

THE
BIBLE

Blessed is the
nation whose
God is the
LORD

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

The Order of Worship

May 28, 2023

"This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it."

May— Minister, Rev. Gene Van Galder

June—Ministry Team, Rev. Gene Van Galder and Rev. Dan Herman

PRELUDE (Please allow the gift of music to help prepare you for worship.)

Sonata I, Lebhaft

Paul Hindemith

© 1937 by B. Schott's Sohne, Mainz

Theme in Mode Three

Thomas Tallis

arranged by Martin and Geoffrey Shaw

WELCOME

GATHERING SONG 261, vs. 1 and 2 "All Creatures of Our God and King"

All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia, Alleluia! Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam, O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him, Alleluia! Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice. O praise him,
O praise Him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Sing joyfully to the Lord, children of God!

People: It is good and right to praise him.

Pastor: Let the instruments create music

People: and join us in glad praise.

Pastor: For faithful and true is our God.

People: He is righteous and just,

Pastor: unfailing in love.

People: Let's sing to the Lord a new song.

Pastor: Let joy from within overflow in praise!

People: How great is our God!

***INVOCATION**

○ God of us all: Grant to us, your children, the wisdom to know that all that we need and desire can be found in you. Spare us from vain striving after things which do not satisfy and fix our hearts on you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your 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 yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN 301** "America the Beautiful"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEDICATION OF GIFTS (in unison)

Having been blessed with a great abundance, and knowing that it came not from ourselves but from you, we offer these gifts with our thanks and pray they will be used for the cause of justice in our world. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "God Bless Our Native Land" Tune AMERICA
Soloist, Leilani Schaller descant by M. Yount

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 12: 1-8

MESSAGE "Sacrifice"
Rev. Gene Van Galder

PASTORAL PRAYER, p. 301 in your hymnals, written by Rev. Joy Baumgartner

***HYMN 299** "My Country, Tis of Thee"

***BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE Three-Fold Amen

FELLOWSHIP—Join us in the Narthex for a time to establish, renew, and strengthen friendships.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preaching	Rev. Gene Van Galder
Organist & Director of Music	Max Yount
Hymn Leader	Gloria Halvorsen
Soloist.....	Leilani Schaller
Streaming & Recording	Peter Landon

Upcoming Church Events

Sundays, through June 4—Bible Study, 8:45 am, before worship

Sunday, June 4—**Annual Meeting**, following a shortened worship service

Sunday, June 4—Welcome Reception for Rev. Dan Herman, following the Annual Meeting. Watch for details.

Sunday, June 4, 3 pm—MUSICA MAXIMA, an organ and harpsichord concert by Max Yount with special guest David Devine

May Mission of the Month

Our May mission of the month is World Alive Mission in Ghana. World Alive Mission serves numerous villages and towns in Western Ghana and the Ivory Coast by planting churches, offering pastor and leadership training and a Bible College, housing abandoned children in the orphanage (Ghana), educating elementary age students, and providing training for community nurses.



All loose cash in the offering plates will go to the ongoing needs of the church.

If you would like to give to a mission, please use an envelope designated as “missions,” or write “missions” on any offering envelope.

Make your check payable to First Congregational Church. The church adds a \$200 contribution to each mission.