



The First
Congregational
Church of Ann Arbor



Sunday, March 18, 2018

Whatever Your Story, You're Welcome Here.



Robert K. Livingston

Senior Minister

Darcy A. Crain

Associate Minister

Change of Pace Worship Service: 9:00 a.m.

Chapel Communion: 9:30 a.m.

Traditional Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

We Gather to Worship God

Silent Meditation “Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah ...and I will write it upon their hearts.”
- Jeremiah 31:31, 33 RSV (adapted)

**Words of Welcome
and Announcements**

Rev. Bob Livingston

Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it down the row and back, providing the opportunity to greet one another by name.

Mission Moment

Community Action Network

Pam Dabbs

Organ Prelude

“Berceuse (Cradle Song)”
Louis Vierne* (1870-1940)

Timothy Huth, organist

Choral Introit

* **Processional Hymn**

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

Hymnal #86

* **Call to Worship**

One: We gather today to worship God, whose words and ways challenge us and invite us.

All: **God welcomes us as we are, and God helps us to be all that we can be and become.**

One: God invites us to empty ourselves in discovering life’s fullness.

All: **God bids us to be open to a divine will as we explore the meaning of life.**

One: We come seeking to have our faith nurtured and refreshed.

All: We come expectant and looking for a spiritual lift during the season of Lent.

One: In faithfulness and trust, let us join together in worship.
Let us pray:

*** Prayer of Invocation (in unison)** Gracious and everpresent God, there are many things that stand between us and the life you would intend for us. Be with us this morning in worship. Help us to hear once again your winsome and gracious voice speaking to us of love and acceptance, of heart and light, through Jesus Christ, who taught us when praying to say together...

*** Lord's Prayer (in unison)** 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.

*** Gloria Patri (in unison)** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Baptism

Joseph Matthew Stich

Son of Gwen and Matthew Stich

Born December 16, 2017

(Children K-8 are invited downstairs to church school following the Baptism.)

Give, Share, Rejoice

**Offertory Sentences and
Offertory**

Rev. Darcy Crain

Piano Solo

"I Need Thee Every Hour"
Music by Robert Lowry
Arranged by Mark Hayes

Rebecca Jones, pianist

*** Doxology** *Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*** Prayer of Dedication**

Rev. Darcy Crain

We Grow in Our Faith

* Hymn of Preparation	"Just As I Am"	Hymnal #207
Hebrew Reading	Jeremiah 31:31-34	<i>Pew Bible Page 721</i>
Gospel Reading	John 12:27-36	<i>Pew Bible Page 980</i>
Sermon	"Heart and Light"	Rev. Bob Livingston
Anthem	"Beautiful Saviour" arr. Schroth	FCC Chancel Choir

Beautiful Saviour, King of Creation, Son of God and Son of man! Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown. Fair are the meadows,
Fairer the woodlands, Robed in flowers of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is
purer; He makes our sorrowing spirit sing. Beautiful Saviour, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of man; Glory and honor, praise, adoration, Now and
forevermore be Thine!

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Darcy Crain

Choral Response

We Go Forth to Live and Serve

* Recessional Hymn	"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"	Hymnal #190
Charge and Benediction		Rev. Bob Livingston
* Choral Benediction		
* Postlude	"Chant Donne" Jehan Alain (1911-1940)	Timothy Huth, organist

* Congregation Standing (Please feel free to remain seated if standing is difficult for you.)

The flowers on the altar table are given to the Glory of God by Megan Nicholson in honor of her mother Ginger Wolf on the anniversary of her passage into life eternal.

The First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor extends a cordial welcome and greeting to all who have joined us in this service of worship. Please join us upstairs in Pilgrim Hall after worship for refreshments and friendship during our Friendship Hour.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

Welcome! We are glad you joined us this Sunday and look forward to meeting and getting to know you. Please join us after the 10 a.m. service for refreshments and friendship in the Pilgrim Hall lobby and library areas. Please visit our website at www.fccannarbor.org to learn more about our church.

Sunday Worship During our programming year (September through May), we offer our contemporary Change of Pace worship service in Pilgrim Hall at 9:00 a.m. There is a brief 15-minute communion service in our Douglas Memorial Chapel at 9:30 a.m. Our more traditional worship service is in the sanctuary at 10 a.m., and is normally followed by refreshments and friendship in Pilgrim Hall. Assisted listening devices are available for services held in our sanctuary.

