



First Congregational Church
28 N. Chenango Street, Greene, NY 13778
Rev. Curtis Whitman, Pastor
Sunday Worship Service begins at 9:55 a.m.
Church Phone: (607) 656-4923
Pastor's Study (607) 656-7449
Website Address – www.uccgreene.org
E-mail address – uccgreene@juno.com

“The mission of First Congregational Church is to worship God, to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the Church Universal; to render loving service toward all people; to strive for righteousness, justice and peace.”

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 8, 2017

THE CHURCH GATHERS

GATHERING TIME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "I Will Give Thanks"

The prelude gives us an opportunity to prepare our heart and minds for worship.

INTROIT "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

WE WORSHIP GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God

People: May our worship reflect God's glory.

Leader: The firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

People: May we see each other as the handiwork of God.

Leader: Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation
project the love of God.

**People: We commune with Christians around the world,
with Christians throughout time.**

Leader: With Christians across geography and across time,

People: Let us worship!

***HYMN "Be Thou My Vision"**

#502

***OPENING PRAYER (unison)**

**Holy and gracious God, let us be open to your presence among
your people, those gathered for worship, and all of your people,
throughout your creation. May we receive you fully and respond to you
wholeheartedly. Amen.**

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST'S BLESSING

One: "The peace of Christ be with you."

Another: "And also with you."

GLORIA PATRI (a second Century Hymn of praise)

#734

**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.**

ANTHEM "Is There Room for a Sinner?"

- Pepper Choplin

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HEARING THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 p.66 (LP-118)

Philippians 3:4b-14 p.1028 (LP-1828)

Matthew 21:33-46 p.861 (LP-1533)

MESSAGE "Who Are You?"

***HYMN "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"**

#255

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Before our time of prayer, you are invited to share any joys or concerns you may have in your heart that others may respond to those requests today and throughout the week. Every Thursday morning at 10:00 a.m. a prayer team prays over these prayers and the concerns included in our program. You are welcome to join us in prayer any Thursday.

LORD'S PRAYER (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
have forgiven 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.**

RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY "One World, One Communion"

***DOXOLOGY**

#34

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.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION OF GIFTS AND SELF (unison)**

Loving God, as Jesus made a few loaves and fish into a meal for thousands, multiply our offerings. Take these gifts we bring you as a token of our desire for oneness with creation and justice for all your people. Amen.

***HYMN "Knowing You "**

#357

GOING OUT TO SERVE GOD'S WORLD

BENEDICTION

Leader: God has given us commandments by which to live.
God has embraced us with love that inspires our love.

**People: We will love God with heart and soul and mind;
we will love ourselves and our neighbors.**

Leader: Blessed are those who daily worship the living God;
happy are all who share the gospel in word and deed.

**People: May God be praised in our speech and our work;
may we be gentle apostles and faithful disciples.**

POSTLUDE *(please be seated)* "God Hath Spoken By The Prophets"

***Those who are able are asked to stand**

Thought for the Day

*What we think or what we believe is, in the end, of little consequence.
The only thing of consequence is what we do. John Ruskin*

Written by the Rev. Ruth Garwood, certified leader of InterPlay, a system of forms in movement, story-telling and vocalizing that brings body and soul together, and brings communities together.



ALSO TAKING PART IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Ushers	- George & Peg Marr
Choir Director	- Ken Jones
Organist	- Zach Crandall
Scripture Reader	- Zach Crandall
Coffee Hour	- Barton/Plahanski

Hand sanitizer has been placed at both entrances to the Sanctuary.

Large print Bibles are found on the tables in the Narthex/Vestibule. Pick one up to use during service or ask an usher for assistance. (Please return them to the tables in the Narthex after the service.)

Reminder: Please wear your nametag which can be found in the social hall.

A note to our guests:

Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcomed here at First Congregational Church! We're happy to have you worship with us today. May the love of God touch your life through this time of worship.

If you have questions about the Christian faith, about the United Church of Christ, or about our congregation, please feel free to approach one of the deacons (you can spot them by the word DEACON on their name tags), or the pastor. If you do not have a Bible and would like one, we will be happy to provide one for you... just ask! Of course, the best way to learn about our faith is to worship with us and become involved in our fellowship. We are all in a lifelong journey of discovery, and we invite you to come along!

Hearing enhancement headphones are available. Just ask an usher. CD's of the service are available. Just ask an usher. If you are a guest and have any questions about our church, please contact Rev. Curtis Whitman, Pastor at 656-7449 or a Deacon: Sharon Barton (656-7651), Sharon Fowler (656-9647), George Eiste (656-4564), Jim Gagnon (656-4719), Joan Paino (656-9633), Donna Possemato (656-7964), Theresa Schultheis (242-9696) or Russ Haberl (656-9092).

