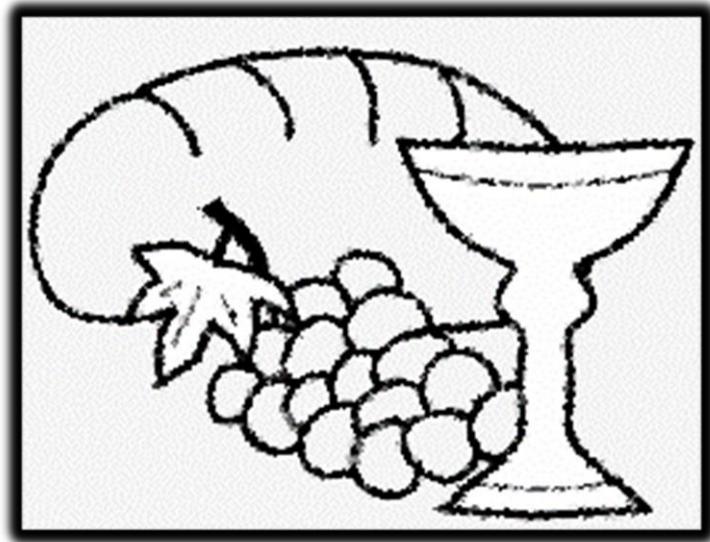


**First Congregational Church UCC**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**  
*Communion Sunday*  
**May 1, 2022**



*The Spirit of God makes us one in Christ.*

*\*Stand in body or spirit*

## PREPARING FOR THE WORD

**PRELUDE**      *Deep River*

**BRINGING IN THE CHRIST LIGHT**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**OPENING WORDS**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)**

Come into this place of peace and let its silence heal your spirit;

**Come into this place of memory and let its history warm your soul;**

Come into this place of prophecy and power and let its vision change your heart. Come, let us worship together.

**\*OPENING HYMN**      *Here I Am, Lord*

*Insert*

**A CONFESSION OF OUR SHARED FAITH (*unison*)**

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God and to your deeds we testify; You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death. You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin. You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship to be your servants in the service of others to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you, forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen

*(United Church of Christ, 1981 Statement of Faith)*

**\*THE PEACE (responsive)**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## **LISTENING FOR THE WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Acts 9:1-20

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Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **SERMON**

“Our Roads to Damascus”

Pastor Grace Anderson

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

**SILENT PRAYER**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY (unison)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him, all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

### COMMUNION

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE (responsive)**

God in Christ breaks down the walls that make us strangers to ourselves and divides us from one another.

**We are the body of Christ. Around this table, we enact our faith with our brothers and sisters here together and with those throughout the world. The bread that is broken restores us to wholeness; the cup poured out brings new life.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (responsive)**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks and praise to God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

**LORD'S PRAYER (unison)**

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.

*Words of Institution*

*Call to Communion*

*Sharing the Elements    The Old Rugged Cross*

*Receive the elements and return to your pew where we will partake together.*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**\*CLOSING HYMN**    *I Saw the Light*

*Insert*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION**

*Go Now In Peace*

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe,

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

**POSTLUDE**    *O Happy Day!*

### ***Calendar of Events***

#### **Today, Sunday, May 1**

##### *Communion Sunday*

Worship Service: 9:30am

Worship Leader: Pastor Grace

Music Leader: Dawn Husmann

Scripture Reader: Beth Sagers

#### **Monday, May 2**

Called To Care Meeting: 10:00am

#### **Tuesday, May 3**

Bible Study: 10:00am

#### **Wednesday, May 4**

Adult Education @ 6:30pm

#### **Sunday, May 8**

Worship Service: 9:30am

Worship Leader: Pastor Grace

Music Leader: Dawn Husmann

Scripture Reader: Please sign up

### ***Listening Devices***

We have audio assist headsets available again! If you would like to hear the service a little better, please see an usher or Cindy Mae and request a headset.