Childcare and Church School Nursery care is available for children newborn to 4 years of age with screened and consistent childcare workers. If you'd like to keep your infant or child with you in worship, you are welcome to do so. Please feel free to move about during the service as needed. Also, during the 10 a.m. service in our regular programming year, children and youth are invited to leave after our children's circle and attend their church school classes.

Luncheon Group These luncheon gatherings meet monthly on the fourth Monday of each month (September through May). They are highly informal, with welcoming and wide-ranging conversations, with the hopeful result of the nourishment of both the mind and body. The luncheons are held at Knight's Restaurant on 2324 Dexter Avenue in Ann Arbor. Our next luncheon will be on March 26. Rev. Bob Livingston will be your host.

Tuesday Night Series (TNS) Rev. Bob Livingston takes the lead with this group. We meet on Tuesday nights in the Mayflower room of the church from 7-8:30 p.m. TNS is recessing until March 20 when we will begin "A Potpourri of Theological Ideas," a new week to week series of videos on a variety of topics. Please come and join us if you can!

Text Breakfast We gather with Bob Livingston every Wednesday morning at 8:30 a.m. at the Classic Cup Café (4389 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor) for lively discussion based on the upcoming Sunday's scriptural text. Our next breakfast is scheduled for March 21.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

Mind & Spirit Book Group The Mind and Spirit Book Group is a community of women of all ages. We meet on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 10:15-11:45 a.m. in the Mayflower Room. Please contact Gail Haynes at gehaynes@aol.com for additional information.

20/40 Our 20-, 30-, and 40- somethings meet on Wednesday evenings. Our next gathering will be March 21 at the church at 6:30 p.m.

Stewardship Start Planning Now! Our annual stewardship campaign kicks off on May 1st. Remember: *May is Pledge Month* and there are many ways you can support FCC. Donate your valuable time, make a generous Stewardship pledge, or commit long term to the Heritage Society. Supporting FCC is important. Even the smallest investment makes a huge difference to our church family and the Ann Arbor community. To find out more about our annual campaign and the proposed budget for next year, **plan on attending our Stewardship Campaign meeting in the sanctuary after the 10:00 a.m. service on April 15th.** This meeting will also include a review of our Capital Campaign progress. There will be time for questions and discussion of both programs. We believe it will be a beneficial, helpful session. As always, thanks for supporting the First Congregational Church of Ann Arbor.

Threshold Singers Join us for "A Gift of Song" on Sunday, March 25 from 4:30-6 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall. Close your eyes and let our voices support you in meeting life's challenges. We welcome people of all ages and genders who are comfortable listening quietly or joining us in quiet singing. No charge. Experience the comfort of loving song wherever you are in life's journey. Please arrive before 4:30 p.m. in order to find parking and settle in.

Leaping into Lent This morning after the 10 a.m. worship service, families are invited to enjoy a time of Easter crafts, fun, and food together. The Leaping Into Lent Workshop will include several craft stations in Pilgrim Hall. Please feel free to join us, even if you're visiting today. It is be a fun opportunity for families to get to know one another!

Memorials and Thanks-giving Easter Lilies Envelopes can be found in your pews or at the Welcome Center in the narthex. Please return memorial envelopes on or before March 28 to ensure that your memorial or dedication is published in the bulletin. They can be mailed, dropped into the offering plate on Sunday, or hand delivered to the office. Please feel free to submit your dedication electronically to renee@fccannarbor.org.

Easter Egg Tree Jewish Family Services continues to bring refugees into Washtenaw County for resettlement. This week nine refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ukraine will arrive. To assist the refugees, our Easter Egg Tree is up and ready for your participation. Each egg will indicate a specific item or gift card to be purchased for the tree. Please return your gifts unwrapped in the original packaging on or before April 1 for distribution.

