



First Reformed United Church of Christ

Where People Discover...
The Love of God...
The Power to Love Others...
The Ability to Love Ourselves.

The Worship of God

January 17, 2021

120th ANNIVERSARY OF OUR CHURCH

"BOLD" indicates congregational response

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Prelude | "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" attributed to Martin Luther/arr. Faye Lopez | Ashley Clasen |
| Invitation to Worship Invocation | | Rev. Elizabeth Horton |
| Hymn | "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" | Ellen Peterson |
| Psalms 139 | | Rev. Horton |

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.
You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.
You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.
Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.
If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as
light to you.
For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know
very well.
My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in
the depths of the earth.
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that
were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!
I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.
Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me and lead me in the way everlasting.

Prayer of Confession

O God, you bring justice to the oppressed and give bread to the hungry.

Forgive us when we do not follow you.

You free the prisoner and restore sight to the blind.

Forgive us when we do not follow you.

One: You support the downtrodden and protect the stranger.

Forgive us when we do not follow you.

You block evildoers and help orphans and widows.

Forgive us when we do not follow you.

You stand against injustice. You stand with the wronged.

Forgive us when we do not follow you.

You condemn seeking one's own interest, controlling and harming others.

Forgive us when we do not follow you.

You bring about justice and true peace among people.

God, forgive us when we do not follow you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Gratitude for 120 years of Ministry

Thank you to the Historical Committee who have kept such wonderful records throughout these many years:

Merle Hodges Rita Lohr Cliff Lopp Katherine Skipper Carolyn Spivey

Thank you for the special offerings today:

Rita and Buddy Lohr and Cliff Lopp

Affirmation of Ministry

(Inspired by Dr. King's vision of the Beloved Community.)

Rev. Horton

Dr. King's work reminds us: The church and state must work together for the common good; laws must establish justice for all, but hearts must change for the Beloved Community to flourish.

We will do the work of justice for all.

We will open our hearts to an ever-expanding vision of community.

We will trust the Spirit of God to guide and move us between the present and the anticipated Realm of Justice.

Dr. King's vision inspires us, "We are tied together in a single garment of destiny caught in an inescapable network of mutuality."

We will work for a world where lives are enriched by difference, where people work together in Shalom for the good of the whole.

We will work for a nation where persons will be judged solely upon the content of their characters.

Dr. King's words challenge us: "...injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

We will listen to the cries of the poor,

we will stand in solidarity with those who suffer oppression,

we will take as our own the hopes of all who long for full human life,

we will create in our midst the Beloved Community with room for all, justice for all, joy for all, Shalom for all.

We will listen to the voice of the Christ, who stirs about liberating and loving all.

We will never give up our hope for equality with one another.

Prayers of Petition

You are invited to share your petitions in the comments of the video.

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

Hymn

"O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

Ellen Peterson

Gospel Reading

John 1: 41-53

Rev. Horton

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, 'Follow me.' Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, 'We have found him about whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth.' Nathanael said to him, 'Can anything good come out of Nazareth?' Philip said to him, 'Come and see.' When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!'

Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Sermon

Anything Good?

Benediction

Postlude

"This Is My Father's World"
Traditional English Melody/arr. Chris Rice

Ashley Clasen

Join our **Fellowship & Prayer Concerns** after worship from 12-12:30PM and catch up with your church friends! **Join Zoom Meeting [HERE](#) (Meeting ID: 207 685 007 Passcode: 3n7IX8 Dial in: +1 301 715 8592)**

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FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Admin. Asst.: Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org) **Financial Secretary:** Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

JANUARY CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS

18th ...Patti Lovell...Mike Price...Robert Sandifer

19th ...Heidi Hutcheson

21st ...Carolyn Robbins

22nd ...Lisa Nelson

ANNIVERSARIES

20th ...Chris & Raeann Allred

OUR CHURCH AT PRAYER

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

We mourn the loss of Mary Berrier, long-time member of our church, who passed away on Wednesday, January 13. We offer sympathy for her family during their time of loss.

