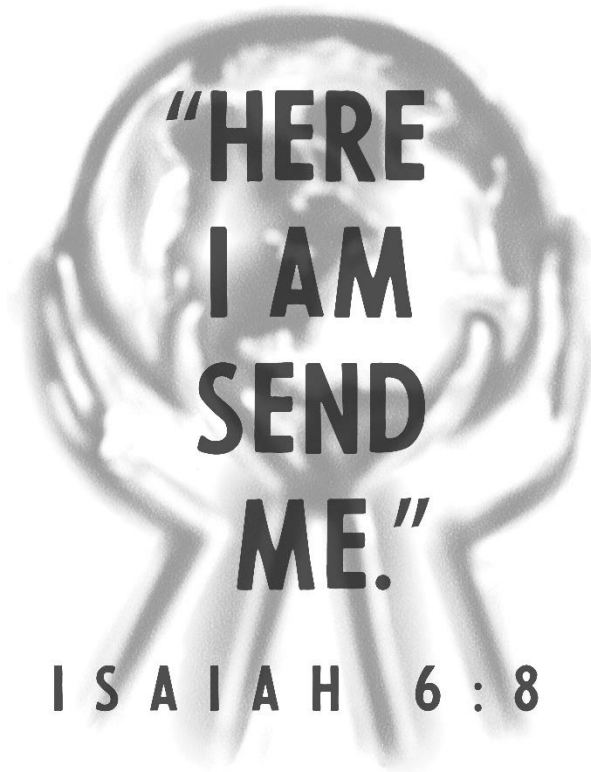


October 13, 2024 11:00 a.m.

First Congregational UCC ~ Sarasota



1031 S. Euclid Ave. Sarasota, FL 34237 ~ (941) 953-7044

www.uccsarasota.com

Flowers given by: **Jeff and Sandy Smith** in honor and celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary on October 18th.

PRELUDE

***SUNG CALL to WORSHIP**

As Isaiah encountered and experienced the Eternal in worship, transforming his life, so we sing ourselves into this time of worship:

I Woke Up This Morning

#85

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

Gather Us In (vs. 1 & 4)

Here in this place, the new light is streaming; now is the darkness vanished away; see in this place our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, in the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we will shall awaken; we shall arise at the sound of our name.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away: here in this place the new light is shining; now is the kingdom, and now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Holy, holy, holy God, we join with the messengers of Your love who sang to Isaiah changing and commissioning his life. Here we are in these difficult days trying to pick up the pieces after the storm. Our hearts are broken for those who are grieving the death of a loved one, loss of houses, businesses, and our lives turned upside down. O God, help us in these days, to sense Your strength sustaining us and Your love saturating and soaking us. We need You this hour and every hour. We pray that like Isaiah, who lived in a time of tumult and trial, in these days we might listen for Your call to be Your people now. In the strong name of the One who is the light to the world, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***RESPONSE**

Not My Brother, nor My Sister

#519

Not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; not my brother, nor my sister, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.

Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; Not the preacher, nor the deacon, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.

Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; Not my father, nor my mother, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.

Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; Not the stranger, nor my neighbor, but it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer; It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer. It's me, it's me, it's me, O God, standing in the need of prayer.

PAUSE to BREATHE and BE

Inhale: My frustratingly tender heart

Exhale: is not a problem to solve.

ENGAGING SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

SERMON

Who? Me??

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

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.

OFFERING/ANTHEM

Here I am, Lord

Craig Courtney/Dan Schutte

*DOXOLOGY/PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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

*CLOSING HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy

#277

Holy, holy, holy, God the Almighty! Early in the morning we praise your majesty. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Saints adore you truly, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim bow before you only, From the beginning, God eternally.

Holy, holy, holy! Though we know you dimly, Through the eyes of humankind your glory may not see, You alone are holy, you alone are worthy, Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! God the Almighty! All your works shall praise your name in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed in Trinity!

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ October 13, 2024

We are delighted to welcome **Stephen Fancher** as our guest choir conductor and organist.

Drumming as a Spiritual Practice meets the first and third Tuesday in the **Chapel**. Our next meeting is on **Tues 10/15 at 3:00pm**. **New drummers are welcome**; drums are provided.

You are invited on October 16 at 1 p.m. to join the Brady Program and the National council of Jewish Women host Po Murray, Co-founder and Chairwoman of the New Action Alliance/ Newtown Action Alliance Foundation. This will be hosted in the sanctuary.

