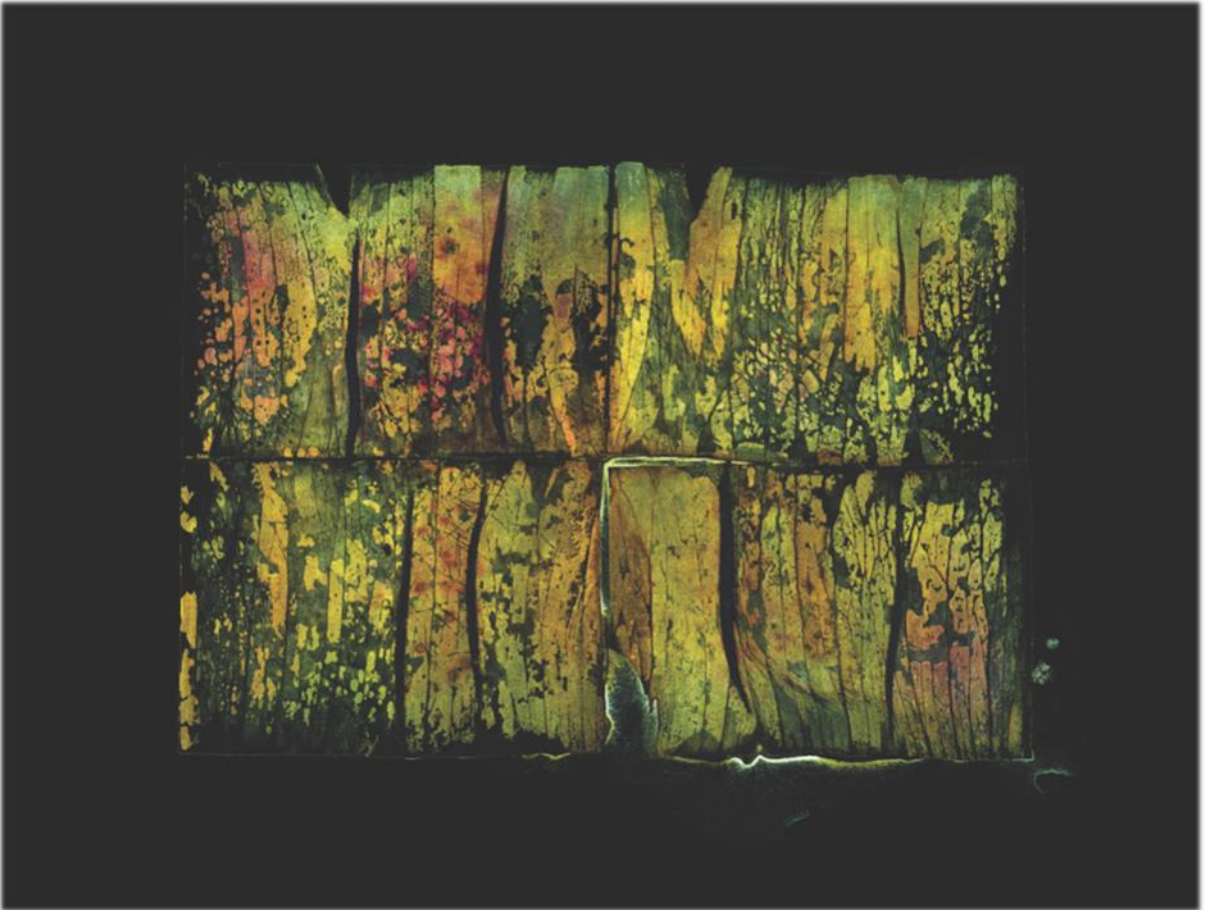

First Congregational Church

25 April 2021



Fourth Sunday of Easter



2610 East Northern Lights Blvd., Anchorage, Alaska 99508

907.272.8363—www.fccak.org

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

Prelude: "The Lord's My Shepherd" arr. Wilbur Held

Welcome and Announcements

Responsive Reading:

ONE: With grace flowing, the poet sings the opening lines, "The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want."

ALL: We hear the Psalmist's contentment and wonder about our own.

ONE: Settled on the ground, with grass tickling their toes, the psalmist rests, "God makes me lie down in green pastures. She leads me beside still waters. She restores my soul."

ALL: We hear their deep need for rest and wonder about our own.

ONE: With a deep sigh, the psalmist declares, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me. You prepare a table before me. You anoint me. My cup overflows.

ALL: We recognize their bold courage and wonder about our own.

ONE: Remembering God's faithfulness, the psalmist finds words to carry with them, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long."

ALL: We hear their faithful trust and wonder about our own.