OUR MEMBERS:

Merle Hodges (in the hospital), Jerry Hodges, Susan Odom (at home), Jeff Hutchens (at home now), Ellen Bouchard, Kelly Greathouse, Lisa Price, Deanna Michael

OUR MEMBERS AT HOME AND IN CARE FACILITIES:

Peggy Bates, Janelle Bunn, Marzell Crofts, Ruth Essick, Pattie Everhart, Vogen Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marguerite Leonard, Bob Shaak, Lib Sink, Katherine Skipper, Carolyn Spivey, Adena Wall

OUR FRIENDS:

The Family of Jack Frank, Patricia Roberts (Stacey Potts' mother), Bob Sheehan (Eddie Yates' brother-in-law), Clarke Ward (father of Jay & Cathy Whitley's son-in-law), Ken Richardson and family (friend of Camille Morgan), Wendi Greene (Bill Robbins' sister), Ashley Thomason Hutcheson (Ron & Heidi Hutcheson's daughter-in-law), Barbara Miller (Eddie Yates' mother), Angie Bouchard (Lee and Ellen Bouchard's youngest daughter)

**Indicates newly added. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks. To add a name to the prayer list please call the church office (336-248-2617).*

CALENDAR

SUNDAY, January 17: CHURCH'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY

8:00AM Clothes Closet Sorting and Set-up

Jerry Lovell and Robert Danze will Sort and Set up the FRUCC Clothes Closet. Volunteers are needed to help with this task. To keep within the "10 and under Covid guidelines", **please contact Jerry Lovell (336-309-9302) if you would like to come and help.**

9:45AM Adult Sunday School: FOLLOW ME

January 17th: Second Sunday after the Epiphany

John 1:43-51

"Anything Good" (Smithie Parrish, Facilitator)

10:45AM Worship online via YouTube [HERE](#) or Facebook [HERE](#).

12:00PM Fellowship & Prayer Concerns

Zoom Meeting [HERE](#) (Meeting ID: 207 685 007 Passcode: 3n7IX8 Dial in: +1 301 715 8592)

MONDAY, January 18:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday...CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY, January 19:

12:00PM 2CFAR meeting via ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting [HERE](#). (Meeting ID: 873 4191 8684 Passcode: 222495)

7:00PM Adult Book Study Group

"Who Will Be A Witness? Integrating Activism for God's Justice" by Drew G. I. Hart

Join the meeting [HERE](#). (Meeting ID: 846 9163 5471 Passcode: 524570)

Cathy Browder will lead off as facilitator as the study begins with the "Introduction" for discussion.

WEDNESDAY, January 20:

5:30PM High School Youth via ZOOM. Join the meeting [HERE](#).
(Meeting ID: 988 9882 1207 Passcode: FRUCC)

SUNDAY, January 24: Third Sunday after Epiphany

9:45AM Adult Sunday School: FOLLOW ME

Mark 1:14-20

"Follow Me" (Eulene Shepherd, Facilitator)

10:45AM Worship online via YouTube [HERE](#) or Facebook [HERE](#).

12:00PM Fellowship & Prayer Concerns

Zoom Meeting [HERE](#) (Meeting ID: 207 685 007 Passcode: 3n7IX8 Dial in: +1 301 715 8592)

1-2:30PM Consistory Retreat via Zoom

UPCOMING EVENTS

SATURDAY, January 30:

11:00AM-2:00PM

Girl Scouts Drive-Through Cookie Booth **IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT**

SATURDAY, February 6:

11:00AM-2:00PM

Girl Scouts Drive-Through Cookie Booth **IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT**

FIRST REFORMED UCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOOKING TOWARD SUNDAY: A MESSAGE FROM REV. HORTON

We follow the Light of Christ even when we are led through the deepest shadows.

Isn't it extremely difficult to grieve together when we are physically apart? We are very much mourning the loss of beloved Mary Berrier among us. I made an error when I sent out the email notification. I accidentally wrote the year of her passing as 2020 instead of 2021. I apologize for any confusion that caused. Perhaps my flub magnifies that maybe we all are disjointed and scattered in so many ways right now...in our minds, hearts, families, and in our nation.

On Sunday, we celebrate the 120th Anniversary of the Church, and we have wonderful remembrances in online worship from the Historical Committee, especially Rita and Buddy Lohr and Clifford Lopp. January 20 is the actual day of the Church Anniversary, which is also the same as the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will remember God's faithfulness during 120 years of ministry in uptown Lexington, and Dr. King's dream of the Beloved Community, in the continued call for us to work toward reconciliation and peace for all humanity.

