

May 7, 2023

## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

### Greeting

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

**Into Silence** “If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night’...” *Psalm 139:11-12*

### Prelude and Bringing in the Light

- **Call to Worship** Adapted from Psalm 68

**Leader:** Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name;  
lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds,  
whose name is the Lord.

**All:** Father of orphans and protector of widows  
is God in his holy habitation.

God gives the desolate a home to live in;  
leads out the prisoners to prosperity.

In your goodness, O God, you provide for the needy.

**Leader:** Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up;  
God is our salvation.

- **Hymn** *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing* (NCH #459)
- **Morning Prayer**

Gracious God, we are a people created by your love, formed by the words of Jesus and breathed into life by your Spirit. We live in a culture that has forgotten its Creator, is being formed by hatred and seldom breathes life into any who live here. We pray for our world, our neighbors, our enemies, our leaders; and we pray for ourselves. In your grace, forgive us for those things we should have done but didn’t do, and for those things we did do but shouldn’t have done. By your Spirit transform us into a community doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly and gratefully in the way of Jesus we pray. Amen.

\* **Assurance:** “Do not let your hearts be troubled...”

## Thanks be to God!

\* **Sung Response** *Breathe on me Breath of God...* (On screen)

### Announcements

### Invitation to Offering

### Offertory

- **Sung Response** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow...*  
(We’re trying out new lyrics this week)

- **Gratitude Prayer (Unison)**

Loving God, what we give is so small when set beside what you give to us. Yet we pray that these gifts, and our lives, will bring glory to your name and comfort to this world you have loved so well and redeemed so fully. Amen.

### Kids Time

**1st Scripture Reading**

**Romans 5:1-2**

**2nd Scripture Reading**

**Revelation 21,22** (excerpts)

### 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** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (NCH #43)
- **Benediction** *Go now in peace...*

### 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:** Jamie Wittwer

**Radio Sponsor:** Cliff & Jan Lawton, in memory of their mothers, Evelyn Skogen and Selma Lawton

**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.

**All Church Potluck Today** immediately following the worship service. In the park, weather permitting, on in the fellowship hall downstairs if the weather is uncooperative.

**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 May:** 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.

**Questions? Concerns? Perplexed?** Thirsty for some good coffee? Give a call and we'll find a table at a coffee shop. Pastor Brad

### Monthly Church Offering Update:

Monthly Budget:	\$ 15,262
April offering:	\$
Net:	\$ ()

Totals for the Year:	
Offering budget thru Apr.:	\$ 61,048
Income thru April	\$
Expenses thru April	\$
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 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.”

## **Romans 5.1-2**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand...

## **Revelation 21-22 (Excerpts)**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

‘See, the home of God is among mortals.  
He will dwell with them;  
they will be his peoples,  
and God himself will be with them;  
he will wipe every tear from their eyes.  
Death will be no more;  
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,  
for the first things have passed away.’

And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’...

Then one of the seven angels...came and said to me, ‘Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.’ ...

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the

kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there...

Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations... Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light...

Let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.