

First Congregational United Church of Christ

April 13, 2025

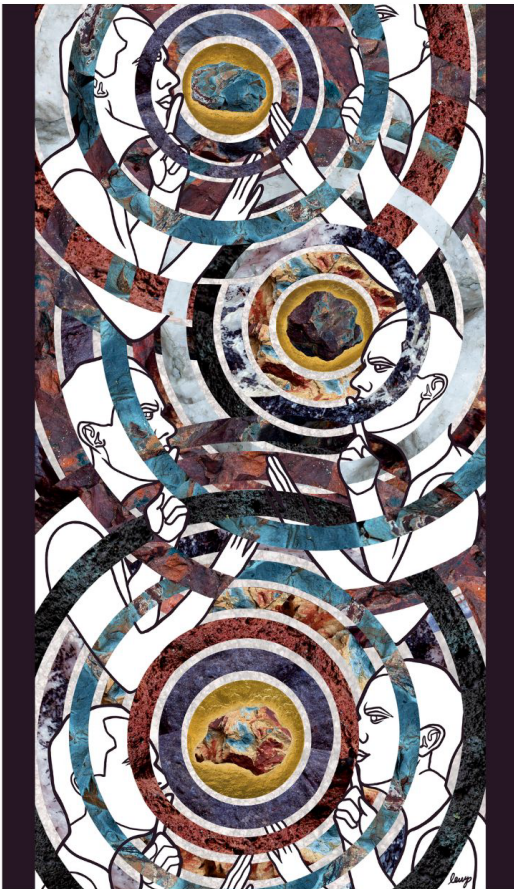


Full  
to the Brim } *Even the  
stones cry  
out*

## Even the Stones Cry Out by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Luke 19:28-40  
Digital painting with photo collage

When I began this image, I wanted the medium to be the message. Initially I thought I might make a mosaic of stones, however, I was wisely encouraged by my colleagues to try photography and digital collage. I went out into my side yard and picked up rocks to take pictures of them. As I quickly scanned for interesting rocks, I was underwhelmed by what I was seeing. I had already decided that the rocks were going to be dull and boring. My color enthusiast self was annoyed by the prospect of dusty neutral tones and minimal contrast.



This was an interesting place to begin my process, considering the text I was working with. I was definitely underestimating what the rocks would have to offer the piece, and was preemptively disappointed about the mundane color schemes and textures I would have to work with from my photographs. Gosh, was I wrong. As I downloaded the images and began to edit them, a wide spectrum of color came into view. Most of the hues were entirely shocking and unexpected: periwinkle, magenta, turquoise, mauve, rust, orange, gold, and plum, just to name a few. It was as if God was saying to me, “See, even if you turn a blind eye, and your assumptions distract you, the stones will cry out.”

In this piece there are three stones bordered in gold to reference the voice of God, the truth that will not be quelled. Down the sides of the image are the Pharisees or the “silencers” in postures of quieting judgment. My hope was for the silencers to be completely visually enveloped and drowned out by the stones. I left the silencers simplified and unfinished to signify that their attempts at diminishing the truth would ultimately and always be in vain.

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

April 13, 2025 9:30AM  
Palm/Passion Sunday ~ Baptism Sunday

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*We gather in the narthex to begin this morning's worship service.*

## RINGING OF THE BELL

### FANFARE

*"Ablassen" Fanfare*

Gottfried Reiche

John Daniel, *trumpet*

### \*WELCOME

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: It is holy to gather.

**All: It is holy to sing.**

One: It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.

**All: It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.**

One: It is holy to shout, "Hosanna!"

**All: It is holy to remember.**

One: It is holy to gather.

**All: It is holy to sing. Here and now, let us do all of these things.**

*Note: The Sanctuary Choir will lead us into the Sanctuary ringing handbells, followed by everyone joining in singing the hymn. Wave your palms when you enter, keep them with you during worship, wave during refrains, and take them home with you.*

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN (see bulletin page 8)

*All Glory Laud and Honor*

ST. THEODULPH

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**God of street parades and hosannas, we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression, to speak up for love and to speak hope to fear, but so often we are silent. We worry that we'll say the wrong thing, so we don't say anything at all. We worry that we'll offend, so we keep our convictions to ourselves. We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard, so we stay silent. And meanwhile, the parade marches on. Unravel our fears. Spark conviction in us. Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!" Gratefully we pray, Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Family of faith, the word ‘prodigal’ can be defined as wasteful. However, Friends, even when we are silent, even when we are scared, even when we miss the moment, even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing— we belong to God. There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that, so rest in this good news.

