First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

A Welcoming Community of Faith in the Heart of the Twin Cities:
Come to a place where you can explore, be curious and ask questions.

September 17, 2017 10:30 am

Sacrifice of Isaac by Marc Chagall

610 West 28th St., Minneapolis, MN 55408
612. 870.1868 office@fccmpls.org
www.fccmpls.org

Welcome Visitors, Friends, and Members!

Welcome! …to a place where you can explore, be curious and ask questions.
May you find comfort, joy, strength and peace as you worship the Loving and Living Lord with us today.
First Christian truly seeks to be a place of welcome to all!

Children are welcome in worship! For those who desire childcare during worship, nursery care is available downstairs for infants through 4 year olds. Older children can be at the activity table towards the front on the right with Deb and Anna.

Audio Receivers are available from an usher for the hearing impaired.

Songbooks: Words to the songs are printed in this bulletin. If you'd like to have words and music, songbooks can be found on the bookrack by the sanctuary entrance.

Communion: As members of The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) we practice open communion. All believers are invited to partake. The emblems will be passed through the rows by the deacons. Please partake of the gluten free bread and grape juice as it is passed.

Our denomination: The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), often referred to as The Disciples, is a denomination known for an Open Theology and an Open Table. To find out more about our heritage, check out the DOC page: www.disciples.org.

Want to know more about First Christian? Go to www.fccmpls.org and check out our ministries.
To find out more about our LGBT ministry, click on Reaching Out.

Missed a service? Listen to the sermon: http://www.fccminneapolis.org/home/sermon-archive/
Live stream in case you can't be here! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPVqQ57szyEh8JCtF_8lhiw/live

Interested in receiving our newsletter? Send an e-mail to office@fccmpls.org or call Deb 612-870-1868, ext. 1. We can send it electronically or in the mail or both!

Like us on Facebook: First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)-Minneapolis. Follow various activities and events. You'll also find links to the newsletter and podcasts.

Deadline: for next issue of *The Courier* newsletter: Sunday, September 24, 2017
for bulletin announcements is Wednesdays at noon

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Ministry Team: All Members of the Congregation

Dan Adolphson, Associate Pastor, dan.adolphson@fccmpls.org
Julie Andrix, Faith Community Nurse, fcn@fccmpls.org
Rick Bowman, SHMC Building Manager
Adam Conrad, Music Director & Composer-in-Residence
Pearl Evans, SHMC Child Care
Laurie Feille, Senior Pastor, pastor@fccmpls.org
Martha Harris, Courier Editor, harrismartha@mac.com
Deb Murphy, Office Manager & Director of Spiritual Formation of Children and Youth, deb.murphy@fccmpls.org & SHMC Building Coordinator, events_SHMC@fccmpls.org
Maria Thieling, SHMC Child Care
Mike Vasich – Pianist

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+Please stand as you are able in body & spirit.

The Community Gathers

Please add your prayers to the Prayer Wall in the back of the sanctuary. If you have a Joy, Concern, or Prayer Request to share, please write it on one of the white slips found on the table by the prayer wall and give it to Pastor Dan before our prayer time.

Gathering Music Mike Vasich

Welcome, Announcements & Greeting each other Alison Creighton

Prelude *Waltz for Debby* Bill Evans

+Call to Worship (a responsive reading) Alison Creighton

One: Come, children of God, rejoice in your Creator!
SIDES: We will sing songs and hymns, old and new.
One: Celebrate with voices and instruments, with praise and prayers!
CENTER: We will open our eyes to the life-giving presence of the Spirit.
One: For God is already here,
Many: among us and within us,
One: bringing new life to all.
ALL: Let's praise God together!

+Song of Praise *The God of Abraham Praise* Chalice Hymnal #24

The God of Abraham praise. All praised be the Name,
who was and is and is to be, is still the same;
the one eternal God, ere all that now appears;
the First, the Last, beyond all thought through timeless years!

God's Spirit flowing free, high surging where it will--
in prophet's word it spoke of old-- is speaking still.
Established is God's law, and changeless it shall stand,
deep writ upon the human heart, on sea, or land.

God has eternal life implanted in the soul.
God's love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
Praise to the living God! All praised be the Name,
who was, and is, and is to be, is still the same!

+Invocation Alison Creighton

+The Lord's Prayer

Our Creator, who is in heaven, holy is 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.

+Musical Response *Pass It On (v. 1)* CH #477

It only takes a spark to get a fire going, and soon all those around
Can warm up in its glowing; that's how it is with God's love,
Once you've experienced it: you spread God's love to everyone,
You want to pass it on.

Hearing and Reflecting on God's Word

Community Joys & Concerns Dan Adolphson

Song of Response *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord* CH #306

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord;
incline thine ear to us, and grant us thy peace. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Children's Moment Laurie Feille

Scripture Alison Creighton

Genesis 22:1-14 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his

son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

Sermon "Struggle" Laurie Feille

Responding to the Word

Hymn of Invitation *Restless Weaver* CH #658

Restless Weaver, ever spinning threads of justice and shalom;
Dreaming patterns of creation where all creatures find a home;
Gathering up life's varied fibers – every texture, every hue:
Grant us your creative vision, with us weave your world anew.

Where earth's fragile web is raveling, help us mend each broken strand.
Bless our urgent, bold endeavors cleansing water, air, and land.
Through the Spirit's inspiration – offering health where once was pain –
Strengthen us to be the stewards of your world knit whole again.

When our violent lust for power ends in lives abused and torn,
From compassion's sturdy fabric fashion hope and trust reborn.
Where injustice rules as tyrant, give us courage, God, to dare
Live our dreams of transformation. Make our lives incarnate prayer.

