



Sunday, January 21, 2024

**Good Morning and Welcome to
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



***We are here to help people know God,
find freedom, discover their purpose,
and make a difference in the community, near and far.***

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

Reach Up. Reach Out. Reach In.

WELCOME

Rev. Patrick Crocker

PRELUDE

Aletta Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sue Stefford-Grey

One: Though often misunderstood,
often held captive by fabricated realities,
our souls long for peace.

**Many: O God, we long for your presence;
we long for peace.**

One: We run without a destination,
surrounded by highways of turbulent noise.
We are tired, worn, and battered,
and our souls long for joy.

**Many: O God, we long for your presence;
we long for joy.**

One: Through it all; in it all; and around all of it—
choose to love the astounding teaching of the Messiah.
Look to experience peace and joy—
even in the midst of disappointment, war, injustice, or poverty.
Allow your soul to become acquainted with the One who changes
hard challenges into opportunities for transformation and growth.

Many: Peace and Joy are possible in the presence of the Savior.

**All: In spite of the world's challenges, we choose peace;
we choose joy; we choose to follow YOU, Lord!**

GATHERING HYMN

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Chalice Hymnal, #453

Verses 1 & 4

1.

Called as partners in Christ's service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.

May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfill God's chosen end.

4.

So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.

Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

UNISON PRAYER

Sue Stefford-Grey

Living God, we seek the experience of your presence now.

Our minds cannot understand you,
yet our hearts cry out for a living relationship with you.

Our eyes cannot see you,
yet without you there would be nothing to see.

Our faith cannot grasp you,
yet in you we live and move and have our being.

Our way ahead into this week is hidden from us,
but we trust that you have prepared a way through for us.

Renew our vision of the eternal truths
in the light of which our day-to-day lives must be lived.

Open our eyes to see your presence in the simple glories of everyday things.

Light up our relationships with other people
by the living word of love in Jesus.

Help us so to see where we went wrong in the past,
that we shall be able to take our bearings afresh for the way ahead.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE

Rev. Patrick Crocker

HYMN OF GRATITUDE

Come, Celebrate the Call of God

Chalice Hymnal #454

Verses 1 & 3

1,

Come, celebrate the call of God
That wakens and renews,
And chooses from us, for our good,
The bringers of good news.

The Spirit's blessing all ordains
To show what God has done,
Yet brings to focus and contains
The many in the one.

3.

Great Spirit, give her word and breath
In Christ to live and speak,
And shield against the powers of death
The outcast and the weak,

Her flag of faith, above defeats,
In heaven's breeze unfurled,
As all her deepest gladness meets
The hunger of the world.

CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE

Paul Cook

READING

Mark 1:14-20

SERMON

Rev. Patrick Crocker

Disturbing the Comfortable

COMMUNION HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #385

An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare

Verses 1 – 3

1.

An upper room did our Lord prepare
For those he loved until the end:
And his disciples still gather there
To celebrate their risen friend.

2.

A lasting gift Jesus gave his own:
To share his bread, his loving cup.
Whatever burdens may bow us down,
He by his cross shall lift us up.

3.

And after supper he washed their feet,
For service, too, is sacrament.
In Christ our joy shall be made complete:
Sent out to serve, as he was sent.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Melissa McKenzie-Shaw

PRAYERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Patrick Crocker

GOING FORTH HYMN

Chalice Hymnal #436

Shalom To You Now

Verse 1 (x2)

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving,
Christ be your Shalom, Christ be your Shalom.

POSTLUDE

Aletta Wilson

UPCOMING SERVICES

Services are at 10:15 am MST unless otherwise noted.

January 28, 2024

Worship Leader: Melissa McKenzie-Shaw
Offering: Rev. Patrick Crocker
Communion: Paul Cook

February 4, 2024

Worship Leader: Eric Hays-Strom
Offering: Esther Devall
Communion: Rev. Patrick Crocker

February 11, 2024

Worship Leader: Melody Burns
Offering: Scott Hays-Strom
Communion: Esther Devall

February 18, 2024

Worship Leader: Esther Devall
Offering: Paul Cook
Communion: Rev. Patrick Crocker

February 25, 2024

Worship Leader: Karen Holmes
Offering: Kamy McKenzie-Shaw
Communion: Sandy Weber

March 3, 2024

Worship Leader: Hilda McKee
Offering: Paul Cook
Communion: Kamy McKenzie-Shaw

Global Ministries is supported by both DOC and UCC.

For more information, visit globalministries.org.

If you are visiting us today, we welcome you!

Please come worship with us again!

About First Christian Church

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we celebrate communion weekly. We welcome all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us.

We are the United Church of Christ, committed to hearing God's ancient story anew and afresh in our lives and in the world today. Why? Because God is still speaking.

We are an Open and Affirming community. In Christ's example, we want to offer all persons, regardless of race, creed, sexual orientation, or gender identity the opportunity to discover and develop their gifts of God's love and service.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sun.10:15 am	Worship Service *
Thu.9:00 am	Spiritual Practices
Thu.3:00 pm	Book Discussion (biweekly)

* Our Hybrid Worship Service is held in-person at the church, and live-streamed via [Zoom](#) and [Facebook Live](#).

MONTHLY EVENTS

First Sun.	6:30 pm	Contemplative Worship
First Wed.	6:30 pm	Crafter's Group
Third Wed.	11:30 am	Brown Bag Lunch

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