

The First Congregational Church in Worcester

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 14, 2022

You are invited to a time of quiet preparation during the Prelude

Prelude

Ringling of the Chimes

Call to Worship

God of the hills and valleys, God of the seasons, God of all creation,

How awesome are you, Our Creator!

God of grace and transformation, God of love, God of mercy,

How majestic are you, Our Redeemer!

God of growth and renewal, God of hope, God of the journey,

How magnificent are you, Our Sustainer!

We come to worship our God, the giver of life, light, and love.

How great are you, O Lord our God!

Invocation and Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*Hymn of Adoration – *Insert*

How Great Thou Art

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **[Refrain]**

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,

that on the cross my burden gladly bearing
he bled and died to take away my sin; **[Refrain]**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
and there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!" **[Refrain]**

Responsive Reading

Psalm 103:1-8

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

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's benefits –
who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and
mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the
eagle's.

The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Message for the Young and Young at Heart

Sharing of Announcements, Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Giving of Our Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

Kremser

We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator,
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring;
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee,
We bless Thy holy Name, glad praises we sing.

*Prayer of Dedication

**We thank you, Loving God, for what we have and for what we share. Multiply
these gifts and Your spirit in us, that the world may know your life-giving will
and way. Amen**

*Hymn - #102

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good.
There is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind,
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, we should rest upon God's word,
and our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord.

Scripture Readings

Ruth 2:1-23, Luke 6:36-38

Meditation

Turning Tides of Mercy

Rev. Josh Fitterling

*Sending Hymn – #217

Lord of All Hopefulness

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Edelweiss

We are all joined in Christ, called by God to be with Him,
Joined with Christ and through Christ, praise our Creator forever.
Honor and glory we give to God, Give to God forever,
Joined with Christ and through Christ, praise our Creator forever.

Chimes

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*We are glad you joined us today! May you have a blessed day!  
All are welcome to remain outdoor for Coffee Hour immediately following our worship  
service. Just ask. Any member would be delighted to help you!*

*Dawn and Matt Ahaesy request prayers for Dawn's dad, Francis Lajoie. We would like to keep Hampton Bagdasarian in our prayers and he also requests prayers for June Kemp; Connie MacInnes requests prayers for her niece Linda and Marie Samuelson whom is very ill; Judy Mitchell requests prayers for her granddaughter, Ellanora; Susan Anderson requests prayers for her brother, Danny Waskevich and her friend, Roger Waite. The Deacons request prayers for Betty Dalbeck, Dr. Richard Hunter, Dolores Trzcinski, Jeanne Fassett, Paul Scherdell, Melanie Anderson and Joyce & Armand Thienel. Mac and Connie MacInnes request prayers for Marie Samuelson whom is very ill. Holly Mahlert requests prayers for her mother on a recent cancer diagnosis. Erika Vecsey requests prayers as she recovers from surgery.*

## Announcements

**Sit & Share, Pause & Pray with Pastor Josh – Wednesdays from 2 to 3pm** Want to visit with Pastor Josh in a more casual setting? Come on by every Wednesday! Stop by for a minute, or 10, or more. Look for the yard sign out front and stop by!

Do you know any young people, ages 11 to 15, who are interested in exploring faith? Classes will meet monthly, beginning in September with lunch provided. There is no need for the students to be connected with our church or have prior church affiliation. We will learn and grow together! At the end of the year, in May, all who wish to join this church will be welcomed into full membership of this local congregation! More information and registration form can be found at [www.fcc-worcester.org](http://www.fcc-worcester.org).

Shelly will be in the office Tuesday – Thursday from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

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**Carpet Fund Collection** – Our new carpeting fund continues to grow! Please continue to add whatever you can spare to the Teddy Bear jar in the narthex. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!

**Celebration of Scotts 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**– September 18, 2022 at 10am. Please join us in honor of Scott and his 25 years of faithful service to the First Church. We will have a festive coffee hour in the parlor to follow the service.

### **Weekly Calendar**

#### **TODAY**

10:00am FCC Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:30am Trustees Meeting (Conference Room)  
11:00am Ghanian Resurrection Ministries (upper level)

#### **Monday**

7:00pm AA Meeting (Hall)

#### **Tuesday**

6:30pm AA Meeting (Hall)

#### **Wednesday**

2:00pm Sit and Share (Lawn)

#### **Thursday**

6:45pm AA Meeting (Hall)

#### **Friday**

6:30pm Spirit Life Church (Hall)

#### **Saturday**

10:00am New Hope SDA (Sanctuary & Parlor)  
12:00pm Church of God (Hall)

#### **Sunday**

10:00am FCC Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:30am Deacons Meeting (Conference Room)  
11:00am Ghanian Resurrection Ministries (upper level)

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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[www.fcc-worcester.org](http://www.fcc-worcester.org)



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world  
for all  
ucc.org

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