On Wednesday, October 16 at 4:00pm we will have the first **Singing Our Prayers** gathering in our beautiful glass-stained Chapel led by **Greg Chestnut**. We will sing simple prayers for the people interspersed with silence, meditation and poetry in a sacred space. The Prayer Circle invites you to be a part of it and bring along others for this unique spiritual experience. Our Prayer Circle has grown and now consists of Linda Butler, Greg Chestnut, Sheryl Overheidt-Smith, Linda Pursley, Maggie Revere, Jane Delgado Semidei, George Taylor, and Ruth Ann Waid.

Gathering of the Waters ~ As you travel this summer, please collect water from wherever you visit! Remember you can gather water from local Florida areas or wherever you find yourself in the coming months. On October 20th we will celebrate our annual Gathering of the Waters.

On **October 20** following the 11 a.m. worship, members of Budget, Finance, and Stewardship will discuss our 2025 budget. This will be part of the livestream on YouTube and Facebook. Please plan to attend this important conversation for our church.

Our Sacred Conversations on Race continues on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in Oasis and Zoom at 3 p.m. **October 23** we will be watching excerpts from the PBS Show on the History of Hip Hop Music.

Please join our friends at Plymouth Harbor presents, *Acting Our Age*. Featuring ten remarkable residents (including our own **Lynne Woodman, Carl Denny, and Winnie Downes**) who tell the stories of their lives. Born 1935 to 1945, the group shows us how they used the challenges of their childhoods to leave home and create new lives during a defining time of innovation in America and internationally. Dates of the performances are October 25 at 7 p.m., October 26 at 7 p.m., and October 27 at 2:00 p.m. at Beatrice Friedman Symphony Center/Holley Hall. Tickets can be purchased www.eventcreate.com/e/aoa2024 Use promo code PH for a \$5 dollar discount!

Come One, Come All to the First Congregational, UCC Mission Fair!! *Hosted by Missions and Peace & Justice* **Sunday October 27** after worship in Syster Hall. **COME and ENJOY** food, drinks and fellowship. **ENGAGE** with staff and volunteers from non-profit organizations. **LEARN** about their mission, volunteer opportunities, and ways YOU can support their work. Come and learn how we can live out Matthew 25:40 ...*then Jesus will say, 'I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me—you did it to me.'*

Daylight Saving Time ends on NOVEMBER 3 (at 2 a.m.). When you go to bed on November 2, turn your clocks back one hour, and enjoy the extra sleep!

REMINDER ~ November 3rd ~ All Saints Day at both services. Please contact Pastor Wes if you have a Saint (*family or friend*) you'd like named during the service.

NEW MEMBER CLASS ~ November 3rd Please join us in the **Oasis Center after the 11 a.m. worship service** to learn what it means to be a member of First Congregational UCC. A light lunch will be served. You will have a chance to meet others and to ask any questions. All who are interested in exploring membership are warmly welcomed at this session. Please contact the church office to RSVP.

NOVEMBER BOOK STUDY: *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr~ During November, we will be reading and discussing Falling Upward, a bestselling book about spirituality in the first and second halves of our lives. Father Richard Rohr, Franciscan priest, is a well-known author and teacher. In this short work, Rohr explains how our spiritual needs change throughout our lives and how we are led to a deeper spirituality during the second half of life. The book study will follow a small group discussion format, facilitated by Jim Butterworth with commentary from Pastor Wes. **It will be held in the Oasis Center, in person and on Zoom, on four Monday afternoons (November**

4. 11, 18, 25) from 4:00-5:15 pm. Please register with Sherry in the church office (941-953-7044) by October 31 to receive study materials before the first session.

THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 13, Stephen Fancher, guest musician

8:45 a.m. ~ Early Service, Chapel

11 a.m. ~ Worship, Sanctuary and Online

Tuesday, October 15

Peace and Justice Team, 3 p.m., Oasis Center and Zoom

Reading the Bible in 50-*ish* Day, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Wednesday, October 16

Bible Study, 11 a.m., Oasis Center and Zoom

Thursday, October 17

Mission Team, 1 p.m., Oasis Center and Zoom

Finance Team, 3 p.m., Oasis Center and Zoom

Saturday, October 19

Men's Breakfast, 8:30 a.m., Syster Hall

Sunday, October 20, Glenn Priest, guest musician

8:45 a.m. ~ Early Service, Chapel

11 a.m. ~ Worship, Sanctuary and Online

Noon ~ Budget Presentation in the sanctuary and online

First Congregational United Church of Christ

Phone: (941)953-7044 *Our website:* www.uccsarasota.com

*We are a **Creation Justice; Open & Affirming; and Racial Justice** Congregation of
the United Church of Christ*