**All: We are forgiven. We are known.**

**We belong to God, every day and always. Amen.**

## SUNG RESPONSE #183

*What Wondrous Love Is This* (St. 1)

WONDROUS LOVE

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul! O my soul!**

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul!**

**What wondrous love is this! That caused the Lord of bliss**

**To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,**

**To bear the heavy cross for my soul!**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (outside)

(During the children’s sermon the prayer request cards will be collected. Pastor Nick will be taking all the children outside in front the church, so send them with jackets if needed! After the Children’s Sermon, the children will go directly with their teachers to the CYF building.)

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

The Baptism of Parker Michael Kempfert

Parents: Matthew & Stephanie Kempfert

Godparents: Lauren Parkins & Shawn Ikkala and Caitlin & Daniel Higgins

## ADDRESS

## QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT (when prompted):

**All: We promise our love, support and care.**

## BLESSING OF THE WATER

## ACT OF BAPTISM

## UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING

**We give you thanks, O Holy One, mother and father of all the faithful, for your child and for the grace witnessed here today in water and the Holy Spirit. Embrace us in the household of your love. Grant us grace to nurture him in the faith and family of Jesus Christ. Give this child strength for life’s journey, courage in times of suffering, and hope in new life, through Jesus Christ, who makes us one. Amen.**

# INTRODUCTION

## BAPTISMAL HYMN

*Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

KINGDOM

St. 1 & 2

# Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

Ronald S. Cole-Turner, 1980

KINGDOM 8.7.8.7

V. Earle Copes, 1959

1. Child of bless - ing, child of prom - ise, Bap - tized with the Spir - it's sign,  
2. Child of love, our love's ex - pres - sion, Love's cre - a - tion, loved in - deed!  
3. Child of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you are, from God you came.  
4. Child of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, Learn to lis - ten for God's call.

With this wa - ter God has sealed you Un - to love and grace di - vine.  
Fresh from God, re - fresh our spir - its, In - to joy and laugh - ter lead.  
Back to God we hum - bly give you: Live as one who bears Christ's name.  
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship, Trust and love God more than all.

*Text:* © 1981 Ronald S. Cole-Turner. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Music:* Copyright © 1960. Renewal 1988 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:28-40

Faye Binsfeld

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they

were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

## ANTHEM

*Sanctus and Benedictus from Jazz Missa Brevis*

Will Todd (b. 1970)

*Our Sanctuary Choir with jazz ensemble will present the entire Jazz Missa Brevis in worship on Sunday, May 11.*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,  
Dominus Deus Sabaoth  
Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.  
Hosanna in excelsis.  
Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.  
Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Holy, Holy, Holy,  
Lord God of Hosts.  
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

SERMON *"Even the Stones Shout with Praise!"*

Pastor Nick Hatch

## \*HYMN #179

*Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!*

ST. DROSTANE

## OFFERING

### CALL TO THE OFFERING

(During this time, you are invited to a virtual offering. Please visit our webpage and click "Give" to make your weekly offering, or text FCUCC GIVE to 73256.)

## MUSICAL REFLECTION

*Andante Lento from Sonata in G*

Giuseppe Sammartini (1695-1750)

## \*DOXOLOGY

**ALL: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

*Be Still, My Soul*

Music by Joel Richard Jude Jicha  
Poem by K. Schlegel/Trans. J. Borthwick

### Sanctuary Choir Tenors and Basses

*Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side;  
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to thy God to order and provide,  
With every change he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul; thy best and heavenly friend  
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

## GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(You are welcome to submit your prayer requests throughout the week to the church office, or email to a pastor for confidentiality.)

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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 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.**

## \*CLOSING HYMN #192

*My Song Is Love Unknown*

RHOSYMEDRE

## \*ANNOUNCEMENTS

## \*UNISON AFFIRMATION

One: Go to the village ahead of you, and you will find a colt tied there. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, say, "The Lord needs it."