Restless Weaver, still conceiving new life – now and yet to be –
Binding all your vast creation in one living tapestry:
You have called us to be weavers. Let your love guide all we do.
With your Reign of Peace our pattern, we will weave your world anew.

Celebration of Gifts Sandy Morgan

Offering Invitation
Collection of Offering
+Doxology: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen
+Prayer of Dedication

Responding with Compassion Hygiene Kits & Clean-up Buckets

The Lord's Supper Ann Wolverton

Invitation to Communion

Sharing the Peace of Christ

(*When invited to do so**,** please share Christ's peace with **one or two** near you.*
"The peace of Christ be with you". Response: "And also with you.")

Song of Communion *Here At Thy Table Lord* CH #384

Here at thy table, Lord, this sacred hour,
O let us feel thee near, in loving power;
calling our thoughts away from self and sin.
As to thy banquet hall we enter in.

Sit at the feast, dear Lord, break thou the bread;
fill thou the cup that brings life to the dead;
that we may find in thee pardon and peace;
and from all bondage win a full release.

Come then, O holy Christ, feed us, we pray;
touch with thy pierced hand each common day;
making this earthly life full of Thy grace,
till in the home of heaven we find our place.

Prayer for Communion and Words of Institution

Partaking of the Lord's Supper: ***All are truly welcome to partake.***

Please partake of the gluten free bread and the grape juice as they are passed to you.

Music for Meditation: *Blue in Green* by Bill Evans Mike Vasich

Closing Words Laurie Feille

+Benediction Deb Murphy

+Song of Blessing *Lead Me Lord* CH #593

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.

Postlude *Peri's Scope* Bill Evans

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!
Please join us in the Gathering Space just outside the sanctuary
for fellowship and refreshment.

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Outreach Opportunities

Hygiene & Cleaning Kits for Church World Service: With the great need created by Hurricanes Harvey & Irma, we will be putting together Hygiene Kits and Cleaning Kit Buckets during worship. We will send them to Church World Service for distribution. If you would like to contribute items, check-in with the Mission & Outreach Team – Kirsten Cackoski, Pat Dunlop, Karen Kandik or Pastor Laurie. Monetary donations are also accepted. Make the check out to First Christian and put *Supplies for Kits* in the memo.

Give to Week of Compassion: Week of Compassion is the relief, refugee and development mission fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada. They seek to equip and empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others through disaster response, humanitarian aid, sustainable development and the promotion of mission opportunities. Make the check out to First Christian and put *WOC* in the memo line. For more information, go to www.weekofcompassion.org.

Announcements & Things of Interest

-Host coffee hour! We need people to host coffee hour for September Sundays please! There's a calendar in the Gathering Space to sign up.

-SpringHouse Fall Adult Faith Formation: Faith, Sexism, Justice - Join us in the Gathering Space at 9:30 on Sunday mornings as we jump into fall with a 6 week look at Faith, Sexism, and Justice! We will be using a study published by the Lutheran Church as work toward their social justice statement..but it is NOT just for Lutherans! We need lots of varied voices to join the discussion about these important issues facing the church, and each of us, today. *EVERYONE is welcome - no experience necessary!*

-Brews and Views is back on a new date! We'll now meet on the **4th Monday of each month**, starting September 25 at 6:30 p.m. We're scouring brewpubs for a new location - stay tuned!

-Sacred Places, Sacred Stories: A Reclamation Journey into Healing Justice will be October 7-9, 2017. It has been planned collaboratively by Black, Native, white, queer, cisgender, straight, Christian, Jewish and traditional activists, artists and storytellers from the Center for Sustainable Justice (Lyndale); Black Lives Matter Minneapolis; Healing Minnesota Stories; the Kaleo Center for Faith, Justice and Social Transformation; and Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light. It promises to be an important opportunity for people from diverse backgrounds who wish to learn more powerfully how to be working in spiritually and religiously-rooted ways to bring about embodied justice. If you have questions, talk to Rev. Dr. Rebecca Voekel, the director of Lyndale's Center for Sustainable Justice. You can register through Lyndale's website: http://www.lyndaleucc.org/justice/

September 2017

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, September 17
10:30 am –Worship in the North Sanctuary
11:30 am – Fellowship Time in the Gathering Space
11:45 am – SHMC Activistas in Timothy

Monday, September 18
6:45 pm – SHMC Building Cmte in Timothy

Tuesday, September 19
6 pm – Worship Meeting
7 pm – FCC Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 20
8:30 am – Narrative Lectionary Bible Study at Walker Residence
6:30 pm – Bell Choir Rehearsal in Lydia
7:45 pm – Choir rehearsal in North Sanctuary

Thursday, September 21
6 pm – Yoga in the North Sanctuary
7 pm – Pastor Laurie's PRC in Timothy

Friday, September 22 – Sunday, September 24
Women's Retreat at Camp Koronis in Paynsville, MN

Saturday, September 23
9 am – Men's Bible Study

Sunday, September 24
9:15 am – Children's Sunday School in the Squiggle Space (lower level)
9:30 am – Adult Faith Formation in the Gathering Space
10:30 am – Worship in the North Sanctuary
11:30 am – Fellowship Time in the Gathering Space

Live-streaming: We now live-stream our worship services over the internet. If you do not wish to be photographed or to have your children photographed, please talk to Pastor Laurie, Pastor Dan or Deb Murphy before the service. Parents, we have a photo permission form for you to fill out whether you do or do not want your child in the live stream.