Strong, Do Not Fear!*

OT p. 811

† Psalm 146 (Chanted by Choir with Sung Congregational Refrain)

Page 4

† James 2:1-10 – *Mercy Triumphs over Judgement*

NT p. 278

† Mark 7:31-37 – *Be Opened!*

NT p. 52

You are invited to read along in the Pew Bible.

GOSPEL RESPONSE

"Alleluia"

Page 5

SERMON

"Be Open!"

Dr. VanSlyke

MORNING PRAYERS

Call to Prayer

Leader: God be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

The Lord’s Prayer (debts/debtors)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

“Be Still and Know”

Page 5

OFFERING OUR TITHES, GIFTS, AND SELVES

Offertory

“Sarabande”

Hegarty

+The Doxology

Old Hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Insert

+HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Page 8

+BENEDICTION

May God bless you and keep you.
May God’s face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
May God look upon you with kindness and bring you peace,
This day and forevermore.
Amen.

—Numbers 6:24-26

POSTLUDE

“Praise to the Lord”

arr. Broughton

+ indicates those who are able may stand. NCH indicates *The New Century Hymnal*.
OT indicates Old Testament. NT indicates New Testament.

Lyrics to the Anthem

“Come to the Feast”

Words by Mary Kay Beall

Music by Benjamin Harlan

Come to the feast, you are welcome to share.
Come to the feast, Christ the Lord will be there.
Come if you're hungry and you will be fed.
Come to the table of grace.

Come to the feast, come and answer the call.
Come to the feast, bread and wine for us all.
Come for forgiveness and you will find peace.
Come to the table of grace.

Come break the bread, come lift the cup.
Come take your place as His child.

Come to the feast in the name of the Lord.
Come to the feast in His name be restored.
Come to remember He suffered and died.
Come to the table of grace.

Come to His table of grace.

Psalm 146



Psalms for the Revised Common Lectionary— Michel Guimont

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ALLELUIA

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Norah Duncan IV, © 1987, GIA Publications, Inc.
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Be Still and Know

Be still and know that I am God AND

THERE IS NONE BE-SIDE ME. BE STILL AND KNOW THAT

I AM GOD, AND THERE IS NONE BE-SIDE ME.

Words: from Psalm 46 and the Gospels

Music: John L. Bell

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As the Deer

Unison

1 As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
 2 I want you more than gold or sil - ver, on - ly
 3 You're my friend and you are my broth - er, e - ven

soul longs af - ter you; you a - lone are my
 you can sat - is - fy; you a - lone are the
 though you are a king; I love you more than

heart's de - sire and I long to wor - ship you.
 real joy-giv - er and the ap - ple of my eye.
 an - y oth - er, so much more than an - y - thing!

Refrain

You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone may my

spir - it yield. You a - lone are my

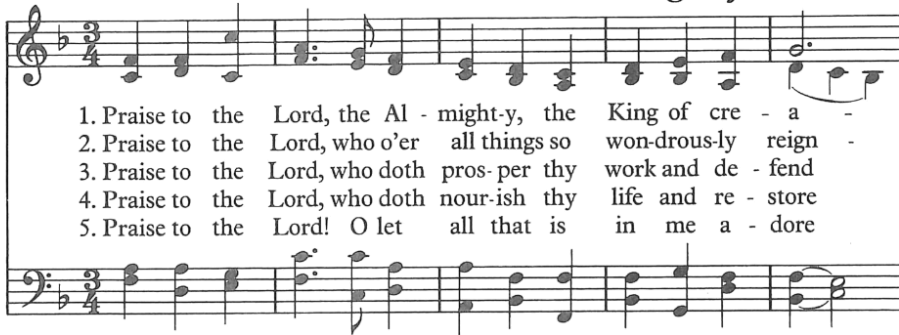
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

WORDS and MUSIC: Martin Nystrom (1956-), alt.

