

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

U N I T E D C H U R C H O F C H R I S T

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REV. BRUCE MULDER + INTERIM MINISTER

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER — MAY 10, 2026**

**MUSIC APPRECIATION/MOTHER'S DAY**

**WELCOME & COMMUNITY NEWS**

**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

## **PRELUDE**

*Praise to the Lord, Arr. by Llyod Larson*

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The Canterbury Ringers

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

The Lord is risen!

**He is risen indeed!**

**Let us pray:**

**Brightness of God's glory**

**and exact image of God's person,**

**whom death could not conquer**

**nor the tomb imprison,**

**as you have shared your immortality in the Spirit.**

**Let no shadow of the grave terrify us**

**and no fear of darkness turn our hearts from you.**

**Reveal yourself to us this day and all our days,**

**as the first and the last, the living one,**

**our immortal Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

\*Those who wish may stand\*

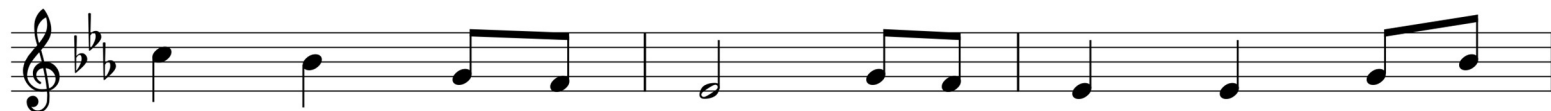
## OPENING HYMN

\*Those who wish may stand\*

*All the Music Sung and Played Here*



All the mu - sic sung and played here is a  
All cre - a - tion sings your glo - ry; in the  
You give hymns and songs for sing - ing, toes for  
Bless the tal - ents we are bring - ing, for we



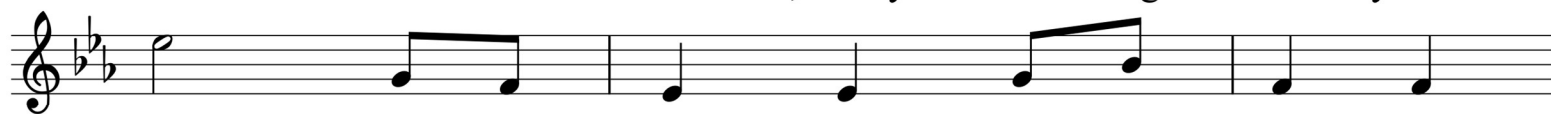
gift, O God from you. For as long as we have  
Psalms are pain and praise. Ma - ry sang your sav - ing  
tap - ping your good news, Or - gan sound - ing, hand-bells  
of - fer you our best. If our gifts are not in



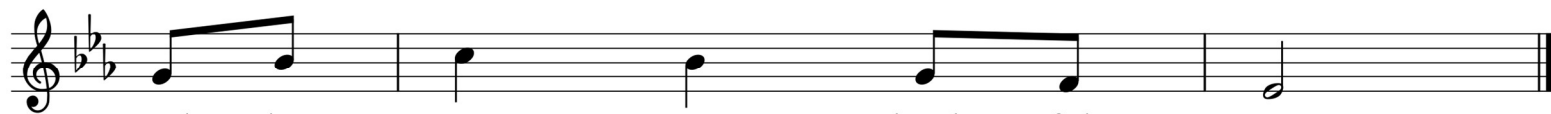
prayed here, we've been blessed by mu - sic too. By your  
sto - ry in her long, ex - pect - ant days. Through the  
ring - ing, faith - ful hear - ers in the pews. With the  
sing - ing, may our joy - ful noise be blest. If our



Spir - it, each mu - si - cian finds new depths of faith to  
years, with great e - mo - tion, some have reached to you in  
trum - pet and the cym - bal, with gui - tar and vi - o -  
world is ev - er si - lent, may we sign to you a -



share. Mu - sic is a gift you've giv - en  
song. May we sing with such de - vo - tion;  
lin, Faith is found here and re - kin - dled;  
bove. Touched by grace, may each one pres - ent



and be - comes our thank - ful prayer.  
mu - sic helps your church grow strong!  
hearts are lift - ed once a - gain.  
of - fer back your song of love.

# MUSIC APPRECIATION

Names and Number of Years Participating

## The Motet Choir of First Congregational Church

*\*Staff Singers*

Susan Mixer	53	Joseph Dixon*	12
Roy Winegar	44	Cathy Sander	11
Barb Kartes	41	Jim Hysten	11
Scott Lachniet	41	Hanna Schmiedeknecht *	11
Shirley Albers	37	Merijo Dulyea	9
Deb Collett	32	Sue Brookstra	9
Bob Chessman	26	Bill Brookstra	9
Elisabeth Major	24	Betsy Peterson	8
Debbie VanderWier	23	Scott Peterson	8
Mike Akhurst	21	Lorie Hawkins	8
Cindy Bates-Twining	18	Sam Koschmann	4
Marie Van Buren	18	Sharon LaNoue	4
Jim Van Buren	18	Joel Dulyea	4
Greg Scott	17	Gayle Bristah	3
Michelle Kemp	16	Steve Chapman	3
Marilyn Quail	15	Bob Filka	3
Donna Hood	15	Karen Kahrs Filka	3
Bruce Hood	15	Sue Lack	3
Jessica Krause	14	Kendyl White*	3
Paul Krause	14	David Abdelkader*	2
Ashley Jankoski	13		