**All: We believe in a God of surprises. We believe in a God with a sense of humor. We believe that there are things we may never understand, but we believe that even in the mystery, God is there.**

One: They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and put Jesus on it. As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road.

**All: We believe in giving what we have. We believe that actions of generosity change us. We dare to believe that these small acts can change the world.**

One: The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully praising God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen.

**All: We believe in a God who is a miracle-maker. We believe in a God of good news. We believe this good news is so good that we cannot help but sing.**

One: Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

**All: We believe there will be forces that try to silence what is just, good, hopeful, and generous. We do not believe those voices will have the last word.**

One: "I tell you," Jesus replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

**All: We believe, at the end of the day, love will find a way. We believe. Help our unbelief.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Allegro from Sonata in G*

G. Sammartini

#### THANK YOU TO TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Nicholas J. Hatch, *Co-Pastor*

Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey, *Co-Pastor*

Faye Binsfeld, *Lay Reader*

Dr. Nathan Birkholz, *Organist*

Sanctuary Choir with Handbells

John Daniel, *trumpet*

John Aaholm, *timpani*

John M. Albrecht, *Director for Music Ministries*

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**Join us in Fellowship Hall for  
a Youth-Led Pancake Breakfast**



# All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*Refrain*

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or, to thee, Re-deem-er, King,

*Fine*

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho-san-nas ring.

1. Thou art the King of Is - ra - el, thou Da-vid's roy - al Son,  
 2. The com-pa - ny of an - gels are prais-ing thee on high,  
 3. The peo-ple of the He - brews with palms be-fore thee went;  
 4. To thee, be - fore thy pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise;  
 5. Thou didst ac - cept their prais - es; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

*D.C.*

who in the Lord's name com - est, the King and Bless - ed One.  
 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.  
 our prayer and praise and an - thems be - fore thee we pre - sent.  
 to thee, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.  
 who in all good de - light - est, thou good and gra - cious King.

WORDS: Theodulph of Orleans, 8-9th cent.; trans. by John Mason Neale, 1851  
 (Mt. 21:8-9; Mk. 11:8-10; Lk. 19:36-38; Jn. 12:12-13)

MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. by W. H. Monk, 1861

ST. THEODULPH  
 76.76 D

**USHERS/AUDIO/VIDEO**

APRIL USHERS: Mike Weaver, Liz Dettwiler, Doug Gilbert, Becky Gilbert,  
Wayne Lannoye, Susan Forsythe  
AUDIO & VIDEO: Rick Behm, Seb Pershey, Rod Reynolds, Matt Feuerhelm

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

Easter Sunday ~ 8:45AM & 10:30AM                      Pastor Katherine Willis Pershey  
Music: Sanctuary Choir/Scholars, LU Brass Quintet, organ & timpani;  
Tanvi Thatai, soprano    Luke 24:1-12

**ON THE CALENDAR**

April 17	7:00PM	Maudy Thursday Worship
July 7-10	9AM-12PM	Vacation Bible School
August 25-28	5:30-7:30PM	Vacation Bible School

**WORSHIP NOTES (space for your personal notes/thoughts)**

## Joys and Concerns of Our Faith Community

Please keep these people in your prayers and greet them with a loving word when you see them.  
 Please call the church office if you have a prayer request or to request a pastoral visit: 920-733-7393  
**In cases of a pastoral emergency, please call 920-810-2600.**

Amanda, who has terminal cancer	Kathy Lannoye
Jill Anthony, her sister & her nephew	Helen McKean and family of the death of her daughter
Katie Behl and her sister, Barbara	Elizabeth McNally
Don Brittnacher	Pat Nelson
Chris Brittnacher's brother, Steve Reinkober	Olivia, who has been re-diagnosed with Cancer
Karen Craddock	Dean Ostrander
Debra, upon the death of her son Joshua	Tom Ott
Donna, who is in recovery from West Nile	Our friends in Kerio Valley, Kenya
Erstad's family friend, Silas, and his family	Anika Quillman
David Galow	Frank and Pat Severin
The family of Paul Gohdes	Mike Seymour's mom, Debbie
Georgie Harris and family	Stacey, friend of Kathy and Dick DeVries
Colton Heimlich	Kinsley Tarr
JoAnn Helms	Gloria Tate
Shirley Hoft	Jack Thiel
Misty Hofman	Peter Thiel
Sandi Hurm	James Totzke
Jenny, who has been diagnosed with cancer	Those living with mental unwellness
Jean Jepson	Lynn Weyenberg Hooyman
Larry Konz, father of Leigh Grube	Dave White
Jim Kriner	
Mary Jo Laabs	

Please call or email the church office if someone's name should be removed from the list.  
 Thank you!