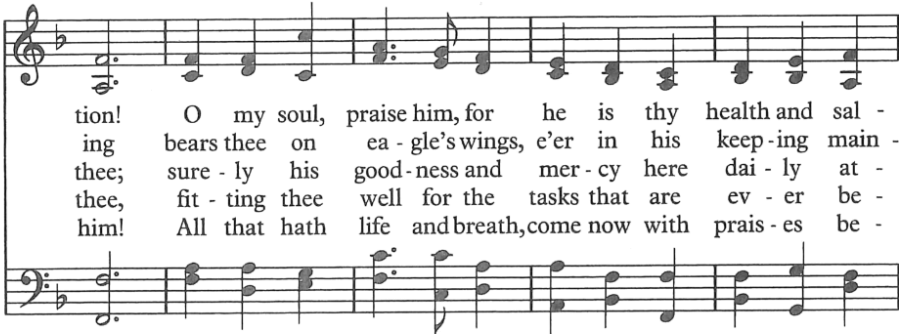
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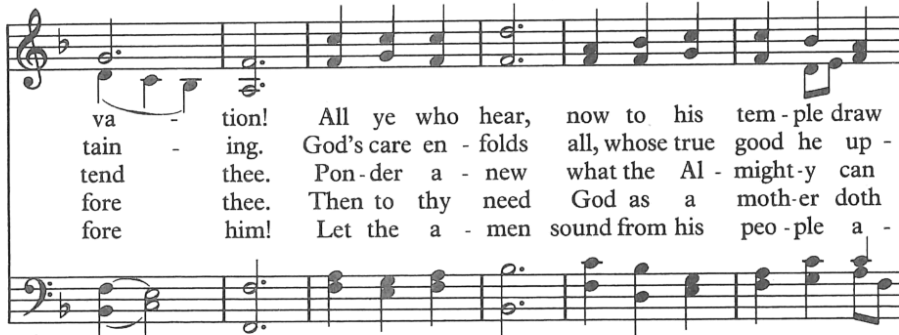
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



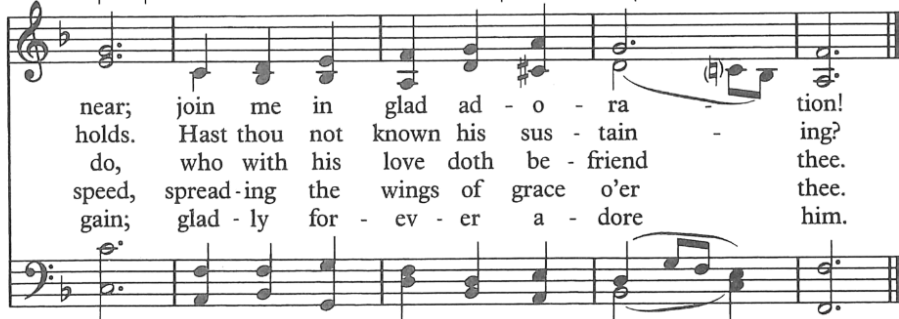
1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might-y, the King of cre - a -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign -
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de - fend
 4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nour-ish thy life and re - store
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore



tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal -
 ing bears thee on ea - gle's wings, e'er in his keep-ing main -
 thee; sure - ly his good-ness and mer-cy here dai - ly at -
 thee, fit - ting thee well for the tasks that are ev - er be -
 him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be -



va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his tem-ple draw
 tain - ing. God's care en - folds all, whose true good he up -
 tend thee. Pon-der a - new what the Al - might-y can
 fore thee. Then to thy need God as a moth-er doth
 fore him! Let the a - men sound from his peo-ple a -



near; join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 holds. Hast thou not known his sus - tain - ing?
 do, who with his love doth be - friend thee.
 speed, spread-ing the wings of grace o'er thee.
 gain; glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him.

