

FIRST CHURCH, SARASOTA  
**Traditional Worship Service**  
**Sixth Sunday After Epiphany**

February 12, 2023

Michael Stuart, Director of Music/Organist

Rev. Sam Wright, Ph.D., Senior Pastor

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**Order of Worship**

PRELUDE (11 a.m.)

*Allegro - Grandioso* from *Sonata No. 14* Leopold Miguez  
Margot Zarcycka, violin; Michael Stuart, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donna Maynard, Director of Ministries

HYMN SING (8:30 a.m.)

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>

Leader: We gather on this day,

**People: to praise our God, who is our strength.**

Leader: We gather on this holy day,

**People: to join with Jesus in relieving the burdens of others.**

Leader: We gather in this sacred space,

**People: to be fed by the Spirit with grace and hope.**

\*OPENING HYMN

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* Screens/Hymnal 66

PASTORAL PRAYER Tony Kenworthy, Lay Leader (8:30 a.m.)

. Woody Woodward, Associate Pastor (11 a.m.)

CHORAL RESPONSE (11 a.m.) *Amen* Peter Lutkin

CHORAL ANTHEM (11 a.m.)

*All Things Bright and Beautiful* John Rutter

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. Each little flow'r that opens, each little bird that sings, He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings. The purple headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset and the morning, that brightens up the sky; the cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruits in the garden, He made them every one; He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Leviticus 19:27-28 (REB)

You are not to cut off your hair from your temples or shave the edge of your beards. You must not gash yourselves in mourning for the dead or tattoo yourselves. I am the Lord.

Romans 14:1-10 (CEB)

Welcome the person who is weak in faith—but not in order to argue about differences of opinion. One person believes in eating everything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Those who eat must not look down on the ones who don't, and the ones who don't eat must not judge the ones who do, because God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servants? They stand or fall before their own Lord (and they will stand, because the Lord has the power to make them stand). One person considers some days to be more sacred than others, while another person considers all days to be the same. Each person must have their own convictions. Someone who thinks that a day is sacred, thinks that way for the Lord. Those who eat, eat for the Lord, because they thank God. And those who don't eat, don't eat for the Lord, and they thank the Lord too.

We don't live for ourselves and we don't die for ourselves. If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to God. This is why Christ died and lived: so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. But why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you look down on your brother or sister? We all will stand in front of the judgment seat of God.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

\*HYMN (8:30 a.m.)

*Open My Eyes, That I May See* Screens/Hymnal 454

SPECIAL MUSIC (11 a.m.) *An Offering* Dan Forrest

Andrew Nason, tenor

*O Christ, who spared not any cost, nor any grace withheld,  
But poured forth your redeeming blood in love unparalleled;  
What would you have me to offer, Lord? What must I count as  
loss that I may taste the fellowship that brings me near the  
cross? Why should I cling to gifts you give? Why grasp in  
foolish pride what you who gave yourself for me now bid me  
lay aside? To know you is my highest gain, worth any  
sacrifice, a treasure worthy to possess at any earthly price.  
Yet if behind my open hands, my heart shrinks from the cost,  
teach me that nothing offered you is ever truly lost. A hundredfold  
reward awaits in one glimpse of your face, my sacrifice forgotten in  
the riches of your grace.* —Eileen Berry

THE MESSAGE

Rev. Sam Wright, Ph.D

Series: **The Bible: Book Divine or Misleading Myths?**

*Are Tattoos Taboo?*

THE 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Go Make of All Disciples* Screens/Hymnal 571

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

We are grateful for your generosity to the ministries of First Church. Please place your offering in the baskets as you exit the service, mail a check to the church, or you may give online at [www.firstsrq.com](http://www.firstsrq.com); click GIVE. Thank you for your faithful support. You are making a difference in the lives of people in need.

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* Screens/TFWS, 2171

POSTLUDE (11 a.m.) *La Follia* Arcangelo Corelli

Margot Zarcycka, violin; Michael Stuart, organ

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Bill Altman by Sally Altman.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE - LIZ JOHNSON**

Friday, February 17 - 11 a.m.

First Church Chapel

\*Please stand as you are able.

<sup>1</sup>Thom Shuman, [lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com](http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com).

## Upcoming Events and Reminders



### UKRAINE NIGHT AT FIRST CHURCH

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23 ~ 5 PM , FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Ukrainian food, entertainment AND program by Pastor Sergey of Kyiv. Let us know how many in your party on Sunday Attendance Form or call 941-955-0935.

### ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

**FIRST DAY OF LENT**

Services 12:30 and 7 P.M. in the chapel will include the imposition of ashes.

### WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL GROWTH GROUP

**TUESDAYS ~ 2:30 P.M. ~ ROOM 104 AND ZOOM**

**NEW STUDY ~ FEBRUARY 28-APRIL 4**

**THE WALK BY ADAM HAMILTON**

Examine the 5 essential principles rooted in Jesus' walk with God and now for our daily living and growing together in worship. Suggested donation - \$15. Contact Susan Quigley (susanq1@verizon.net) for more on the group and study.

### RESPONDING TO THE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN TURKEY AND SYRIA

More than 16,000 people have died and many more have been wounded. People are suffering. What can we do? First, we can pray for the victims and those helping. Second, we can give. The United Methodist Committee on Relief is working to help the people in that region through their international connections there. To give online go to [umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450/](http://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450/) or you may give through the church to UMCOR by writing "Earthquake" on your check or when you give online at [firstsrq.com](http://firstsrq.com), click give. Thank you for helping others.

### COME EARLY! STAY AFTER!

Enjoy fellowship and coffee, juice in the Narthex each Sunday. Chat with ones you know and meet others to make new friends.

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, February 12

**Online Worship Services: 8:30, 9:45, 11**  
8:30 a.m. Traditional In-Person Worship  
Chapel

9:30 a.m. - Christian Fellowship

Rm 105 / Zoom

9:40 a.m. - Faith Cafe, Rm 104 / Zoom

11 a.m. - **Traditional In-Person Worship**

Sanctuary

11 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, Y.H.

11 a.m. - Middle School Sunday

School, Y.H.

12:15 p.m. - Project Communion

Y.H./ Choir Rm

### Monday, February 13

10 a.m. - 12 p.m. GriefShare

Rm 105

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Artisans'

World Marketplace (Mon-Fri)

### Tuesday, February 14

2:30 p.m. Women's Spiritual Growth Group

Rm 104/Zoom

### Wednesday, February 15

12:30 and 7 p.m. Dr. Sam's Bible Study

Rm 104/Zoom

6 p.m. - Choir Practice, Sanctuary

6:30 p.m. - Praise Band Recording

### Thursday, February 16

10-10:30 a.m. - ECC, Fellowship Hall

### Friday, February 17

### Saturday, February 18

9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Artisans' World Marketplace

2:30 p.m. - Ukrainian Tutoring, F.H.

### Sunday, February 19

**Online Worship Services: 8:30, 9:45, 11**

8:30 a.m. - **Traditional In-Person Worship**

Chapel

9:30 a.m. - Christian Fellowship

Rm 105 / Zoom

9:40 a.m. - Faith Cafe, Rm 104 / Zoom

11 a.m. - **Traditional In-Person Worship**

Sanctuary

11 a.m. - Children's Sunday School, Y.H.

11 a.m. - Middle School Sunday

School, Y.H.

12:15 p.m. - Project Communion

Y.H./ Choir Rm

4 p.m. Two To TANGO Concert

### ADULT SUNDAY CLASSES

Christian Fellowship (9:30 a.m. - Room 105/Zoom)

Faith Cafe (9:40 a.m. - Room 104/Zoom)

### FIRST CHURCH KIDS (Youth Hall)

(Use elevator or stairs in office area.)

Pre-K - 5th Grade - 11 a.m.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL (Youth Hall)

### Church Staff

**Candy Bell**, Early Care Center Director

**Eric Dudley**, Custodian

**Baron Garriott**, Director of Praise Music

**Sally Hires**, Administrative Assistant

**David Jackerson**, Church Technology Coordinator

**Joyce Johnson**, Pastoral Care Assistant/Faith Community Nurse

**Alyssa Machado**, Director of Children and Youth

**Jesse Masters**, Custodian

**Donna Maynard**, Director of Ministries

**Julie Miller**, Director of Finance/Administration

**Maria Mossbarger**, Early Care Center Office Manager

**Mike Pepe**, Tech Assistant/Sound Engineer

**Michael Stuart**, Director of Music/Organist

**Rev. Woody Woodward**, Associate Pastor

**Rev. Dr. Sam Wright**, Senior Pastor

February 12, 2023

# FIRST CHURCH

A United Methodist Congregation



# WELCOME to WORSHIP

*Love God. Love People. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

**MICHAEL STUART**

Director of Music/Organist

**REV. SAM WRIGHT, PH.D.**

Senior Pastor

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