## The Open Door Announcements

For more information on these announcements and other events, please visit our website, weekly e-newsletters, and social media.

**Badger State Women's Choir in Concert:** Featuring Badger State Honor Choir with special guest Rina Takahashi, piano, and directed by Dr. Kevin Meidl, this concert will be held in our sanctuary **today, Sunday, April 13** at 4:00PM. Tickets and more information at <https://www.badgerstategirlchoir.com/>

**Music for Food Benefit Concert of Piano Music:** On Sunday, **April 27** at 3:00PM, students from the studio of Catherine Kautsky will offer a program of piano music by Debussy, Liszt, Ginastera, Haydn, Ravel, and others. Admission is free but there will be an opportunity to make free will donations that will go directly to the Oneida Food Pantry.

**New Membership Exploration Class:** Are you new to First Congregational and want to learn more about our faith community? Would you like to find a place to ask your questions of faith and call your faith home? Then join Pastor Katherine and Pastor Nick after worship Sunday, **April 27, 10:45AM-12:00PM** in the chapel. We'll be talking about our journeys of faith. We will share about this church, our theology, and get to know one another. We hope to listen to the story of your spiritual journey and the questions that have guided you to seek a new community. Please RSVP for the New Membership Exploration Class by signing up on the sheet in the narthex or by contacting the front office at [info@uccapleton.org](mailto:info@uccapleton.org).

**E2F (Empty to Full) Pans:** On Sunday, **April 27**, First UCC will participate in a project to allow members to prepare pans of food, in their own home, primarily to serve Pillars, with a smaller number going to COTS & Apricity. All are serving homeless people. Willing participants can pick up an empty pan that contains the recipe & shopping list to prepare & fill the pan with an easy recipe. (Cost is approx. \$ 16.00) The recipes are so simple...no cooking or basic cooking required. This is a great activity for all ages and skills. (The pans are not baked; the shelter will do this.) The prepared pan is returned on Sunday, May 4, before the church service. If you're unable to bring the pan back on May 4, it can be placed in the church kitchen freezer the week before. Call the office to make sure the kitchen is open. If this doesn't work, please call Cindi MacSwain 920-606-6699.

**People's Library:** The church library is creating a new section to include books that have been **written by members of the congregation**. We are looking for a wide range of books, including family memoirs that have been printed at Kinko's and titles that cover the author's passion and/or expertise and everything in between. These books will be (at least initially) for internal circulation and won't leave the library. If you have something to add to the collection, please place it in the church library in the box labeled "People's Library."



*When you hear "The Isaiah Project," think "infrastructure." The Steering Committee and four Task Forces are prayerfully engaged in research, community partnership development, and discernment to provide recommendations to Church Council about our buildings, grounds, and neighborhood presence. These recommendations will address our current and future needs and support our mission and priorities.*

**The Isaiah Corner:** March was a busy month for feedback. The Isaiah Project held a Task Force update session and two listening sessions. ~50 congregants attended in total. Thanks to all who attended and participated!

For those who missed the sessions and would like to learn more, click the links to Task Force update reports ([Steering Committee](#), [Building](#), [Grounds](#), [Community Partners](#)), [update meeting recording](#) and listening session presentations - [Building Goals](#) and [Patterns](#). For some context, our building goals were given to the Architects to develop solutions for; these documents represent the initial exchange and are by no means final, just a starting point. The listening sessions were meant to get feedback from the congregation on these initial thoughts.

As a reminder, any questions or comments can be directed to any Isaiah Project member, Director of Operational Ministries, [vsalvia@uccappleton.org](mailto:vsalvia@uccappleton.org) or by using [the electronic Isaiah Box](#). There are also comment cards located on the Welcome Desk in the Narthex - just look for the Isaiah Box.



**Is your superpower being able to fix things?** We are in search of members or friends of our church community who can share their talents in "fixing things" at a "Repair Fair" during Service Sunday, June 1, 10:15AM – 12:00PM.

