

April 23, 2023  
**The Third Sunday of Easter**

**Greeting**

**Welcome Statement** (Printed on the bulletin insert)

**Into Silence** “I trust in you, O LORD. You are my God. My times are in your hand... *Psalm 31:15*

**Prelude and Bringing in the Light**

- **Call to Worship** (Adapted from Psalm 65)

**Leader: O God of our salvation;**

**People:** you are the hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the farthest seas.

By your strength you established the mountains;  
you are girded with might.

You silence the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves,  
the tumult of the peoples...

**Leader: You crown the year with your bounty;**

**People:** The pastures of the wilderness overflow,  
the hills gird themselves with joy,  
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,  
the valleys deck themselves with grain,  
they shout and sing together for joy.

- **Hymn** *Joyful, Joyful We Adore You* (NCH #4)

- **Morning Prayer**

Holy God, you call us to a high standard—to love you with our whole heart, mind and strength. It is hard for us to love what we cannot see, hear or touch. By your grace, grant us the trust that gives birth to love. You call us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. It is hard to love those we do not know and those we do fear. By your grace make *your* love flow through us to the world around us. Day by day lead us in the way of Jesus we pray, Amen.

\* **Assurance:** *Anyone!* adapted I Corinthians 5:17

***Thanks be to God!***

\* **Sung Response** *Glory be to the Father...* (On the screen)

**Announcements**

**Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory**

- **Sung Response** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow...*

**Gratitude Prayer (Unison)**

Open our hearts, Loving God, to receive all you have to give us; and then open our hands to give it all away. Shape us into a generous people. Teach us to live by your grace and for those you love we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Kids Time**

**1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading**

**Choir Anthem** *Down to the River to Pray*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading**

**Sermon** *Yeah, it's impossible. You got a problem with that?*

## **The Table of Our Lord**

**Invitation** *At This Table*

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

**Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer**

- **Closing Hymn** *Build a Longer Table* (On Screen)

- **Benediction**

**Postlude**

- *Please stand if you are able*



## First United Church of Christ—Sauk City



An Open and Affirming Congregation

*The Lord's Prayer*

*Our Father 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*

### First United Church of Christ

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Liturgist:** Marcy Thurwachter

**Radio Sponsor:** April 16<sup>th</sup>—Marcy & Steve Thurwachter in memory of Marcy's mother's birthday on April 17.

April 23<sup>rd</sup>—Steve & Kristy Statz in honor of their parent's anniversaries: Tony & Claire Statz on May 1<sup>st</sup> and John & Pat Boehmer on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**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.

**From our Stock the Schools campaign—suggested donations for March:** Food items: Individual ritz cracker type packages or similar  
Personal items: body wash, bar soap, men's and women's deodorant  
Your generous donations are greatly appreciated by everyone. Please drop your donations off in the red tote outside the educational doors during office hours (Monday-Friday 8am–Noon) or inside during Sunday worship. Thanks for your help.

### Monthly Church Offering Update:

Monthly Budget:	\$ 15,262
March offering:	\$ 12,762
Net:	\$ ( 2,500)
Totals for the Year:	
Offering budget thru Mar.:	\$ 45,786
Income thru Mar.	\$ 37,585
Expenses thru Mar.	\$ <u>50,213</u>
Net:	\$(12,628)

### 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 or 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. “No matter who you are, how you identify, who you love, or where you are on life's journey, know that you are loved by God and you are welcome here.”

### Micah 6:6-8

‘With what shall I come before the Lord,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?’  
He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

### Acts 10

...and Peter said to them, ‘You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?’ ...