

June 2, 2024

Second Sunday after

!!Pentecost!!

Greeting and Announcements

Welcome Statement (Printed on the bulletin insert)

A way into silence Psalm 23

*Shepherd Me, O God beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.*

Prelude and Bringing in the Light

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 103)

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless God's holy name.

**(All): Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all of God's benefits—**

L: who forgives all our iniquity,
who heals all our diseases,

**(All): who redeems our lives from the Pit
who crowns us with steadfast love and mercy,**

L: God satisfies us with good as long as we live
so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

(All) In gratitude, let us worship God.

• **Hymn** *We Are Marching in the Light of God* (NCH #526)

• Morning Prayer

Draw us nearer, Blessed Lord. though we are often awed by the pleasures and overcome by the problems of this world, today we long to be close to you. Holy One, forgive our wandering hearts. Restore our hope and renew us in your love. Walk with us, please, not because we are worthy but because you have promised. Amen.

• The Promise

Here is the gospel—there is no wrong you can confess for which you have not already and long ago been forgiven. This is the Good News for us today. What can we say but—

Thanks be to God!

• Sung Response

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid.

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

Invitation to the Table *All Our Days* (On the Screen)

Kid's Time

Offering

Genesis 12:1-2

Now the LORD said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, *and I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing.*'

Offertory

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

• Gratitude Prayer (Unison)

We are grateful, Holy God, for the abundance of the earth and the generosity of your grace. Form us as a grace directed people who reflect your love for the Creation and express your love for our neighbors we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading

Acts 2:1-4

2nd Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7; 18-21

Sermon

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

• Closing Hymn

Just a Closer Walk

(On the Screen)

• Benediction

*May the Breath of God fill you
The Wind of God shake you
And the Spirit of God hold you still
Until you feel the fullness
To leave this place in peace*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist: Rose Kleinert & Emily Fuchs

Radio Sponsors: Tammie Huerth in gratitude for Rose Kleinert and all she does for First Church.

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. Our next available dates are June 23 and July 7.

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 June: Personal items: New and gently used athletic shoes in men's, women's and children's sizes. Your generous donations are greatly appreciated. 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.

The Communion Table at First Church is set with home made bread on the plate and grape juice in the cup. We welcome absolutely everyone to share in this meal. Whoever you are, whatever brought you here this morning, if you are even a little bit hungry, come and taste.

Welcome Statement from 1st Congregational UCC—Madison

As a community of God's Children, the members of FCUCC acknowledge our shortcomings and strive to reach out to all who wish to affirm their faith with us and worship with us as members of this congregation.

We acknowledge that the church has often judged and excluded from the community of faith gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons or has been complicit by its silence. We confess the presence of ignorance, fear, and hatred in ourselves, in the church, and our society, and we ask the grace of God to overcome them.

We invite and welcome all persons, without regard to sexual orientation or gender expression, to join us in our journey of life and faith, seeking to covenant to be responsible to God and one another.



*“Wind finally gets where it was going
through the snowy trees, and the river,
even when frozen, arrives at the right place.*

*And sometimes you sense how faithfully your life
is delivered, even though you can't read the address.”*

Thomas R. Smith (from the poem “Trust”)

1st Scripture Reading

Acts 2. 1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

2nd Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7; 18-21

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,

nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, 'Give them up',
and to the south, 'Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made.'

Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honor me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Psalm 23 *A way into silence...*

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life***

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life***

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

Psalm 23 *A way into silence...*

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life***

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life***

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,
beyond my fears, from death into life.***