## The Canterbury Ringers

Barb Kartes	39
Diane Goodman	27
Tom Goodman	27
Elisabeth Major	27
Sue Rummery	23
Melissa Wikman	16
Donna Hood	14
Joseph Dixon	12
Ashley Jankoski	12
Laura Wiles	11
Hanna Schmiedeknecht	8
Michelle Bullion	1
Scott Peterson	1



## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Acts 16: 9-15

**D**uring the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

### John 14: 23-29

**J**esus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words, and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me. "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Fantasia on Hymn to Joy*, Arr. by Michael Helman

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The Canterbury Ringers

## MESSAGE

HOME

# HYMN OF REFLECTION

## Faith of Our Mothers

ST. CATHERINE

Henry F. Hemy, 1818–1888

adapt. James G. Walton, 1821–1905

Mary Louise Bringle, b.1953



1. Faith of our moth - ers, liv - ing still,  
2. Faith of our sis - ters, serv - ing still,  
3. Faith of our daugh - ters, hop - ing still,  
4. Faith of our fam - 'lies, grow - ing still,



through gifts de - rid - ed, calls de - nied,  
with towel and ba - sin, cup and bread,  
ven - tur - ing path - ways yet un - trod,  
var - ied in gen - der, class, and race,



striv - ing un - daunt - ed through the years,  
tend - ing earth's needs with pa - tient care,  
part - ners in wit - ness to the world,  
patch-work of pat - terns, shapes, and hues,



till bolt - ed doors have o - pened wide;  
till hurts are healed and hun - gers fed:  
seek - ing a liv - ing, mov - ing God:  
vast as the man - tle of God's grace:



faith of our moth - ers, firm and strong:  
faith of our sis - ters' art and skill,  
faith of our daugh - ters, bold and true,  
faith of our fam - 'lies, grow - ing faith,



voic - es long si - lenced rise in song!  
lov - ing with heart and mind and will.  
rest - less till Christ makes all things new.  
we hon - or you in life and death.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*(After each petition:)* Leader: Lord in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

*. . . ending with the 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 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.**

## **OFFERTORY INVITATION**

### **OFFERTORY MUSIC**

*God, Who Built This Wondrous Planet, by Craig Courtney*

God, who built this wondrous planet And all worlds beyond these bounds,  
Crown your work and ours with blessing, Meet us here on hallowed ground.  
With your glory fill this temple, Here be sought and here be found.

Christ, you built a holy structure That, like you, outlasts the earth;  
Chosen, like yourself, you make us living stones of priceless worth;  
Home, where prodigals returning, Celebrate with holy mirth.

Spirit, make your church a beacon Beaming hope where hoping wanes,  
Daily in these stones creating Life where death no longer reigns,  
And in grateful hearts forgiven Spark the love the world but feigns.

Living Father, living children, Living servants, living Lord,  
Living Savior, living Body, Living members, living Word;  
Living Spirit, Living temple: We adoring, you adored! Amen.

*Text © 1986, Jaroslav J. Vajda, Music © 1998 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.*

## **DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father (Creator), Son (Christ), and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
Amen.**

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

\*Those who wish may stand\*

## CLOSING HYMN

\*Those who wish may stand\*

### *When In Our Music God is Glorified*



When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied,  
How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found  
(Choir Only) So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song,  
And did not Je - sus sing a Psalm that night  
Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise!



and ad - o - ra - tion leaves no room for pride,  
a new di - men - sion in the world of sound,  
in faith and love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong,  
when ut - most e - vil strove a - gainst the Light?  
Let all re - joice who have a voice to raise!



It is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried:  
As wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found  
Borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:  
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:  
And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:



Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Fred Pratt Green © 1972 by Hope Publishing Co., Tune: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1904

## BLESSING AND SENDING

## POSTLUDE

*Festival Prelude on THAXTED*, by David Howard Pettit

# Today's Service

Rev. Bruce D. Mulder  
Dr. Michael Match  
John Mattson  
The Motet Choir  
Jake Lubbers  
David Wikman  
Blake Filius

Interim Pastor  
Music Director  
Organist  
Song Leaders  
Trumpet  
Liturgist/Prayer  
Audio and Video

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Flowers Sponsored by from Hal & Sue Rummery in appreciation of our Music Program and in honor of Mother's Day.

Those whose last names begin with the letters O through S please bring cookies or treats during the month of May. Please label ingredients as we have many with allergies. Child Care is available on the second floor for infants and toddlers.

In honor of Mother's Day and Music Appreciation - All "Youngsters" and "Oldsters" are welcome to enjoy a reading (15 - 20 minutes) of a favorite book by a guest reader in the Parlor after the coffee hour gathering. Enjoy your coffee and cake while you admire the table settings. An announcement will be given to let you know when to gather in the Parlor. It will be music to your ears!

Saturday Breakfast Garden, 1218 Jefferson: Tuesday's 1-3, Saturdays 9-13: planting, watering, helping with our Love INC classes. Volunteers are needed.

Eurythmy Class will resume May 19.

All are welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings from 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall for a Zumba Class emphasizing the 3's (Cardio, conditioning and choreography \$3 per class) There is also a Cardio- Drumming exercise class on Thursday mornings from 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join either sitting or standing. \$3 per class.

**FCC IS AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING COMMUNITY** "We, the people of First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, of Muskegon, care for the welfare of our community and welcome everyone, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey. We welcome into our community people of every age, race, nationality, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing, family structure, gender identity and expression, and sexual orientation. We also invite you to share in the life, leadership, worship, fellowship, sacraments responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love."