ONE: Holy Spirit of Rest and Renewal, in this time of worship inspire us with words both ancient and new so that we may find the words that connect us to You.

ALL: Amen and amen.

Musical Offering: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Children's Moment

First Reading: Psalm 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

² He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³ He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

⁵ Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Invitation to Giving

Dedication of Gifts: (unison)

Loving God, bless these gifts and all the ways in which we give.

May each of our gifts be a part of co-creating and tending to the love, safety, belonging, and dignity You envision for the world.

Amen.

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 Is My Shepherd" **No. 79, P. 6**

Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24

¹⁶ This is how we know love: Jesus laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ But if someone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but refuses to help—how can the love of God dwell in a person like that?

¹⁸ Little children, let's not love with words or speech but with action and truth. ¹⁹ This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God's presence. ²⁰ Even if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts and knows all things. ²¹ Dear friends, if our hearts don't condemn us, we have confidence in relationship to God. ²² We receive whatever we ask from him because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³ This is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love each other as he commanded us. ²⁴ Those who keep his commandments dwell in God and God dwells in them. This is how we know that he dwells in us, because of the Spirit he has given us.

Sermon: "Patchwork Love"
Rev. Jacob L. Poindexter

Hymn: "Love is the Touch of Intangible Joy" **P. 7**

Benediction

Postlude: "Benedictus" Alec Rowley

Cover Art: Paul Kenny. **Foxglove #3**, 2011. Archival pigment print on cotton rag paper.
20 x 23 ½ in.

God Is My Shepherd

79



1. God is my shep-herd, I'll not want, I feed in pas-tures green.
2. Re - stored to life each morn-ing new, I rise up from the dust
3. When I must pass through shad-owed vale, where loss and death a - wait,
4. No en - e - my can o - ver - come, no power on earth de - feat
5. Good-ness and mer - cy all my days will sure - ly fol - low me;



1. God grants me rest and bids me drink from wa - ters calm and clean.
2. to fol - low God whose pres-ence gives me con - fi - dence and trust.
3. I will not fear for God is there, my shep-herd strong and great,
4. the ones a - noint - ed by God's grace and fed with man - na sweet.
5. and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwell-ing place will be.



1. Through dai - ly tasks, I'm blessed and led by one I have not seen.
2. I praise the name of God to - day; in God I put my trust.
3. whose rod and staff will com - fort me and all my fears a - bate.
4. My cup is filled and o - ver - flows as I my Sav - ior greet.
5. My shep - herd bless - es, cares, and leads through all e - ter - ni - ty.



WORDS: *Scottish Psalter*, 1650; adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992
 MUSIC: J. L. Macbeth Bain, 1915; harm. Gordon Jacob, 1934,
 adapt. Walter W. Felton, 1955

BROTHER JAMES' AIR
 86.86.86

Unison

- 1 Love is the touch of intangible joy;
love is the force that no fear can destroy;
love is the goodness we gladly applaud:
God is where love is, for love is of God.
- 2 Love is the lilt in a lingering voice;
love is the hope that can make us rejoice;
love is the cure for the frightened and flawed:
God is where love is, for love is of God.
- 3 Love is the light in the tunnel of pain;
love is the will to be whole once again;
love is the trust of a friend on the road:
God is where love is, for love is of God.
- 4 Love is the Maker, and Spirit, and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the pathway the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.



An afternoon of music and art
*Virtual
April Aires*
at First Congregational Church

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2021
ART & MUSIC BEGINNING AT 2PM
ONLINE ONLY IN THE GATHERING ROOM ON ZOOM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANCHORAGE
2610 E. NORTHERN LIGHTS BLVD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99508

Admission is free

Donations will be taken for: *Advocates in Residence (AIR)*
For more information or to contribute to the program, contact
Caroline Valentine or Lynn Barber, or call the church office at 272-8363
This is a live Zoom event only – there will not be a recording to view later.

EMAIL: OFFICE@FCCA.K.ORG

News from the Pews

- ☆ **Virtual April Aires**—Today, April 25th at 2pm
- ☆ **Lectio Divina**—Tuesdays at 10am
- ☆ **Roots of Joy**—Tuesdays at 7pm
- ☆ **Afternoon Tea**—Wednesdays at 3pm
- ☆ **Handbell Choir**—Wednesdays at 5:15pm (at church)
- ☆ **Choir**—Wednesdays at 6:30pm
- ☆ **Soup Group**—Thursdays at 10am

All meetings and events are on Zoom, unless otherwise noted

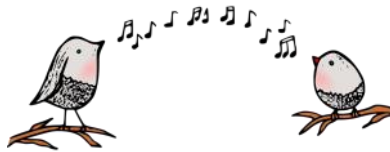
April Aires—A (virtual) program of prerecorded music and spoken submissions, arts and crafts display, and digital photos showing the beauty around us .