WORDS: Joachim Neander, 1680; sts. 1, 3, 5 trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1863
 st. 2 by S. Paul Schilling, 1986; st. 4 by Rupert E. Davies, 1983 (Ps. 103:1-6; 150)
 MUSIC: *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*, 1665; harm. by William Sterndale Bennett, 1864

LOBE DEN HERREN
 14 14.478

Sunday, September 9, 2018

Welcome to the First Congregational Church of Wilmette! We are so glad that you are here to worship with us! We are part of the United Church of Christ, www.ucc.org, and we come with our faith and our doubts to worship, learn, and serve together. If you would like to learn more about the church, please check out the visitor information card in your pew, and provide us with your name, address, and/or email so that we can be in contact with you. There is a gender-neutral, accessible restroom and a baby changing station near the Sanctuary. Please ask an usher for directions.

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Dr. Stephanie VanSlyke

Presider: Dr. Jason Okrzynski

Musician: Mr. Kurt Mockenhaupt

Sunday Servers	Sunday, September 9	Sunday, September 16
Ushers	John Flanagan (HU); Dave Chapman	Neil Ferrari (HU); Dave Chapman
Worship Greeter(s)	Andrew Stewart	Gretchen Alexander
Coffee Hour	Jan & Don Klingberg; Melanie Mallin & Bill Loumpouridis	Mary Smoley; Suzanne & Keith Ross
Communion Table	FCCW Staff	Jan Klingberg
Communion Bread	Mary Fulton	N/A
Counter	Bill Ieuter	Dave Chapman



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, September 9 – Rally Day

- 9:15 a.m. – Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:45-11:20 a.m. – Nursery Care (Nursery)
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. – Godly Play I Class (Good Shepherd Room)
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. – Godly Play II Class (Creation Room)
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. – Kairos Class (Upper Room)
- 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service with Holy Communion (Sanctuary)
- 11:15 a.m. – Luncheon (Dining Room or Church Lawn)
- 11:30 a.m. – Sandwich Making for Connections (Downstairs Kitchen)

Tuesday, September 11

- 6:30 p.m. – Mary Supper (Home of Kirsten Haake & Susan Hodges)

Wednesday, September 12

- 4:30 p.m. – Kids Club (Creation Room)
- 6:00 p.m. – Confirmation Upper Room
- 7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Thursday, September 13

- 10:00 a.m. – Contemplative Prayer (Stephanie's Office)
- 7:30 p.m. – Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Music Room)

Sunday, September 16

- 9:15 a.m. – Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 9:45-11:20 a.m. – Nursery Care (Nursery)
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. – Godly Play I Class (Good Shepherd Room)
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. – Godly Play II Class (Creation Room)
- 9:45-11:15 a.m. – Kairos Class (Upper Room)
- 10:00 a.m. – Worship Service (Sanctuary)
- 11:15 a.m. – Coffee Hour (Pilgrim Hall)

Children's Spiritual Formation



Sunday, September 9

9:45-11:20 a.m. – Nursery Care (Nursery)

9:45-11:15 a.m. – Godly Play I Class (Good Shepherd Room)

9:45-11:15 a.m. – Godly Play II Class (Creation Room)

9:45 a.m. – Kairos Class (Upper Room)

The Godly Play II (K-2nd Grade) will come to the Sanctuary with their teacher to participate in Holy Communion on Communion Sundays. The class always begins in the Creation Room each Sunday morning.

Kairos Class (3rd-4th Grade) students participate in this faith exploration class programmed for their specific developmental and faith formation needs. This class follows the Godly Play format but uses content designed to engage, challenge, and nurture 3rd-4th graders' maturing needs, interests, and questions. The class will meet every Sunday and alternate between the class room and the real-life lab of congregational worship. On select Sundays of the month, the Kairos class will attend some or all of worship with their teachers, including on Holy Communion Sundays. The class always begins in the Upper Room each Sunday morning.

