

*First Congregational Church*

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS



## **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Mr. Scott Yonker, Minister of Music**

### **Our Purpose Statement**

It is our purpose to joyfully celebrate Christ's presence and God's grace in our lives; to respect one another in love, actively seeking and embracing those who wish to grow with us in faith, hope and love; to follow the example of Jesus, as we minister to the spiritual and physical needs of the community. *Through service we flourish.*



# *The First Congregational Church in Worcester*

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

*September 18, 2022*

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

Prelude

*Festive Processional~ Lasky*

*Pastorale ~ Zipoli*

*Prelude in G Minor ~ Bruhns*

*Passacaglia ~ Young*

Ringling of the Chimes

Call to Worship

*(using Psalm 95:1-2, Psalm 96:1-2, Psalm 104:33, Psalm 59:17, Colossians 3:16, Psalm 150:6)*

**"O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

**Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!"**

**"O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

**Sing to the Lord; bless God's name; tell of God's salvation from day to day."**

**"I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being."**

**"O my strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love."**

**"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and urge one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God."**

**"Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!"**

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.**

Opening Hymn Sing ~Insert

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing, Lift High the Cross  
Holy, Holy, Holy & When Morning Gilds the Skies*

Responsive Reading

Psalm 98

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

**The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.**

Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.

**Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD,  
for he is coming to judge the earth.**

He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Solo

*Psalm XXIII ~ Creston*

Sharing of Announcements, Celebrations and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

*Sweet Hour of Prayer*

In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief,  
I'll cast on God my every care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!

Giving of Our Offerings

Offertory

*Intermezzo in E♭ Major ~Brahms*

\*Doxology

*Lasst Uns Erfreuen*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God, bless these gifts that we bring before you. May the ministries they sustain  
forever sing of your love. Amen.**

\*Hymn ~ *Insert*

*It is Well with My Soul*

Scripture Readings

Jeremiah 29:11; John 14:25-31

Celebrating 25 Years of Music Ministry

\*Sending Hymn ~*Insert*

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

\*Benediction & Benediction Response

*Ash Grove*

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God's realm and to answer the call.

Chimes

Postlude

*Cwm Rhondda ~ Manz*

*\*Please stand in body, or in spirit.*

*All are welcome to attend a special, festive Coffee Hour immediately following our worship service in the downstairs Hall. This celebration is in honor of Scott! Not sure where to go? Just ask. Any one of us would be delighted to help you!*

*Want to get more connected with the happenings at First Church? Simply fill out one of our "Welcome Home!" cards located in the pew back in front of you and place it in the offering this morning.*

*We are glad you joined us today!*

---

## ***The First Congregational Church in Worcester***

### **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

---



1070 Pleasant Street  
Worcester MA 01602  
508-752-4635

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



a just  
world  
for all  
[ucc.org](http://ucc.org)

Rev. Josh Fitterling, Pastor  
[pastor@fcc-worcester.org](mailto:pastor@fcc-worcester.org)

Scott M. Yonker, Minister of Music  
[music@fcc-worcester.org](mailto:music@fcc-worcester.org)

Shelly Hoyle, Administrative Assistant  
[office@fcc-worcester.org](mailto:office@fcc-worcester.org)

Doug Perkins, Sexton

### **Prayer Requests**

*Dawn and Matt Ahaesy request prayers for Dawn's dad, Francis Lajoie as well as Alexis Turner. 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 Mahler requests prayers for her mother on a recent cancer diagnosis. Erika Vecsey requests prayers as she recovers from surgery. Prayers for guidance and support for Hunvilla.*

*If you would like to add a prayer concern or update our list, please email the church office at [office@fcc-worcester.org](mailto:office@fcc-worcester.org). Thank you for praying with us!*

### **Announcements**

**Pastor Josh Out of the Office** – September 19th through September 24th

From September 19th through September 24th, Pastor Josh will be out of the office. If an emergency pastoral need arises and you are unable to reach Pastor Josh, please contact our Head Deacon, Matt Ahaesy, at 978-868-5480. If he does not answer, leave a message and he will return your call as soon as he can. He will put you in touch with the area Pastor who is helping to cover emergency needs. Pastor Josh will be back for worship next Sunday, September 25th.

**Neighbors in Need Offering – Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am**-Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion in the United States. One-third of the offering supports Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. A special envelope will be available in your bulletin to receive these gifts on World Communion Sunday.

**Fellowship** – Is back to holding weekly gatherings. We meet in the Parlor at 10am on most Tuesdays. All are welcome to join.

**\*Sit & Share, Pause & Pray with Pastor Josh – Will not be held on 9/21/2022**

**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!

**Coffee Hour Hosts Needed** – Would you be able to provide the snacks and goodies for one of our after worship coffee hour times? We would love to have you help us provide hospitality. Sign-up any Sunday after worship in the Parlor. Thank you!

### **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!

### **Weekly Calendar**

#### **Today**

10:00am FCC Worship (Sanctuary)  
11:00am Ghanian Resurrection Ministries (Upper level)  
11:30am Scotts 25 Anniversary Celebration (Hall)

#### **Monday**

7:00pm AA Meeting (Hall)

#### **Tuesday**

10:00am Fellowship (Parlor)  
6:30pm AA Meeting (Hall)

#### **Thursday**

6:45pm AA Meeting (Hall)

#### **Saturday**

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

#### **Sunday**

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