Please consider offering your time and talent towards the greater goal of reducing waste, promoting sustainability, and building a community of neighbors helping neighbors. Specifically, we are looking for people who could help with things such as:

- Small appliance or lamp repair
- Sewing or mending
- Knife or tool sharpening
- Small furniture repair
- Basic tech help with phones or computers
- Bicycle or jewelry repair
- Help with our church website or Realm
- Using digital photo editing tools
- Using free graphic design platform "Canva"
- Anything else you are great at fixing or teaching

You don't have to be an expert – just willing to lend your hands and your heart. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact Chris Brittnacher at: [chrisbrittnacher@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbrittnacher@gmail.com).

**Outreach Ministries thanks you for Altadena Fire contributions:** Our church was able to send \$5,550 to the UCC's recovery efforts in the devastated area. Contribution came from congregational donations of \$1,550 and \$4,000 from the Beemer Endowment Fund for Mission and Service.



**Kenya Sponsor Reception:** Save Sunday, **May 4**, after service for the Kenya Sponsor Reception. Sponsors and all interested persons are invited to meet Mildred Chepkonga, our special guest from Kenya. Please greet her in church on April 27 and May 4.

**NOAHH Requests:** A queen-sized box spring and mattress and two twin mattresses, a donor to pay \$200 for half of a Driver's Education course, two bassinets, plastic totes for moving, any financial support, and Aldi or Walmart grocery gift cards. Contact Barb Mincheff, Volunteer Services Coordinator, Outagamie County Health & Human Services, for pick up/drop off, 920-832-5515.

**Library News:** The theme for April is Lent and Easter. If you want to spend time reflecting or to learn more as a family about honoring Lent and Easter, come check out our books. Here are a couple: *"Family Countdown to Easter: A Day-to-Day Celebration"* by Debbie Trafton O'Neal and *"Easter Egg: and Other Poems of Faith, Hope and Love"* by Daniel Pannebaker.

**Call to Action to Address Housing Insecurity in Our Community:** The Economic Justice Work Group of FCUCC has joined with about 30 other local faith communities to plan actions that get at the root of increasingly unaffordable housing and homelessness in the Fox Cities. You are invited to learn about work in any of these five areas that could be real game changers for our community:

1. Affordable Housing
2. Legislation and Regulation
3. Generative Local Community
4. Neighborhood Development
5. Emergency Shelter

Open the link here to find out more about the post-summit approach and possible actions for our congregation: [Lever Leader Info](#) Watch for more information about plans with our lever leaders in the near future. We can work together to effect better solutions for our neighbors!

**Stretch Your Limits: Chair Yoga Classes:** Are you looking for a gentle way to improve your physical and mental well-being? We invite both men and women to join our chair yoga classes here at church! Tuesdays, May 6, 13, and 20, 5:00-6:00PM at First Congregational UCC. Fee of \$12/class, max 25 students/class. Register on Realm or by contacting the church office: [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org) or 920.733.7393. Presented by ESTHER/First Congregational Mental Health Task Force.

## **This Week's Schedule**

### Monday, April 14

1:00-2:30PM Prayer Shawl – *Common Grounds*  
6:00-7:30PM Mental Health Task Force – *Upper Lounge*  
6:30-8:30PM Prayer Shawl – *Common Grounds*  
6:30-8:30PM Fox Valley Flute Choir – *Sanctuary*

### Tuesday, April 15

1:00-2:30PM Chrysalis – *Upper Lounge*  
6:30-7:30PM Living Sober AA Group – *Common Grounds*  
6:30-8:00PM Safety Committee – *Upper Lounge*  
7:00-8:30PM Boy Scouts – *Fellowship Hall*  
7:45-8:45PM Fireside AA – *Common Grounds*

### Wednesday, April 16

12:15-1:00PM Loving Acceptance Meditation Group – *Upper Lounge*  
2:00-3:00PM Peabody/Heritage Worship @ *Peabody Chapel*  
5:45-6:25PM Youth Handbells – *Amistad Room*  
6:30-7:30PM MS Youth Group Community Collabs: Hide Easter eggs  
for the children – *CYF Wing*  
7:00-8:30PM Sanctuary Choir – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*