### ***Communion Sundays***

Each Communion Sunday, Pastor Grace will offer a prayer shared through Global Ministries for a different country as we celebrate Communion with our brothers and sisters throughout the world. Global Ministries is a common missional witness of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ. Global Ministries works with approximately 290 faith-based international partners in close to 90 countries. This Sunday's prayers are for the Philippines and those who suffered through the Typhoon Odette in December of last year.

### ***Pastoral Care***

For pastoral emergencies, please call Pastor Grace on her cell phone @ 651-367-9328.

### ***Ukraine Emergency Appeal***

If you wish to make a donation to aid in relief efforts, handouts for places to donate are located in the back of the sanctuary.

### ***Prayer Chain***

**AM** Bonnie Hvistendahl: 263-4120

**PM** Mavis Johnson: 263-2857

When you are in need of prayer for yourself or others, your request will be passed along via the prayer chain.

### ***Listening Sessions***



The Legacy Planning Team invites you to participate in a *Listening Session* to talk about some potential future scenarios for First Congregational Church.

We have three sessions scheduled and will schedule more, if necessary. We will limit each session to 10 people so everyone has a chance to speak.

### **Options for a Listening Sessions:**

- \* **Sunday, May 15 after church**
- \* **Tuesday, May 17 at 10:00am**
- \* **Sunday, May 22 after church**

There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex or you can call the church office to reserve a spot.

If you have questions or comments, please reach out to any one of the Legacy Planning Team. We are

cautiously optimistic and know that, whichever choice we make, God will walk with us! The Legacy Planning Team: *Bill Peterson, Chair, Sandra Meglic, Linda Hindal, Bruce Johnson.*

### ***May Adult Education***

Each Wednesday evening @ 6:30pm via Zoom, we will discuss the book "*Love Is The Way - Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times*" by the Episcopal Bishop Michael Curry.

The book in paperback is \$14.00 on Amazon or the local library can locate a copy for you. A Zoom link was sent out via email earlier this week. If you would like to call in via phone, please reach out to Pastor Grace.

### ***Bible Study***

On Tuesday, **May 3 @ 10:00am** we will discuss John 10:22-30.

**Bible Study is moving to Thursdays in May starting on May 12 through May 26 @ 1:30pm.** After May 26, Bible Study will be on a hiatus from June – August this summer. We will reconvene in September. Date and time to be determined.

### **Ministry Leads**

Moderator: **Bill Peterson**

Treasurer: **Jon Sagers**

Historian: **Glenda Cooper**

Head Ushers: **Byron Nowariak  
& Jim Hvistendahl**

Trustees Chair:  
**Roman Mercier**

CCIC Representative:  
**Ray Meglic**

Outreach Ministry Lead:  
**Cindy Mae Nelson**

Church Community Ministry:  
**Linda Hindal**

Worship Ministry:  
**Jacqui Broin**

Mission Ministry:  
**Sandra Meglic**



First Congregational Church  
Founded 1856

### **First Congregational Church, UCC**

220 Main Street West  
Cannon Falls, MN 55009

**Phone:** 507-263-2901

**Email:** [cannonfallsucc@gmail.com](mailto:cannonfallsucc@gmail.com)

**Sunday Worship:** 9:30 am

**Tuesday Bible Study:**

Hiatus June-August

**Holy Communion:**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month

**Minister:** Rev. Grace Anderson  
[pastor.cannonfallsucc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.cannonfallsucc@gmail.com)

**Moderator:** Bill Peterson

**Church Organist/Choir Director:**

Dawn Husmann

**All For You Music Leader:**

Karen Nowariak

**Church Office:** Seeking Office  
Assistant! Applicants can call or  
email the church office.

**Custodian:** Dick Welch

**Social Media:**

**Website:**

[www.cannonfallsucc.org](http://www.cannonfallsucc.org)

**YouTube:**

YouTube/cannon falls ucc

**Facebook:**

First Congregational Church  
Cannon Falls