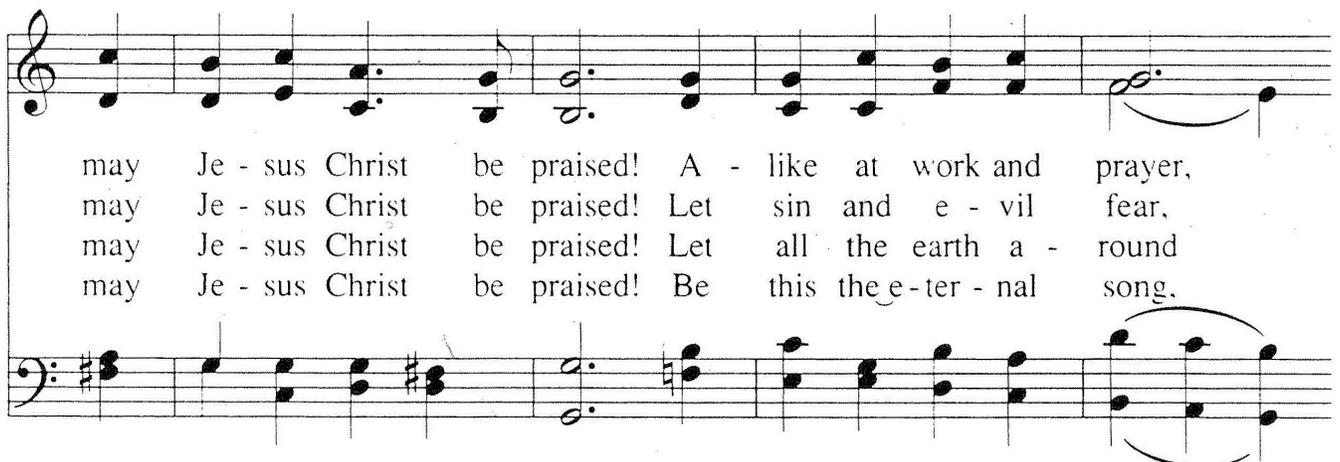
Easter Eve The Easter Change of Pace service will be held on Easter Eve - Saturday, March 31 at 7 p.m. in Pilgrim Hall. Along with Bob and Darcy, the Easter Eve Service will feature a full band of familiar musicians and will include several songs from the Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice musical, Jesus Christ Superstar.

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Ps. 5:3; 59:16-17

Katholisches Gesangbuch. 1828
Transl. Edward Caswall. 1854; alt.


1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries.
2 New strength comes night or day when from the heart we say.
3 Dis - cor - dant hu - man - kind, in this your con - cord find,
4 Be this, while life is mine, my can - ti - cle di - vine.



may Je - sus Christ be praised! A - like at work and prayer,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let sin and e - vil fear,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Be this the e - ter - nal song.



one pur - pose I de - clare: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
when this sweet chant they hear: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
through all the a - ges long: may Je - sus Christ be praised!

Just as I Am

207

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

John 6:37; Eph. 2:14

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,
4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that you called in -
con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise
ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and

vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

This text appeared in Charlotte Elliott's Invalid's Hymn Book, published in England in 1836. Disabled at age thirty, she continued a career of writing and editing. This hymn has been translated into many languages.

Tune: WOODWORTH L.M.
William B. Bradbury, 1849

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

John 12:27-36

'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, 'We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?' Jesus said to them, 'The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.'

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

LENT

190

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Isa. 32:2; Gal. 6:14

Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1872; alt.

1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I glad - ly take my stand,
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus with - in my mind I see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;

the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land;
the ver - y dy - ing form of One who suf - fered there for me;
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of Christ's face;

A home with - in the wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my griev - ing heart with tears two won - ders I con - fess—
Con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain or loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat, and the bur - den of the day.
the won - ders of Christ's glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all the cross.

Elizabeth Clephane was known during her short lifetime for her charitable work in her hometown of Melrose, Scotland. After her death, this hymn was compiled from several stanzas of a longer poem that had appeared in a popular Scottish religious magazine.