### Thursday, April 17

9:30-10:30AM Adult Education Meeting – *Chapel*  
11:00AM-12:00PM Finance Committee Meeting – *Upper Lounge*  
12:00-1:00PM AA Search for Serenity Group – *Common Grounds*  
12:00-1:30PM Theology Discussion Group @ *Holidays Pub & Grill, Appleton*  
6:30-7:30PM Community Partnership – *Isaiah Project Room*  
6:30-8:00PM Family/Friends NAMI Mental Illness Support Group –  
*Upper Lounge*  
7:00-8:00PM Maundy Thursday Service – *Sanctuary*  
7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

### Friday, April 18

10:00-11:30AM Bulletin Folders – *Library*  
7:00-8:00PM Al-Anon – *Upper Lounge*  
7:00-8:30PM N.A – *Common Grounds*

This Week's Schedule continued on page 15...

Saturday, April 19

7:00-8:00PM Fox Valley 94 AA – *Common Grounds*

Sunday, April 20

9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare – *Childcare Room*

8:45-9:45AM Easter Sunday Worship – *Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel*

9:30-10:30AM MS Group help with Easter Egg Hunt

9:45-10:15AM Easter Egg Hunt – *CYF Wing*

10:30-11:30AM Easter Sunday Worship – *Sanctuary, Upper Lounge, Chapel*

7:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting – *Fellowship Hall, Common Grounds*

7:00-8:00PM AL ANON – *Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge*

**Land Covenant**

The land now occupied by Appleton, Wisconsin and surrounding areas - including the current site of First Congregational UCC - was the home, hunting, gathering, and farming land of the First Peoples of this territory: the Ho Chunk Nation and the Menominee Nation. Other tribes were forcibly re-located to this region by the actions of colonialism. Despite centuries of reprehensible treatment, the peoples of these sovereign nations are robust and enduring among us.

We are truly saddened by the genocide of their ancestors, the seizure of their lands, and the repression of their cultures and languages. We acknowledge that we benefit from the economic and social legacy left by settler colonialism.

We are grateful that many members of these original Nations have honorably served and defended the United States. We strive to honor their cultures and their insightful stewardship of this land and all creatures on it, recognizing our common interest in protecting its air, water, soils, and web of life for all future generations.

We commit ourselves through study and immersion experiences to learn the history and cultures of these peoples and their traditional knowledge.





**Easter Flower Sunday!**  
 After Service Easter Sunday, April 20  
 Help Spread the Easter Joy -  
 We need your help to deliver them!

.....

**Here's how it works:**

- **Sign up** for delivery by scanning the QR Code/Contacting the front office!

**On the day of....**

- Choose a recipient (or two!) from the list in the **library**.  
 \*If you are picking up your own flower, don't forget the card with your name on it!
- Names, addresses, and phone numbers will be provided.
- Deliver to someone you know or someone nearby!

**Don't forget to grab these 2 things:**

- 1 card
- 1 flower from the pulpit

*Thank you for keeping this Easter tradition alive!*




## HOLIDAY DECORATIONS DONATION

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to 'FCUCC' with memo 'Holiday Decorations Donation.'

Please word the following as you would like it to appear in the Easter bulletin:

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

Drop this form off in the offering plate or return it to the church office or email your information to [info@uccappleton.org](mailto:info@uccappleton.org) by Monday, April 14.



*Holy Week  
Schedule*

**PALM SUNDAY ~ April 13 at 9:30AM**

This service will feature an opening processional beginning in the narthex with bells and palms, the Sanctuary Choir, and John Daniel, trumpet.

This service will also be livestreamed.

After worship join us for a youth-led pancake breakfast.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY ~ April 17 at 7:00PM**

This service will be a Tenebrae Service with Communion.

Pastor Nick and Pastor Katherine will lead the service, and the Sanctuary Choir, LU Music Scholars and Matt Michelie, viola, will be featured.

This service will also be livestreamed.

**GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE ~ April 18 at 12:00PM**

This service will be held at Fox Valley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship,  
2600 Philip Ln, Appleton, WI 54915.

A combined Ecumenical Choir will be offered.

**EASTER SUNDAY ~ April 20 at 8:45AM and 10:30AM**

These services will feature the Sanctuary Choir, LU Music Scholars, LU Brass Quintet, organ and timpani, and a Scholar soloist.