Kids Club for K - 5th Graders, *Wednesday Afternoons* (September 12)

4:30 p.m. – Kids Club (Creation Room/Pilgrim Hall)

Led by Jason Okrzynski and Stephanie VanSlyke



Kids Club is a simple program for kids in kindergarten to fifth grade; it is all about being together and having fun. Wednesday afternoons, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., elementary age students are invited and encouraged to come to FCCW to engage God and each other through singing, games, crafts, and snacks. Fun will be had.

***There is no Kids Club on Intergenerational Nights!**

Youth Spiritual Formation



Young people in 7th-12th grade attend participate in worship as ushers, greeters, and readers on a regular basis. They also serve as Church School Teachers, assistants, or nursery care staff.

Wednesday, September 12

6:00 p.m. – Confirmation Upper Room

The *Confirmation* program for 7th-8th graders takes place on **Wednesday nights at 6 p.m.** At FCCW, students in seventh and eighth grade are invited to participate in our Confirmation Class. This two-year-long curriculum covers Bible, Church History, History and Practice of the United Church of Christ, and spiritual disciplines. It culminates with the eighth graders publicly affirming the baptismal vows taken for them by their parents in the Rite of Confirmation. Confirmation Class is led by Pastor Jason Okrzynski.

Senior High Youth Group meets throughout the year for meals, fun, fellowship, retreats, and our annual Senior High Mission Trip to Edisto Island, South Carolina. Contact Pastor Jason Okrzynski for more information.

***There is no Confirmation Class on Intergenerational Nights.**

General Announcements

Rally Day!

Today, we celebrate the beginning of another year with our annual Rally Day celebration. This is always a joyous and festive time when we reunite together after the summer. We will celebrate our work with Connections for the Homeless and Curt's Café. The Nursery and Church School will resume their regular schedules, and the Chancel Choir will return as well. After worship, we will gather for a luncheon from Curt's Café, with children's games on the lawn.



Upcoming Author Talk



On **Thursday, September 20, at 3 p.m.**, Lynn Sloan, author of *Principles of Navigation*, will be at the church to discuss her book. She is a local Evanston resident, and she has agreed to meet with our book group and church members. All are welcome to attend, even if you have not attended book group in the past. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Kelleher at jen.kelleher2@gmail.com or 847-864-0763.

The Men's Group

The Men's group is led by Rev. Dr. David Hogue, and meets select Mondays at Hackney's Restaurant, 1514 E. Lake Avenue in Glenview, for dinner and conversation. **The first meeting of the year will be Monday, September 17, at 7:00 p.m.**



Dates for 2018-2019: September 17, October 15, November 12, January 14, February 11, March 18, April 15, & May 20

Interfaith Book Study & Lecture



Join us as we explore the teachings of Bruce Feiler on **Thursdays, October 4 and 11, from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** at FCCW. Reverend VanSlyke and Rabbi Gordon will lead two class sessions in anticipation of the visit and lecture of Bruce Feiler. Bruce Feiler is the author of *Walking the Bible*, *Abraham*, *Where God Was Born*, and many other books and articles. As our guest scholar on

Sunday, Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. at Sukkat Shalom, Feiler will speak on **KEEPING THE BIBLE ALIVE: What Two Decades Walking the Bible Taught Me About Life, Land, Love, and Camels**. We hope that you will join us for the study and the lecture. For more information, contact Pastor Stephanie.

Mary Supper

The Mary Supper is a monthly women's gathering led by Pastor Stephanie VanSlyke. The hostess assigns participants to bring a soup, salad, bread, dessert, or beverage. Over a shared meal, we also share spiritual conversation, prayers, and wisdom. The Mary Supper takes its name from the sisters Mary and Martha of Bethany in the Gospel of John, women who opened their home to Jesus and shared spiritual conversation with him.



The first gathering will be on **Tuesday, September 11, at 6:30 p.m.** Susan Hodges and Kirsten Haake will host. They live at 118 Lockerbie Lane in Wilmette. RSVP to hodgeswrites@gmail.com or 312-351-2373.

