



First Congregational Church of Evanston

Hinman and Grove Evanston, Illinois 60201

founded 1869

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

June 1, 2008 10:00 a.m.

At First Congregational Church, worship begins with the Prelude.

We invite you to use this time for silence, prayer, and meditation.

Prelude *Variations on a Shaker Melody* Aaron Copland
(Kingsley Day and David Lornson, pianists)

Opening Words Psalm 46:1-7

Kindling the Light

Introit *The Threefold Truth* David Lornson

****Please rise as you are able.****

Call to Worship (Leader; People) Psalm 46:8-11

Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations God has brought on the earth.

God makes wars cease to the end of the earth: breaks the bow, shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God!”

Let God be exalted among the nations, and exalted in the earth.

The LORD of hosts is with us:

The God of Jacob is our refuge.

Hymn *God, Our Help and Constant Refuge* **No. 192**

Prayer of Approach (Leader; People) Iona Community

Generous God, you have given us our voices, no two the same, no finer instruments with which to praise you.

For these we thank you, Lord.

You have given us words and music, special gifts with which to wound or wonder, bore or bless, inspire or disable.

For these we thank you, Lord.

And in your Church you have gathered us. In your community of common folk and complainers, prophets and puzzled people, you have made a place for us.

For this we thank you, Lord.

So let what we say and do here, what we ponder and decide here, be real for us and honest to you, and prepare us for the life of the world in which you are also praised.

Amen.

Singing God's Glory (responsive) *Glory to God* Peruvian

Minister: Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory in the highest!

People: Glory to God! Glory to God! Glory in the highest!

Minister: To God be glory forever!

People: To God be glory forever!

Group 1: Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen! (sing 3 times)

Group 2: Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen! (sing 2 times)

Group 3: Alleluia, amen, alleluia, amen! (sing once)

Ritual of Greeting (Passing the Peace)

You may be seated.

Welcome, Announcements and Signing of Friendship Pads

Scripture Readings

From the Hebrew Scriptures selections from Genesis 6, 7, and 8

Noah hears God speaking to him and prepares for a Flood.

From the Gospels Matthew 7:21-29 N.T., p. 7

Using imagery you might expect from a homebuilder, Jesus argues that people who faithfully attend his words construct their spiritual house on a reliable foundation.

Disciple Dialogue

****Please rise as you are able.****

Hymn *My Hope Is Built* **No. 379 (vv. 1,2,3)**

Sermon *“Through Faith, for Faith, by Faith”* Rev. David Denoon

Offering Our Gifts

Invitation

Offertory *Love Bade Me Welcome* David Hurd

Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back, Guilty of dust and sin. But quick-ey'd Love, observing me grow slack From my first entrance in, Drew nearer to me, sweetly questioning If I lack'd anything. “A guest,” I answer'd, “worthy to be here”, Love said, “You shall be he.” “I, the unkind, the ungrateful? ah my dear, I cannot look on thee.” Love took my hand and smiling did reply, “Who made the eyes but I?” “Truth, Lord, but I have marr'd them; let my shame Go where it doth deserve.” “And know you not,” says Love, “who bore the blame?” “My dear, then I will serve.” “You must sit down,” says Love, “and taste my meat.” So I did sit and eat.

****Please rise as you are able.****

Song of Praise *Doxology* Tune: OLD 100TH

Most people have memorized a doxology to this tune.

You may sing your favorite words, or use these, which the Minister is singing:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures, here below;

Praise God above, you heavenly host:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

In deep gratitude for this moment, these people, and all our gifts, we give ourselves to you. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

Sacrament of the Lord's Table (Celebrants; People)

Invitation

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

With friend and stranger, young and old, be among us. Come close to us that we may come close to you. Forgive us, that we may forgive. Renew us so that, where we have failed, we may begin again.

Great Thanksgiving

Among friends gathered round a table, Jesus took bread... let us also celebrate God's goodness:

Blessed are you, O God, for you have brought forth bread from the earth. Blessed are you, O God, for you have created the fruit of the vine.

You may be seated.

In the beginning you watered the earth... we praise you from our hearts for your unending greatness.

Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now, as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room, breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this cup, that they may be heaven's food and drink for us, renewing, sustaining, and making us whole, and that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring in the world.

Prayers of the People and of Our Savior

You are above us, O God... we add our voices to pray as Jesus prayed

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 for ever. Amen.

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Look, the bread of heaven is broken for the life of the world. Look, the cup of salvation is poured out for the joy of the world. The gifts of God for the people of God.

Sharing the Elements

The celebrants partake first, then the additional stewards of the meal. The stewards next serve the remainder of the congregation. Please come

forward down the side aisle to receive a piece of bread which you may then dip into a chalice and eat. Return to your seats using the center aisle as directed by the ushers. Should you be unable to come forward, please indicate this to the usher, who will arrange to have the elements brought to you.

Distribution Hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together" African - American Spiritual

1. Let us break bread together on our knees...
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me!
2. Let us drink wine together on our knees...
3. Let us praise God together on our knees...

****Please rise as you are able.****

Prayer after Communion (Unison)

We thank you, our Redeemer, that you have made us one with each other and one with Christ, by the grace of the meal that we have shared. Now, become so much a part of us, that we may be clothed in your love and guided by your light that shines on all people equally. Show us your image in everyone we meet, so that nourished by your Spirit we will share with everyone a portion from your table. Amen.