Both Easter services will also be livestreamed.

Childcare will be available during the 8:45AM service.

Children should bring a basket or bag to take home goodies they'll collect during our Massive Egg Hunt between services, at 9:45AM.

*Welcome to The Church of the Open Door.*

Our door is open to you at whatever point you are in your journey of faith.

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**Baptisms** are held on the third Sunday of each month. To schedule a baptism, contact the church office six weeks before your desired baptism date.

**Childcare** is available for ALL infants and toddlers every Sunday. Kindergarten and first graders may enjoy a communion mini-lesson on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month and may go to childcare the 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month. Please see an usher for directions to the Childcare Room.

**Communion:** The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month. Communion elements are gluten and alcohol free. All are welcome to join us!

**Flowers:** Today's flowers were arranged by Cindi Ritcey Fox.

**Hearing Loop:** Need help hearing our service? Ask an usher. They can help get you in the loop!



**Online Streaming and Podcasting** are available on [Facebook: FCUCCAppleton](#) or [Youtube: First Congregational UCC Appleton](#).

**Open Door Announcements** can be shared by emailing [opendoor@uccappleton.org](mailto:opendoor@uccappleton.org) or calling the office.

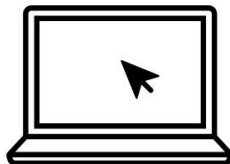
**References to God** in our worship may at times be gender specific. You are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the inclusiveness of God.

**Sunday School:** Our PreK - 5<sup>th</sup> graders begin in worship. After the children's message, they walk together to the CYF wing for our Children's Ministry Program. Kindergarten - fifth graders may enjoy a communion mini-lesson on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month. Children begin in worship, leave with the director, and return to partake in communion with their families. Youth gather on Wednesday evenings.

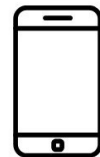
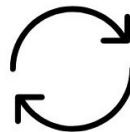
**Ways to Donate to First Congregational UCC, Appleton ~ Thank you for your support.**



Giving envelopes and checks can be dropped in the offering plate or mailed to the church



Visit our website at [uccappleton.org](http://uccappleton.org) and click "Give Now" for a one time gift or to sign up for automatic giving



Text FCUCC GIVE to 73256

\*Messages and data rates may apply.  
Message frequency varies. Text HELP to 73256 for help. Text STOP to 73256 to cancel.

*We are glad you are here today! You are welcome to worship in person with us in the sanctuary or watch it livestreamed in the upper lounge, narthex or chapel. The nursery also has livestreaming, on the other end of the building.*

**TODAY AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC, APPLETON**

- 9:25AM-12:00PM Childcare – *Childcare Room*
- 9:30-10:30AM Sunday Worship/Palm Sunday – *Chapel, Sanctuary, Upper Lounge*
- 9:30-10:30AM Children’s Ministry – *CYF Wing*
- 10:30AM-12:00PM Youth-Led Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast – *Fellowship Hall*
- 10:45-11:45AM Advance Care Planning-National Healthcare Decision Day – *Upper Lounge*
- 12:30-5:15PM Badger Women's Chorus Rehearsal & 4:00PM Concert – *Sanctuary*
- 4:15-5:15PM Lenten Yoga – *Scripture Tent*
- 5:30-6:30PM LU Music Scholars’ Rehearsal – *Choir Room, Sanctuary*
- 6:00-8:00PM First Things First AA Meeting – *Fellowship Hall, Commons Grounds*
- 7:00-8:00PM AL ANON – *Chapel / Alateen – Upper Lounge*

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY LOCATIONS FOR TODAY**

Upstairs, to the left	Upstairs, to the Right	Downstairs, to the left
<b>Childcare Room</b> Infants & Toddlers	<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Little Angel’s Room</b> Preschoolers
<b>Theater</b>	<b>Art Kitchen</b> 2nd & 3rd Graders	<b>Science Room</b> 4th & 5th Graders
<b>Scripture Tent</b> K & 1st Graders		

**We are “The Church of the Open Door,” a welcoming and inclusive Christian community.**

**No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.**



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 Office hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00AM–3:00PM  
 For pastoral emergencies: 920.810.2600