The next gathering will be on **Tuesday, October 9, at 6:30 p.m.** Paula Delehanty will host. She lives at 726 Carriage Hill Drive in Glenview. RSVP to pauladelehanty@gmail.com or 847-927-0987.

The third gathering will be on **Tuesday, November 13, at 6:30 p.m.** Melanie Mallin will host. She lives at 411 Maple Avenue in Wilmette. RSVP to melanie.mallin@gmail.com or 847-853-1990.

Dates for 2018-2019: September 11, October 9, November 13, December 11, January 8, February 12, March 12, April 9, & May 14

Service Opportunity: Connections Lunches

Our friends at Connections for the Homeless have re-opened their daytime drop-in center five days a week and need bag lunches for those served. FCCW has committed to making bag lunches twice a month. Please join us **after worship** in the church kitchen on the **second and fourth Sundays** of the month. We will provide the materials; you will provide the helping hands to make thirty sandwiches and bag thirty lunches! The next opportunity will be **today**!



Connections Requests



Our friends at Connections for the Homeless are in need of **men's/women's shoes, belts, and toiletries**. If you can donate these gently used/laundered or new items, we will gladly accept them in the Church Atrium. Thank You!

Check out their new Amazon Wishlist in the newsletter!

Supporting Refugee Families: Stocking the Shelves Continues!

Thank you to all who donate. Our congregations aim for a monthly distribution on the last Wednesday of each month, so keep your donations coming! We gladly continue to receive these items: paper towels, toilet paper, diapers (all sizes), hand lotion, body soap, body wash, toothpaste, shampoo, dishwashing soap, baby formula, and Ventra/public transportation cards.



Book Discussion Group



On **Thursday, September 20, at 3 p.m.**, FCCW's book group will meet in the Library. They will be discussing *Strong Poison* by Dorothy Sayers. This is an informal group, and all are welcome! No RSVP is needed. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Kelleher at jen.kelleher2@gmail.com or 847-864-0763.

Upcoming Dates/Books:

September 20: *Principles of Navigation* by Lynn Sloan

October 18: *Paul: A Biography* by N. T. Wright

Wilmette Food Pantry



For **September**, the pantry is requesting these items:

- 1.) Oatmeal (Any Size Container)
- 2.) Canned Chicken, Salmon, or Tuna (Any Size)

Any and all non-perishable healthy food donations are welcome and greatly appreciated! Feel free to contact Peg Kocian at 847-528-0632 with questions and/or concerns. Please place your items in the bin under the Atrium stairs. Thanks!

Musical Announcement

Upcoming Musical Events

Here are two upcoming musical events for you to put on your calendar(s):

- **Sunday, September 30, 4:00 p.m.** – The Agape Ringers, Chicago's premier handbell ensemble, will be giving a concert practically in your backyard at St. John UCC in Arlington Heights. This is one of the last concerts with David Weck directing us (he is retiring after our *Sounds of the Season* concert in December). For complete details, please visit our website: www.AgapeRingers.org.
- **Sunday, October 14, 4:00 p.m.** – To celebrate the completion of 20 years of service at FCCW, Kurt is giving an organ recital. It will be a mixture of standard organ literature, as well as hymn arrangements and other surprises, encompassing pieces from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Modern eras. You will not want to miss it!

Mission Statement

The First Congregational Church of Wilmette

Welcomes everyone to Christ's table,
Nurtures people's minds & souls on their spiritual journeys,
Learns across faiths & generations,
Serves God's vision of peace & well-being for all creation,
Practices compassion & service as a way of life.

Adopted: January 26, 2014

Our Church Staff

Stephanie VanSlyke, M.Div., Ph.D., Senior Pastor
svanslyke@fccw.org

Jason Okrzynski, M.Div., Ph.D.,
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David Hogue, M.Div., Ph.D., Men's Ministry Facilitator
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Kurt Mockenhaupt, B.M., Director of Music
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Daniel Smith, M.T.S., M.A., Church Administrator
dsmith@fccw.org

Louis Rice and Fred Henry, Custodians

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