Our Series, **Follow Me**, will focus on the Gospel passage, [John 1: 43-51](#), we see Jesus begin to call his disciples. Many of whom, I doubt, the current Church would be eager to select! **I read a quote, Someone asked, "If God calls people into ministry why does God call some good ones and some bad ones? Why not all good ones?" It's a legitimate question, and I thought about it for the rest of that day. The next morning, I got up and wrote in my journal, "Maybe it's not that God calls some good ministers and some bad ones. Maybe God calls all of us, and has to make do with the ones who say yes."**

You and I are called to follow the Light even when it flickers dimly. God leads us into the places where love, justice, and peace of God is absent; the places we'd rather not go.

May God put up with us when we say yes.

**In faith and love,
*Elizabeth***

DRIVE THROUGH GIRL SCOUT COOKIE BOOTH

Our Girl Scouts are holding a Drive-Through Cookie Booth at the church this **Saturday, January 16, from 11:00AM-2:00PM IN THE CHURCH PARKING LOT**. If you want to pre-order and pay in advance to make your pickup smooth and fast, you can pre-order here: <http://bit.ly/lexingtoncookiebooth>. The troop is saving for its trip to Belize in June 2022.

CLOTHES CLOSET SORTING & SET UP

This coming Sunday, January 17th at 8:00AM Jerry Lovell and Robert Danze will Sort and Set up the FRUCC Clothes Closet. To keep within the "10 and under Covid guidelines", **please contact Jerry Lovell (336-309-9302)** if you would like to come and help.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICES WILL CONTINUE THROUGH FEBRUARY

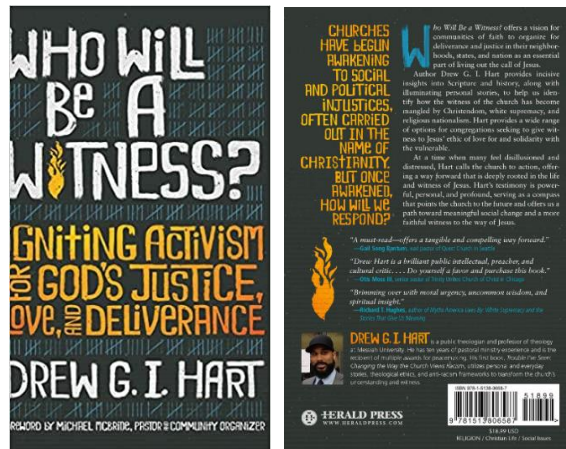
Due to the continued rising of Covid numbers, Consistory decided that our Sunday worship services would continue as virtual throughout February.

INVITATION TO TAKE PART IN WORSHIP SERVICES

If you would read Scripture or say a prayer in the online worship service, please click on this Sign-Up Genius link to sign up for a Sunday: [Worship Reader](#).

NEW ADULT BOOK STUDY TO BEGIN TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021

The Adult Book Study group has selected "Who Will Be A Witness? Integrating Activism for God's Justice" by Drew G. I. Hart for their next study. The goal of the book is to help identify how Christendom, white supremacy and religious nationalism has affected the witness of the church. All are welcome to participate. The study begins January 19 at 7pm. Join via Zoom [HERE](#). (Meeting ID: 846 9163 5471 Passcode: 524570)



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL & WORSHIP SERIES: Follow Me

Beginning January 10, our Worship Series and Adult Sunday School will coordinate, using the same scripture for the series, **Follow Me**. This series helps us renew our commitment on the path of discipleship in this new year. We will challenge ourselves to grow deeper in faith and open up to new possibilities in this new year. Let us embrace the call to follow. You may join the meeting [HERE](#). (Meeting ID: 890 2652 8333 Passcode: 634119)

LECTIONARY READINGS AND THEMES

January 17th: Second Sunday after the Epiphany

[John 1:43-51](#)

"Anything Good" (Smithie Parrish, Facilitator)

January 24th: Third Sunday after the Epiphany

[Mark 1:14-20](#)

"Follow Me" (Eulene Shepherd, Facilitator)

January 31st: Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

[Mark 1:21-28](#)

"What Have You to Do with Us?" (Eddie Yates, Facilitator)

February 7th: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

[Mark 1:29-39](#)

"She Began to Serve" (Rev. June Grubb, Facilitator)

February 14th: Transformation Sunday

[Mark 9:2-29](#)

"But Only Jesus" (Rev. Mike Hooper, Facilitator)

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

If you happen to miss a week of our worship services and other events that are shared on our Facebook and YouTube pages, they will remain on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)'s history, so you may go back to watch any time.