When: Sunday, Apr 25th at 2pm

What: A Joyous Celebration of Music and Creativity

FCC Contacts: Caroline Valentine and Lynn Barber

April Aires will be online only this year, and there will NOT be a recording to view later. Please come at 2pm to have some fun!



Roots of Joy— A service that explores other ways to engage our faith and spirituality together.

"Soup" Group— It has started up again, virtually! A time to discuss crafting ideas, to fellowship, and any other ideas the group chooses. Everyone is welcome!

Afternoon Tea— Every *Wednesday* at 3pm. This is an informal group that gathers to fellowship online while we cannot meet in person. The conversation wanders in various directions, come & see what's happening!

NACCC Annual Meeting— Everyone is invited to attend the Virtual Annual Meeting & Conference for our national association on Saturday, June 19 & Sunday, June 20. Registration is available at www.naccc.org. Registration is required to attend but there is no fee.

Finding our Way in the Future:

**'I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.'** Psalm 32:8

New Prayer Concerns

Abbie Metzger, niece of Jim Walker	Arianna Metzger, grand-niece of Jim Walker
Family of Tara Rolstad, friend of Chris Walker	Steve McKean
Marilyn Hanson	

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Elizabeth Amber; family of Jenna & Nathan Amber	
Irene Stewart	Don Renkle
George White	Carol Reed, friend of Claudia Kniefel
Christina Pike, daughter of Vivian Pike	Donna Werth, sister of Vivian Pike
Bob Kniefel	Stan Parker; brother of Lori Wasko
John Allen	Miguel De Marzo
Richard Nelson, cousin of Sandy Skaggs	Piero De Marzo, brother of Miguel De Marzo
Joyce Johnson, mother of Linda Sereyko	Roger Meyer, brother of Cindi Crawford
Alice Butler; mother of Jane vonBirgelen	Elisabeth Kachline
Ron Broome	Karen Wasko; mother of Paul Wasko
Mary Anne's mother; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline	Margaret Webber; friend of Barbara Bowerman & Pam Wright
Joe's daughter; friend of Elisabeth & Harry Kachline	Barbara May; great grandma of Reagan & Avery Binek
Bob Reupke; husband of Toni Reupke	Cathy White & her family
Jacob Kreuzenstein; grandson of Peggy Kreuzenstein	Nicole Johnson; niece of Eric Johnson & Marilyn Lee
Wayne Pratt; brother of Sharon Higgins	Family of Ian White; Director, Crow Creek Pipe & Drum
Charlene Demshki; mother of Ginger Smith	Lillian Soth; grandchild of Jeanette & Fermen Dillon

Deaths

Loa Nelson	James Lime, brother of John Lime
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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

Julie McClure

Wedding Coordinator

Sunday Volunteers

Deacon Serving: Claudia Kniefel &
Dave Barber

Liturgist: Kate O'Dell

Children's Moment:

This week's Communion Table flowers are given by Marilyn Lee, to Vivian in appreciation for all that Vivian does for others.

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.

Worship is currently
online only, via Zoom

- Meeting ID: 714 054 878
- Password: 9072728363

Member—

National Association
Of Congregational
Christian Churches



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



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

First Congregational Church of Anchorage

April/May 2021

Outreach:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 10:30am Worship 2pm April Aires	26	27 10am Lectio Divina 7pm Roots of Joy	28 3pm Afternoon Tea 5:15pm Handbell Choir 6:30pm Choir	29 10am "Soup" Group	30	May 1 9am Organist
2 10:30am Worship 11:30am Outreach Mtg	3	4 10am Lectio Divina 7pm Roots of Joy	5 Cinco de Mayo 3pm Afternoon Tea 5:15pm Handbell Choir 6:30pm Choir	6 10am "Soup" Group 6:30pm Investment Club	7	8 9am Organist
9 Mother's Day 10:30am Worship	10	11 10am Lectio Divina 3:30pm Stewardship Mtg 7pm Roots of Joy	12 3pm Afternoon Tea 5:15pm Handbell Choir 6:30pm Choir	13 10am "Soup" Group 4pm Fellowship Mtg	14	15 9am Organist
16 Youth Sunday Communion 10:30am Worship 11:30am Council Mtg	17	18 10am Lectio Divina 7pm Roots of Joy	19 3pm Afternoon Tea 5:15pm Handbell Choir 6:30pm Choir	20 10am "Soup" Group 6pm Worship Mtg	21	22 9am Organist