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# First Congregational Church

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13 September 2020



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## Rally Sunday

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2610 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99508

907.272.8363—[www.fccak.org](http://www.fccak.org)

*Enter with a spirit of preparation as we gather ourselves for worship*

**Prelude:** "I Call to You, Lord Jesus Christ" J.S. Bach

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Invocation: (unison)**

**Compassionate-One, Lover-of-Goodness,  
Draw near to us.**

**Surround us with confidence in your good news:  
that you love us as parents love their children;  
that your mercy is boundless and generous,  
that you beckon us always and will wait forever  
as we find our way back to you.**

**Open our hearts to receive your compassion;  
And then show us how to forgive, so that we may be vessels of  
resurrection hope in our troubled world.**

**In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **Musical Offering**

### **Children's Moment**

### **Invitation to Giving**

### **Dedication of Gifts: (unison)**

**May our gifts become symbols of our intention to minister with  
God to satisfy the needs of those whom God loves.**

# Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

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: "God How Can We Forgive"

Pg.5

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup> When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup> and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the

throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

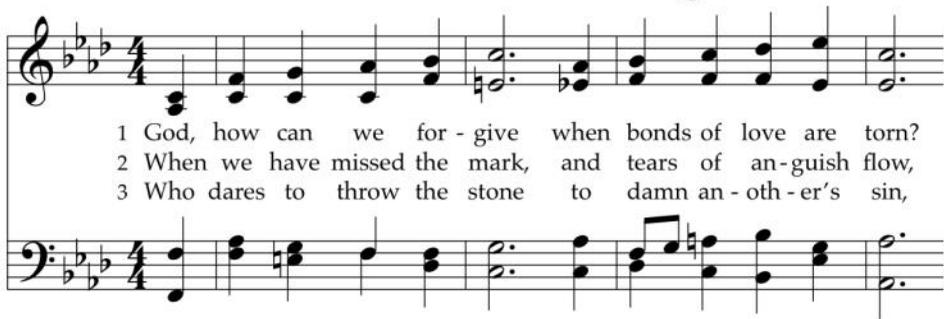
**Sermon:** "We Shall Breathe Free"  
Rev. Jacob L. Poindexter

**Hymn:** "God of Freedom, God of Justice" **No. 656, Pg. 6**

**Benediction**

**Postlude:** "Today the Son of God Triumphs" J.S. Bach

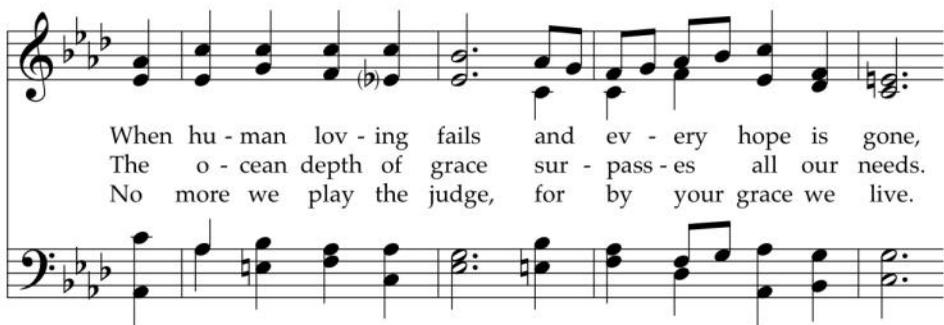
# God, How Can We Forgive



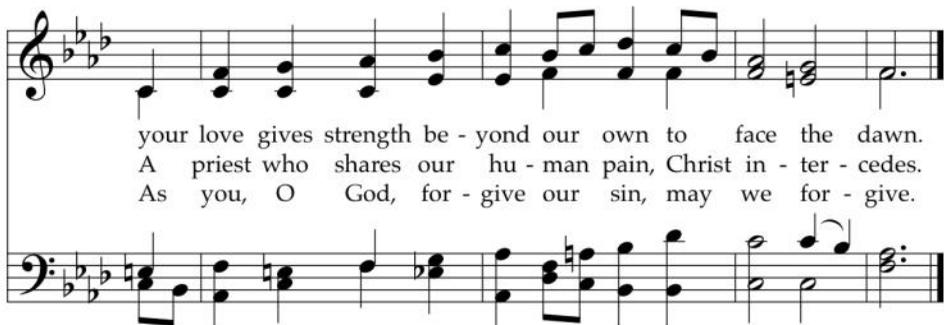
1 God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?  
2 When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,  
3 Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,



How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?  
how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?  
when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?