Hymn	<i>How Firm a Foundation</i>	No. 361 (vv. 1,2,5)
Parting Words		Chester miracle play, 16 th Century
Choral Benediction	<i>The Peace of God</i>	David Lornson
The Light Goes Forth		
Postlude	<i>Simple Gifts</i> (Andrew nelson, flute)	John Purifoy

Thank you for worshiping with us today! During the Postlude, worshipers are free to be seated again quietly, or to exit the Sanctuary. Out of respect for those who may be offering a silent prayer, talking is discouraged until you have reached the Narthex.

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE
FROM AN USHER**

We invite visitors to sign the Guest Book and join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship. If you are visiting today with children, please join us for Sunday school beginning after Disciple Dialogue with a recessional by the children to our Church House, three doors away. Children are always welcome in worship. However, if you need wiggle and play room there is an infant room with a changing table, crib and comfortable rocker on the lower level. If you need those facilities during worship, an usher will be happy to escort you.

A peace rose is placed on our altar to remind us of the need for the ongoing pursuit of peace and justice in our troubled world. *As fresh life springs up from the earth, like a garden's promise in spring, so shall God make justice and praise spring up before all the nations. Isaiah 61:11*

You are welcomed and seated today by Kathy Koestring, Joe Page, Betty Phillips, Patty Sprague, Bernice Valantinas and Steve Wilson

The lay reader this morning is Henry Doyle.

Our Acolyte today is Nolan Shikanai.

The greeter today is LaRae Ackerson.

The chancel flowers are given by Irv Newgren in loving memory of his wife, Joan.

Thank you to Patty Sprague for hosting today's coffee hour.

Our known homebound members include: Esther Brandenburg, Kay Clark, Jean Davies, Bud Goff, John Hands, Dixie Hoffman, Esther McGinnis, Irv Newgren, Dorothy Nix, Franklin and Pat Snyder, Nina Stevens and Mary Fran Symonds. Please inform the pastor or church office if we have missed anyone.

The offertory anthem was composed by David Hurd (b. 1950), Professor of Church Music and Organist at the General Theological Seminary in New York City and the Director of Music at The Church of the Holy Apostles (Episcopal) in New York City. The text, by Rev. George Herbert (1593 – 1633), is written as a dialogue between a narrator and “Love”. In the first verse, Love is presented as a soothing love of welcome; hospitable love that provides exactly what the narrator needs (acceptance and painless removal of feelings of unworthiness). In the course of the second and third verses, it becomes clear that Love is in fact Jesus Christ. In this poem, Love leads the narrator to self-acceptance with the text “My deare, then I will serve” with the understanding that the word ‘Serve’ could be interpreted as ‘being sufficient or good enough’.

Please Help Support Sanctuary Organ Repairs - After 80 years of faithful service, our historic 1927 Skinner pipe organ is being repaired. The tops of white keys are coming unglued and falling off. Erickson, Christian, and Associates, the respected Chicago company that has been servicing our organ, has submitted a proposal to replace all 108 white key tops on the three manuals. Our goal is to raise \$7500, or \$70 per key. If

you are able to help underwrite the cost of this important repair, your assistance will be greatly appreciated. Any financial assistance - large or small – could be made payable by check to the First Congregational Church with the memo "organ repair." Please contact David Lornson, Director of Music, if you have further questions. **Thanks to all who have contributed. To date, we have raised \$3565 toward the repairs!**

Robinson Recital on June 22. Violinist Megan Bauer, cellist Jane Soung, and pianist Kingsley Day will present the next Robinson Recital on Sunday, June 22, at 3 p.m. in the Guild Room. The program includes Mendelssohn's ever-popular Trio in D Minor, one of the great masterpieces of the piano trio literature, plus violin-piano and cello-piano favorites—Massenet's Meditation from Thais and Fauré's Elegie, Sicilienne, and Berceuse. Admission is by freewill offering (\$10 recommended donation). Mark your calendar!

GUIDE POSTS

Sunday, June 1

9:00 A.M. CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (CHANCEL)
10:00 A.M. WORSHIP, COMMUNION, AND SUNDAY SCHOOL (SANCTUARY)
11:30 A.M. CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (CHOIR ROOM)
11:30 A.M. CONFIRMATION CLASS (YOUTH ROOM)

Monday, June 2

12:00 P.M. SENIOR CLUB (GUILD ROOM)

Tuesday, June 3

10:00 A.M. STAFF MEETING (CONFERENCE ROOM)
7:30 P.M. MEMBERSHIP MEETING (BROWN PARLOR)

Wednesday, June 4

6:00 P.M. OPEN & AFFIRMING DINNER AND DISCUSSION (SMALL DINING ROOM))

Sunday, June 8

9:00 A.M. CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (CHANCEL)
10:00 A.M. WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL (SANCTUARY)
11:30 A.M. CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL (CHOIR ROOM)

Monday, June 9

7:00 P.M. COUNCIL MEETING (GUILD ROOM)

Tuesday, June 10

10:00 A.M. STAFF MEETING (CONFERENCE ROOM)
6:00 P.M. MUSIC AND WORSHIP MEETING (CONFERENCE ROOM)

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CHURCH STAFF

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Melia Pappas, *Office Manager* (mpappas@firstchurchevanston.org)

Jens Notstad, *Youth Director*

Joe Page, *Moderator*, Laima Day, *Vice Moderator*

CHANCEL CHOIR SOLOISTS

Cindy Senneke, *soprano* Beth Babbitt, *alto*

Eric Perkins, *tenor* Tom Hall, *bass*