

Sunday, September 13th, 2026



Reach Up

Reach In

Reach Out

We are here to help people know God, find freedom, discover their purpose, and make a difference in the community, near and far. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey...

You are welcome here.

Welcome to First Christian Church



ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE.....Aletta Wilson

CALL TO WORSHIP.....Hilda McKee

Please join in the responsive Call to Worship, with everyone giving voice to the bold text as found in this bulletin and on the screens.

Followers of Christ, we live in a world where we hurt one another, where sin divides us one from another and makes us enemies instead of neighbors.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

The divisions in our world seem like too much to overcome, and we wonder if this forgiveness thing really works anymore. Maybe it worked for Jesus, but not for us.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

We find ourselves tempted by easy answers and quick solutions, reticent to do the slow and difficult work of reconciliation.

Yet we are a people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us.

In this place, may we encounter Christ who meets us in the places where we want to give up, where we despair that life-giving change is even possible, with abundant grace to sustain us on the journey.

God, form us today as people of grace, called by Christ to forgive and repair the rifts between us. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether.....Chalice Hymnal #392
Verses 1 & 3

1

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name,
two or three are met together,
You are in the midst of them; Alleluya! Alleluya!
Touch we now your garment's hem.

3

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,
That by caring, helping, giving,
We may be disciples true. Alleluya! Alleluya,
We will serve with faith anew.

UNISON PRAYER.....Hilda McKee

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace, that, pursuing what you have promised, we may share your heavenly glory; through your Heir, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASS THE PEACE.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

PRAYER TIME.....Rev. Patrick Crocker



Lord's Prayer:

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come.
We pray that your good will be done.
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need;
give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
from each one to each one.
Lead us into holy innocence beyond the evil of our days --
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen. (Parker Palmer)

Doxology:

Praise God, who fills each cup and plate,
Whose table's wide and love is great.
From broken bread, may all be fed,
And justice rise where fear has spread.
Amen.



HYMN OF GRATITUDE

'Tis the Gift to be Simple..... ..Chalice Hymnal #568
One Verse x2

'Tis the gift to be simple,
'tis the gift to be free,
'tis the gift to come down
where we ought to be,
and when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gained
to bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,
to turn, turn, will be our delight
till by turning, turning we come round right.

Repeat

CELEBRATION OF GRATITUDE..... ..Esther Devall

SCRIPTURE..... ..Matthew 18:21-35 (FNV)

SERMON..... ..Rev. Patrick Crocker
Road to Freedom

COMMUNION HYMN

These I Lay Down..... ..Chalice Hymnal #391
Verses 1 & 5

1

Before I take the body of my Lord,
before I share his life in bread and wine,
I recognize the sorry things within:
these I lay down.

5

Lord Jesus Christ, companion at this feast,
I empty now my heart and stretch my hands,
and ask to meet you here in bread and wine
which you lay down.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BENEDICTION.....Rev. Patrick Crocker

GOING FORTH HYMN

Help Us Accept Each Other.....Chalice Hymnal #487
Verses 1 & 2

1

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

2

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them or as they may become.

POSTLUDE.....Aletta Wilson



ABOUT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we celebrate communion weekly. We welcome all to the Lord's table as God has welcomed us.

We are the United Church of Christ, committed to hearing God's ancient story anew and afresh in our lives and in the world today. Why? Because God is still speaking.

We are an Open and Affirming community. In Christ's example, we want to offer all persons, regardless of race, creed, sexual orientation, or gender identity, the opportunity to discover and develop their gifts of God's love and service.



Welcome!

If you are visiting us today, we welcome you!

Please come worship with us again!

Global Ministries is supported by both DOC and UCC.

For more information, visit globalministries.org.

To assist with global crisis relief efforts, please visit:

DoC: www.weekofcompassion.org

UCC: www.ucc.org/what-we-do/wider-church-ministries/global-hope/

WEEKLY EVENTS

Bible Study.....	Sunday, 9 AM
Worship Service*	Sunday, 10:15 AM
Men's Breakfast (at University IHOP).....	Wednesday, 9AM
Spiritual Practices.....	Thursday, 9 AM

** Our Hybrid Worship Service is held in-person at the church,
and live-streamed via Zoom and Facebook Live.*

MONTHLY EVENTS

Celebrate Birthdays of the Month.....	First Sunday, 11:30 AM
Contemplative Worship.....	First Sunday, 6:30 PM
Potluck.....	Third Sunday, 11:30 AM
Brown Bag Lunch.....	Third Wednesday, 11:30 AM

STAY IN TOUCH

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For Text Alerts:

Msg **FCCTextMe** to **(844) 467-1299**

UPCOMING SERVICES

Services are at 10:15 am MDT unless otherwise noted.

September 20th, 2026

Worship Leader: Karen Holmes

Offering: Sue Bogart

Communion: Esther Devall

September 27th, 2026

Worship Leader: Jeanne Knotts

Offering: Paul Cook

Communion: Sue Bogart

October 4th, 2026

Worship Leader: Esther Devall

Offering: Deb Cook

Communion: Scott Hays-Strom

October 11th, 2026

Worship Leader: Eric Hays-Strom

Offering: Scott Hays-Strom

Communion: Deb Cook

NOTICE:

Anyone allergic/sensitive to scents is welcome to use the single stall
bathroom across the hall from the main bathrooms.