When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,  
The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.  
No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.



your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.  
A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.  
As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

1. God of free-dom, God of jus - tice, you whose love is  
 2. Rid the earth of tor - ture's ter - ror, you whose hands were  
 3. Make in us a cap - tive con - science quick to hear, to

strong as death, you who saw the dark of pris - on,  
 nailed to wood; hear the cries of pain and pro - test,  
 act, to plead; make us tru - ly sis - ters, broth - ers

you who knew the price of faith— touch our world of  
 you who shed the tears and blood— move in us the  
 of what - ev - er race or creed— teach us to be

sad op - pres - sion with your Spir - it's heal - ing breath.  
 power of pit - y rest - less for the com - mon good.  
 ful - ly hu - man, o - pen to each oth - er's need.

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, 1980  
 MUSIC: Guthrie Foote (20th century)

TREDEGAR  
 87.87.87

# Sunday Worship – Online!

## Joining FCC worship service by video:

-Click this link, or type it into your browser: <https://zoom.us/j/714054878>

-Password: 9072728363

### •Desktop/laptop:

- \* If you are using a computer or laptop, you may be prompted to open the Zoom app. If you do not have it already, press 'cancel' and there will be a link on the page that says something like 'join from your browser'. Mac users should download Zoom app or use Chrome browser.
- \* When joining the service you will be asked to enter a name for others to see.
- \* Select 'Join audio by computer' when prompted
- \* You may need to give permission to use your microphone and camera. You can mute and unmute your camera and microphone in the bottom left corner of your screen.

### •Mobile Device:

- \* If you are using a mobile device you will be prompted to download the app for Zoom. Download it now to make sure you are ready.
- \* When you join the service you will be asked to enter a name for others to see.
- \* You may need to give permission to use your microphone and camera. You can mute and unmute your camera and microphone in the bottom left corner of your screen.

## Join by Phone (audio only):

### •You can call into the service. The process goes like this:

- \* Call this number: (301) 715-8592
- \* Enter this meeting ID number: 714 054 878
- \* You do not need a participant ID number, press the # key when prompted.
- \* Password: 9072728363
- \* That's it! Your phone will be automatically muted when you enter in the meeting.
- \* You can mute and unmute your phone by pressing: \*6

# Stay Connected – Online!

## Classes and meetings:

Regular classes and meetings will still happen. They will be held remotely at the links below. All you need to do is click or enter the link and join the room. You may be prompted to allow use of your camera and/or microphone. All classes, meetings, and fellowship opportunities will be in the *Gathering Room* on Zoom.

- Gathering Room: <https://zoom.us/j/779177417>, Password: 9072728363
  - \* Lectio Divina (lectionary group)
    - ⇒ Tuesdays at 10:00am
  - \* Roots of Joy
    - ⇒ Tuesdays at 7:00pm
    - ⇒ Our current series is exploring anti-racism is/as the church
  - \* Afternoon Tea
    - ⇒ Wednesdays and Fridays at 3:00 pm.
    - ⇒ Informal gathering similar to a Sunday Fellowship Hour
  - \* Ministry Meetings
    - ⇒ Ministries will continue to meet online at their normal time
  - \* Deacon meetings
    - ⇒ As needed
  - \* Council
    - ⇒ May schedule additional meetings as needed
  - \* Chatting with friends
    - ⇒ Anytime that there are not other scheduled events
  - \* Any other scheduled meet-up that is not Sunday morning worship



# News from the Pews

☞ **Rally Sunday Picnic**—Today, at 5pm

☞ **Lectio Divina**—Tuesdays at 10:00am

☞ **Roots of Joy**—Tuesdays at 7:00pm

☞ **Afternoon Tea**—Wednesdays & Fridays at 3:00pm

☞ **Handbell Choir**—Wednesdays at 5:00pm (at Caroline's)

☞ **Zoom Choir**—Wednesdays at 6:30pm 3rd at 6pm

☞ **Worship Meeting**—Thursday, Sept. 17th at 6pm

## Rally Sunday Picnic, TODAY!



People are invited to the lower church parking lot **at 5 pm** for a picnic; bring your own lunch. Once you arrive, you can sit on church chairs outside, socially distanced from others who also attend, or bring your own chair, or sit in your car socially distanced from another car or people on chairs.

There is no agenda for this purely sociable gathering; it's just an excuse to do something together, to see others in-person and not just through Zoom.

