

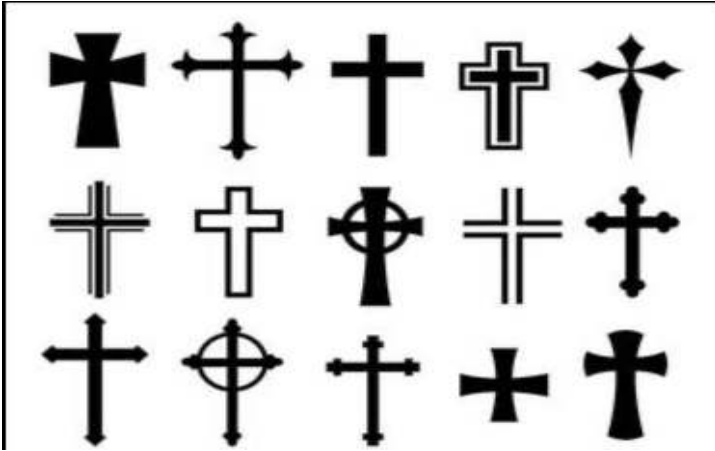
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

218 W. Second St., Gaylord, Michigan 49735

www.firstuccgaylord.org

March 15th, 2020

Welcome to the First Congregational United Church of Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!



"Forget what the world thinks of you stepping out of your place; think your best thoughts, speak your best words, work your best works, looking to your own conscience for approval." -Susan B. Anthony

Our mission is to embrace people of every age and stage of life and help them become the most loving version of themselves possible.

Words of Welcome

**Opening Song of Praise*

(B) 25

*“O, God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guide while life shall last
And our eternal home.”*

Minute for Mission

One Great Hour of Sharing

Mona Viviano

**Call to Worship: (WL = Worship Leader, M= Ministers)*

WL: Beautiful is the moment in which we understand that we are wholly instruments of God;

M: We desire to live as God calls us to live -- our lives dedicated to God's work.

WL: O God, help us to hear your voice and feel your abiding presence at all times.

M: Open our hearts and minds to reflect your love and peace to all around us.

ALL: Let us come together to give thanks for all that God has given to us.

This is a day that the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**Opening Hymn*

(R) 256 “The Old Rugged Cross” (verses 1,2,4)

**Corporate Unison Prayer*

(based on liturgy by Ken Untener, former bishop of Saginaw)

Merciful God,

We need to step back and take a long view, especially during Lent.

Your kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is beyond our vision.

We can accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is your work.

No statement says all that could be said.

No prayer fully expresses our faith.

No confession brings perfection.

No program completely accomplishes the Church's mission.

No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.

We lay foundations that will need further development.

We cannot accomplish all things,

Our accomplishments may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an

opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We are your workers, not master builders; your ministers, not messiahs.

Support us to be prophets of a future that you direct.
Help us to use the gifts you have bestowed upon us
as you direct us to use them for the benefit of all your people.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

****Gloria Patri***

Children's Time

“Jesus Loves the Children” –by Rokko Jans
Jesus loves the children. He says, “Come unto me.”
Lord, teach our hearts to open wide
Thy Kingdom comes to those who like a child
Come unto Thee

1st Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Pg. 785

Thank you, God, for the many ways you still speak to us.

****Hymn***

(B) 204 “Take Up Your Cross,” the Savior Said

Offering

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Performed by Gage Boughner on saxophone

****The Doxology***

2nd Scripture Reading

Philippians 2: 1-11

Pg. 266 NT

Thank you, God, for the many ways you still speak to us.

Sermon

“Across Crosses”

****Closing Hymn***

(B) 191 “Before Your Cross, O Jesus”

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (R)440

****Benediction***

****Song of Sending***

(B) 207

“Just as I am, your love unknown

*has broken every barrier down;
Now to be yours, and yours alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!"*

SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS:

Worship Leader: Laura Hotelling
Music Director: Rokko Jans
Kidz on a Mission: Brenda Brummel
Younger Kidz on a Mission: Mary Fox
Liturgist: Mona Viviano
Ushers/Greeters: Margaret Hellenberg
March Flowers: Laura Bantens

Moderator

Rokko Jans

E-mail: rokko@alaricjans.com

Communications Coordinator

Jessica Benoit

989-732-5726

E-mail: office@firstuccgaylor.org

Jessica's Upcoming Schedule:

Tuesday: 03/17 8:00am - 2:30pm

Wednesday: 03/18 8:00am – 2:30pm



Following worship, please join us in the Fellowship Hall where today's coffee hour will be hosted by Pete Amar and Mary Fox.

*You are invited to stand if you feel comfortable doing so.

+ Please note that we have two hymnals, one is red (R), the other is black (B).

** Page numbers for scriptures coincide with our pew bible, Good News Bible.