

April 30, 2023
The Fourth 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 67)

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us
May God’s face to shine upon us,

People: that God’s way may be known upon earth,
God’s saving power among all nations.

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

- **Hymn** *In the Bulb There Is a Flower* (NCH #433)

- **Morning Prayer**

Holy One, we come from every direction. Some days, maybe today, “weak and wounded, tired and sore.” Some days, maybe today, with grateful hearts overflowing. Most days burdened by weakness, by our unyielding tendency to mess things up. Forgive us. Hold us close. Direct us in your path. Strengthen us for the road that lies still ahead so that today we can stand, with whatever faith we can muster, in the assurance that we are yours and you will never leave us alone. For your presence and for this gift we give thanks. Amen.

* **Assurance:** *Already and long ago...*

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)**

We live because you have given us life. We love because you have shown us love. We give because you have been so generous toward us. Receive these gifts to bless your people everywhere we pray, in Jesus name. Amen.

Choir Anthem *Down from His Glory*

Kids Time

1st Scripture Reading **Lamentations 3:22-24**

2nd Scripture Reading **Romans 1:16-17**

Sermon

The Table of Our Lord

Invitation

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

Prayers of the people and the Lord’s Prayer

- **Closing Hymn** *Great Is Your Faithfulness* (NCH #423)

- **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: Herm Tschudy

Radio Sponsor: Tim & Katie Homar, in memory of Katie's mother, Helen van Oosbree

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.

Search Committee Announcement!

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.”

Lamentations 3:22-24

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.
'The Lord is my portion,' says my soul,
'therefore I will hope in him.'

Romans 1:16-17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, 'The one who is righteous by faith will live.'