**Books for Shungnak School**— Shungnak School is a pre K-12 population of about 85 students, most of whom are Alaskan Native (Inupiat). While most teachers have books in their classroom, there is no school or community-wide library.

During the 2018-2019 school year, Outreach sent over 2000 books for teachers to use in their classrooms and for students to take home. The books generated a lot of interest in the community, and they saw an increase in their state testing scores.

Outreach is again sponsoring this activity to include magazines such as National Geographic, Field and Stream, or others of interest to children or adults. To donate books or magazines, please drop them off at church. Jim Walker will be at church Wednesday from 5:00 pm-6:00 pm. Scott McClure will be at church on Monday and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm.

Also we need large boxes for shipping the books so we'd welcome any donations of that type.



### Roots of Joy—

A service that explores other ways to engage our faith and spirituality together. Our current series is exploring anti-racism.

**Afternoon Tea**— Fellowship Ministry is inviting you and your family to Afternoon Tea, every Wednesday and Friday at 3:00 pm, in the online Gathering room. It is an informal gathering like we have for an hour after Sunday's worship service, so we have no set topic or purpose other than sharing and support.



## **Did you know Winifred Kiek...**

Winifred Kiek (née Jackson) was born in 1884. Winifred was the first woman to be ordained in the Christian Ministry in Australia. She was ordained on June 13, 1927, in South Australia to the Congregational Union of Australia. From 1926-1933 Winifred preached in the new Colonel Light Gardens Congregational Union Church. She also served as minister of Knoxville Congregational Church in 1939-46, and preached frequently in Congregational and other churches. She lectured at Parkin College from 1930.

Winifred Kiek championed the women's movement from her arrival in South Australia. She was a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in South Australia and president in 1926; a member of the National Council of Women, a convenor of its committee on equal moral standards, and member of its committee for peace and arbitration from 1938-1950. She held office in the League of Women Voters, and in the Australian Federation of Women Voters. She was twice vicechair/acting chair of the Congregational Union of South Australia. She was often a delegate to international women's conferences in Asia.

**...was a Congregationalist?**

**Celebrating 400 Years of American Congregationalism**

New Prayer Concerns

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Larry Jones, brother-in-law of Claudia Kniefel           | Karen, friend of Caroline Valentine                        |
| Meredith Trombly, step-daughter of Marilyn Lee           | All students & educators returning to school               |
| Brenda Post  | Claudia Kniefel  |
| Don May, great grandfather of Reagan & Avery Binek       | Donna Werth, sister of Vivian Pike                         |
| Daliso, son of Amana Mbise                               | Ron Broome   |
| Louise Smith   | Elisabeth Kachline   |
| Linda Sereyko & her mother, Joyce Johnson                | Cecilia, sister of Amana Mbise                             |
| Stan Parker; brother of Lori Wasko                       | Karen Wasko; mother of Paul Wasko                          |
| Alice Butler; mother of Jane vonBirgelen                 | Peggy Jones; sister of Claudia Kniefel                     |
| Cathy White & her family                                 | Bob Reupke; husband of Toni Reupke                         |
| Barbara May; great grandmother of Reagan & Avery Binek   | Margaret Webber; friend of Barbara Bowerman & Pam Wright   |
| Family of Ian White; Director, Crow Creek Pipe & Drum    | Paul Chapin; cousin of Chris Walker                        |
| Joe's daughter; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline     | Nicole Johnson; niece of Eric Johnson & Marilyn Lee        |
| Mary Anne's mother; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline | Hans Roar Nilssen; father-in-law of Marilyn Lee's daughter |
| Wayne Pratt; brother of Sharon Higgins                   | Sunny Bird; friend of Chris Walker                         |
| Jacob Kreuzenstein; grandson of Peggy Kreuzenstein       | Charlene Demshki; mother of Ginger Smith                   |
| Elizabeth Amber; family of Jenna & Nathan Amber          | Lillian Soth; granddaughter of Jeanette & Fermen Dillon    |

Deaths

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Lynn Worth, sister Craig Valentine | Jim Walton                                  |
| Bill Werth, brother of Vivian Pike | Rossana De Marzo, cousin of Miguel De Marzo |

For all the teachers, aides, staff, and volunteers who educate our children; for the first responders, those serving in the military, and those that serve our community in a variety of ways; for the peacekeepers and public servants; for those in our community who are in need and those struggling in different ways; for the people with whom we are in conflict, we pray.