Tune: ST. CHRISTOPHER 7.6.8.6.8.6.8.6.
Frederick C. Maker, 1881

Holy Week at FCC

Sunday, March 18—Leaping into Lent

Children's Craft Workshop, 11:00 a.m., Pilgrim Hall

Wednesday, March 21—Glacier Hills Luncheon

Hanson Room, 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, March 25—Palm Sunday

Change of Pace, 9:00 a.m., Pilgrim Hall

Traditional Worship with Palm Parade, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Threshold Choir Performance, 4:30-6 p.m., Pilgrim Hall

Thursday, March 29

Maundy Thursday Service, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Friday, March 30—Good Friday

First United Methodist, 12-1:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 31

Easter Eve Service, 7:00 p.m., Pilgrim Hall

Sunday, April 1—Easter Sunday

Traditional Worship with Special Music, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Easter Breakfast, 11:00 a.m., Pilgrim Hall



SUNDAY, MARCH 18

- 8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Change of Pace, Pilgrim Hall
9:30 a.m. Chapel Communion, Douglas Chapel
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. M&O Planning Retreat, Meeting Room
11:00 a.m. Lenten Workshop, Pilgrim Hall
11:00 a.m. Friendship Time, Mayflower Room
11:00 a.m. Music Committee Mtg, Choir Room
6:00 p.m. OWL, Meeting Room
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SUNDAY, MARCH 25

PALM SUNDAY ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY

- 8:30 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal
8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Change of Pace, Pilgrim Hall
9:30 a.m. Chapel Communion, Douglas Chapel
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Friendship Time, Pilgrim Hall
4:30 p.m. Threshold Choir, Pilgrim Hall
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THURSDAY, MARCH 29

MAUNDY THURSDAY

- 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Worship Service
(Child care is available, no church school)
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FRIDAY, MARCH 30

GOOD FRIDAY

- 12-1:30 p.m. First United Methodist
12:30 p.m. FCC Segment
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SATURDAY, MARCH 31

EASTER EVE

- 7:00 p.m. Easter Eve Service, Pilgrim Hall

TODAY IN CHURCH SCHOOL

Infants and preschoolers are invited downstairs to church school before the service.

Children (K-8) are invited to church school after children's circle. High Schoolers should report to church school before the service begins.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- Mar. 18 11:00 a.m. Lenten Workshop, Pilgrim Hall
11:00 a.m. Mission and Outreach Retreat
11:00 a.m. Music Committee Mtg.
6:00 p.m. OWL Discussion (students only)
Mar. 19 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee
7:00 p.m. Church Council, Mayflower Room
Mar. 20 7:00 p.m. TNS, Mayflower Room
Mar. 21 8:30 a.m. Text Breakfast, Classic Cup Café
10:15 a.m. Mind & Spirit Book Group
12:30 p.m. Glacier Hills Luncheon
6:30 p.m. 20/40 Group, Meeting Room
Mar. 22 12:30 p.m. Marketing Meeting, Mayflower
Mar. 23 12:15 p.m. Lenten Organ Recital Series
Mar. 25 4:30 p.m. Threshold Singers, Pilgrim Hall
Mar. 26 11:30 a.m. Knights Luncheon Group
Mar. 27 7:00 p.m. TNS, Mayflower Room
Mar. 28 6:30 p.m. 20/40 Group Fellowship Night
Mar. 29 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service
Mar. 30 12:00 p.m. Good Friday Community Service
First United Methodist Church
Mar. 31 7:00 p.m. Easter Eve Service, Pilgrim Hall
Apr. 1 9:00 a.m. NO Change of Pace today
9:30 a.m. Easter Chapel Communion
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast, Pilgrim Hall
Apr. 2 6:15 p.m. Trustees Meeting
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STAFF

Senior Minister	Robert K. Livingston (ext. 554)
Associate Minister	Darcy A. Crain (ext. 552)
Minister Emeritus	Terry N. Smith
Minister Emerita	Dorothy Lenz
Director of C.E.	Rachel Dudley (ext. 553)
Music Worship Leader	Terry Farmer (ext. 557)
Director of Music Emeritus	Willis Patterson
Organist	Timothy L. Huth
Organist Emerita	Marilyn Mason
Pianist	Rebecca Jones
Hand Chimes	Cindy Bylsma
Bookkeeper	Nancy Sauve (ext. 560)
Administrative Assistant	Renee Bovee (ext. 550)
Wedding Coordinator	Betty Jahnke
Custodian	Steffen Gelletly
Sound/AV Techs	Brandon Bovee, Greg Eggleston



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