

February 5, 2023
The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Prelude Music and Bringing in the Light

Greeting and Announcements

Welcome Statement (Printed on the bulletin insert)

Silence ...*a time to breathe...*

*** Call to Worship** Adapted from Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?

***People:* My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: God will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.

***People:* The Lord will keep us from all evil;
God will keep our life.**

**The Lord will keep our going out and your coming in
from this time on and for evermore.**

• **Hymn** *God of Grace and God of Glory* (NCH# 436 vs 1,3,5)

• **Morning Prayer**

Holy One, hold us close when the darkness threatens to overtake us and we are in danger of losing our way. When we forget, as we so often do, who we are and Whose we are, when we harm those we love or those we should love, when we leave undone what we should have

done, forgive us. Set us right. Overpower us once more with your abundant grace. Restore us in your boundless kindness. Transform us each day into a people who love the world *as* you do; who love our neighbors *because* you do; who live this way in Jesus name. Amen.

*** Assurance:** adapted I Corinthians 5:17

“Anyone who is in Christ is a New Creation. The old is finished and gone; everything had been made new.” This is the gospel of God’s grace in which we are redeemed, by which we are made whole and for which we all say:

Thanks be to God!

*** Sung Response** (Words will be on the screen)

Call to Offering *God will not let your foot be moved...*

Offertory

• **Sung Response** (Words will be on the screen)

Kid’s Time

1st Scripture Reading **John 5:19-20**

2nd Scripture Reading **1 Corinthians 2:1-16**

Sermon “...*who knows what is truly human...*”

Invitation

If you are hungry, or even just curious, come and eat.

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s Prayer

• **Closing Hymn** *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* (NCH #459)

• **Benediction** *Go into the world with assurance, hope and promise...*

Postlude

• ***Please stand if you are able***

Be Kind!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Sherri Roberts

Radio Sponsor: Steve and Marcy Thurwachter in memory of Marcy's parents wedding anniversary (Merton and Shirley Moely) on February 7th.

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast call the church office at 608-643-8387 to check on available dates. Cost is now at \$90.00/week. Your support of this important ministry is much appreciated.

Address Changes—If your phone number, mailing or email address changes please send the new address to the church office so we can keep our records up to date.

Our Offering Envelops vendor has promised delivery any day now (but some promises are apparently harder to keep:-) We will get them to you as soon as they arrive.

We will have a very full Lenten season at First Church this year. You will find the schedule for the season in today's bulletin and a longer explanation of what's coming in the February Scoop that just came out. Please contact Pastor Brad if you have questions about or ideas for the Wednesday Evening Soup Suppers. And if you can make a good pot of soup or bake a great loaf of bread contact Tammie Huerth or Shirley Lendved to offer your help.

Church Offering Update:

Monthly Offering Status:	
Monthly Budget:	\$
January offering:	<u>\$13,622</u>
Net:	\$

Totals for the Year:	
Offering budget thru Jan:	\$
Offering collected thru Jan:	\$ 13,622
Expenses thru Jan:	\$ _____
Net:	\$

First UCC Welcome Statement:

“Come to me,” Jesus said, “all who are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest”
(Matthew 11:28)

Reflecting the friendship of God toward all Creation, First United Church of Christ—Sauk City is an Open and Affirming congregation. We welcome all persons—of any sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, age, family structure, faith background, ability or economic circumstance. We recognize every person as a child of God, welcome all to worship and serve with us and consider all who come to be a necessary part of this fellowship with all its privileges and responsibilities.

John 5:19-20

Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, the Son can do nothing on his own, but only what he sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, the Son does likewise. The Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing; and he will show him greater works than these, so that you will be astonished.

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God’s wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him’—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God’s except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God’s Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are discerned spiritually. Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else’s scrutiny.

‘For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?’

But we have the mind of Christ.



First United Church of Christ

Schedule for the Season of Lent

Ash Wednesday - February 22, 6:00 pm

- **Wednesday, March 1st 6:00pm**
- **Wednesday, March 8th 6:00pm**
- **Wednesday, March 15th 6:00pm**
- **Wednesday, March 22nd 6:00pm**
- **Wednesday, March 29th 6:00pm**

We will provide a simple meal of soup and bread in the fellowship hall at 5:30 pm, followed by conversations on topics to be determined, for the five Wednesdays in March. All are Welcome, please join us on this Lenten journey.

Maundy Thursday - April 6, 6:00 pm

Good Friday - April 7, 1:30 pm