# People of First Congregational Church

## Senior Minister

**Rev. Jacob L. Poindexter**

907.272.8363—jacobp@fccak.org

## Music Ministry

**Caroline Valentine**

Organist and Director, Northern Lights Ringers

**Lori Parker Wasko**

Director, Chancel Choir

## Contacts

**Krystal Poindexter**

Administrative Assistant

907.272.8363—office@fccak.org

**Scott McClure**

Church Sexton

**Sandy Skaggs**

Wedding Coordinator

907.223.7659

## Sunday Volunteers

Deacon Serving: Sue Hanas

Greeting:

Liturgist:

Fellowship Hour:

Usher Team:

This week's Communion Table flowers are given by Sharon Higgins, celebrating the 25th Wedding Anniversary of her daughter and son-in-law, Amy and Rich Arsenault.

**Flowers provided by Evalyn's Floral**

## Connect—Get Involved—Share a Prayer Request

Fill out one of the connect cards located in the back of the pew in front of you and drop it in the offering plate.

## Hearing-Assist System

Connect directly to a smart device with Bluetooth hearing aids or traditional headphones.

1. Download the AudioFetch app: 
2. Connect to Wi-Fi signal: FCCAK HEARING ASSIST
3. Make sure hearing aid is Bluetooth connected.
4. Open AudioFetch app and enjoy the sound!

## Member—

National Association  
Of Congregational  
Christian Churches



[www.facebook.com/fccak.org](http://www.facebook.com/fccak.org)

## Online Giving

In addition to cash or checks, First Congregational Church accepts donations and pledge payments securely online with a credit card.

Scan the QR code or go to [www.fccak.org/give](http://www.fccak.org/give)



Thank you for your financial participation in the work of First Congregational Church!

# First Congregational Church of Anchorage

## September 2020

| Sunday                            | Monday | Tuesday                      | Wednesday                                | Thursday  | Friday                   | Saturday            |
|-----------------------------------|--------|------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 13                                | 14     | 15                           | 16                                       | 17  | 18                       | 19                  |
| <b>Rally Sunday</b>               |        | <b>10am</b> Lectio Divina    | <b>3pm</b> Afternoon Tea                 | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (weather contingency) | <b>3pm</b> Afternoon Tea | <b>9am</b> Organist |
| <b>10:30am</b> Worship            |        | <b>11:30am</b> Staff Meeting | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (@ Caroline's) | <b>6pm</b> Worship Mtg                          |                          |                     |
| <b>5:00pm</b> Rally Sunday Picnic |        | <b>7pm</b> Roots of Joy      | <b>6:30pm</b> Choir (on Zoom)            |   |                          |                     |
| 20                                | 21     | 22                           | 23                                       | 24  | 25                       | 26                  |
| <b>Communion</b>                  |        | <b>10am</b> Lectio Divina    | <b>3pm</b> Afternoon Tea                 | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (weather contingency) | <b>3pm</b> Afternoon Tea | <b>9am</b> Organist |
| <b>10:30am</b> Worship            |        | <b>11:30am</b> Staff Meeting | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (@ Caroline's) |   |                          |                     |
| <b>12:15pm</b> Council Mtg        |        | <b>7pm</b> Roots of Joy      | <b>6:30pm</b> Choir (on Zoom)            |   |                          |                     |
| 27                                | 28     | 29                           | 30                                       | Oct 1   | 2                        | 3                   |
| <b>10:30am</b> Worship            |        | <b>10am</b> Lectio Divina    | <b>3pm</b> Afternoon Tea                 | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (weather contingency) |                          | <b>9am</b> Organist |
|                                   |        | <b>11:30am</b> Staff Meeting | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (@ Caroline's) | <b>6pm</b> Investment Club (BR)                 |                          |                     |
|                                   |        | <b>7pm</b> Roots of Joy      | <b>6:30pm</b> Choir (on Zoom)            |   |                          |                     |
| 4                                 | 5      | 6                            | 7  | 8   | 9                        | 10                  |
| <b>World Communion Sunday</b>     |        | <b>10am</b> Lectio Divina    | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (@ Caroline's) | <b>4pm</b> Fellowship Mtg                       |                          | <b>9am</b> Organist |
| <b>10:30am</b> Worship            |        | <b>11:30am</b> Staff Meeting | <b>5:15pm</b> Handbells                  | <b>5pm</b> Handbell Choir (weather contingency) |                          |                     |
| <b>12:15pm</b> Outreach Mtg       |        | <b>7pm</b> Roots of Joy      | <b>6:30pm</b> Choir (on Zoom)            |   |                          |                     |

**Color Key—Black: Worship, Blue: FCC Activities, Purple: FCC Partnership Activities**