THE JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

Sunday, October 8, 2017

Please remember in prayer: Our world, our country, our state, our town, our church and church family, the people of Florida & Texas, Pastor Curtis and family, Donna Babiy, Frank Baginski, Tom Baniak, Shirley Barton, Becky, Diane Bauer, Lyman Bauer, Braelyn Blakeslee, Charlie Brancato, Lee Breck, George Clark, Art & Carol DeJager, Kay Doak, Joe Eggleston, John Estey, Jennifer Griffin, Nancy Haberl, Florence Ludlam, Charlie McMullen, Kevin Moorhead, Dale Reynolds, Nancy Sloan, Amanda Stanley & Peg French, Pamela Summers, Alex & Janet Taylor, Fred Urda, The refugees around the world, The Financial Status of the Church. We pray for our members and friends who are undergoing cancer treatment or hospice: Donna Kimball Aron, John & Phyllis Auwarter, John Bennett, Barb Brancato, Tammy Burgess, George Estey, Patricia Field, Terry Gunderson, Richard Haberl, Russ Haberl, John Harvey, Drew Harrington, Roger Jeffrey, Joy Ketcham, Kathy Daniels Knudson, Beverly Manchester, Jeffrey Mills, Betsy Murray, Jack & Trena Najarian, Ed Sloan, Joan & Reyn Smith, Dan Tallett, Becky Tilbe, Darlene Tury, Carol Utter, Karen Vanvoorhis, Lynn Walz, Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams, Donald & Brenda Utter. We pray for those in the military; Harley Ann Beat, Ethan Estey, Tammy Gagnon, Jeff Ketcham, Robert B. Rauff, Matthew Reynolds, Rob & Sara Root, Autumn Meister Vernon and all who serve. *If you are in need of special prayers, please contact Sharon Fowler at 656-9647.*

CHURCH CALENDAR

- October 8 - Worship with Sunday School 9:55 AM
 - 9 - Exercise Class 9 AM
 - Property Board 7 PM
- 11 - Exercise Class 9 AM
 - Choir 7 PM
- 12 - Prayer Team 10 AM
 - ABC Support Group 10 AM
 - Zumba 6 PM
 - Joyful Ringers 7 PM
- 13 - Exercise Class 9 AM
- 14 - Train Club 9AM
- 15 - Worship with Sunday school 9:55 AM

*The November 2017 newsletter deadline is **Monday, October 16**. Please e-mail your article to Linda at uccgreene@juno.com.*

The attendance for Sunday, October 1st was 58 adults and 3 children.

USHERS - 2017

October: George & Peg Marr

November: Phil & Sharon Barton

December: Bob & Nancy Root

Each head usher needs to enlist another two people to serve with them each month. Please contact the church office with the names so they can be listed in the bulletin each week.

Join the Choir!

The choir is looking for more voices to join our ranks - would you consider adding yours? There is no previous choir experience necessary to take part. We are a family of music lovers who meet every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. to share in the joy and fellowship of music. Please see Ken Jones or Pastor Curtis if you have any questions. See you Wednesday!

TEEN YOUTH GROUP-We will kick off this year's youth group with a trip to the corn maze at Stoughton Farms on Sunday, October 15th. We will meet after coffee hour and youth bell practice (noon) and plan to return at 5pm. Teens should bring \$10 for the maze and money for concessions/snacks. If this is an economic hardship, please speak to Jenn Fowler privately, there are some "scholarship" funds available. Please sign up at coffee hour, or contact Jenn @ 343-8376 by FRIDAY OCT 13 if you are interested in going so we can arrange adequate transportation.

Service of Healing

On Sunday, October 29, we will have a Service of Healing during our worship time. This is a service that helps us all come in touch with parts of our lives that we need to lift up to God and have God's healing love intervene for us. Some may come to be healed physically, some for emotional healing and some may come forward for spiritual healing in their lives. No matter what your reason is for attending this service know that it is a unique service in which we are invited to place our pains, hurts and helplessness before our God. Encourage your friends, neighbors and families who are concerned about spiritual wholeness to attend and be a part of this worship service.

Sunday Collection Counters

October 8: Carol DeJager & Jordon Lilley

October 15: Ruth Bennett & George Estey

October 22: George Estey & Jim Gagnon

October 29: Alta Martin & George Estey

If you are unable to count for the week you are scheduled, please find someone to take your place and notify the church office with the new name.

Scripture Readers

October 15: Donna Possemato

October 22: Sharon Winston

October 29: Theresa Schultheis

There is a scripture reader sign-up sheet on the round table in the social hall for November-December.

Please sign up, thanks!

Coffee Hour

If your name is listed first, please call the others to coordinate for the day you are scheduled. If you can't attend please contact the others on your team. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Donna Possemato, coffee hour coordinator at 656-7964, possjajd@frontiernet.net. *Thanks for all your help!*

Oct. 15: Bentley's and Acunto's

Oct. 22: Roots & Doris Gritser

Oct. 29: Thankful Sunday Potluck

If there is a 5th Sunday in a month, the church will have a pot luck luncheon after worship. Upcoming Thankful Sundays will be October 29th and December 31st, 2017