

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Disciples of Christ)
Niles, OH 44446
www.firstchristianniles.org
Rev. Christopher Stark, Minister

10:45 A.M.

WORSHIP SERVICE

OCTOBER 24, 2021

OPENING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Sustaining and Stewarding God, that we may serve you, call us to
serve each other
Open our eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people;
Move our hands that they may feed the hungry;
Touch our hearts that they may bring warmth to the despairing;
Teach us the generosity that welcomes strangers;
Let us share our possessions to clothe the naked;
Give us the care that strengthens the sick;
Make us share in the quest to set the prisoner free.
In sharing our anxieties and our love,
our poverty and our prosperity,
may we cherish your divine presence.

OPENING HYMN 'His Eye Is on the Sparrow' vs. 1, 3 CH 82

v. 1 Why should I feel discouraged,
 why should the shadows come,
 why should my heart be lonely
 and long for heaven and home,
 when Jesus is my portion?
 My constant friend is he:
 his eye is on the sparrow,
 and I know he watches me;
 his eye is on the sparrow,
 and I know he watches me.

**Chorus: I sing because I'm happy,
 I sing because I'm free,
 for his eye is on the sparrow,
 and I know he watches me.**

v. 3 Whenever I am tempted,
 whenever clouds arise,
 when song gives place to sighing,
 when hope within me dies,
 I draw the closer to him,
 for care he sets me free:
 his eye is on the sparrow,
 and I know he watches me;
 his eye is on the sparrow,
 and I know he watches me. **(Chorus)**

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

SILENT PRAYER

MORNING PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25: 31-46

NT p. 29

HOMILY

'FOUR PILLARS OF STEWARDSHIP: HOSPITALITY'

AT THE TABLE

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BLESSING OVER BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OVER TITHES AND OFFERING

CLOSING HYMN

'Restless Weaver'

vs. 1, 2, 4 CH 658

- v. 1 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.
- v. 2 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.
- v. 4 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.

(Hymns used by permission CCLI License # 2841151)

BENEDICTION

Christ has no body on earth but ours,
no hands, but ours, no feet, but ours.
Ours are the eyes
through which the compassion of Christ
looks out upon the world.
Ours are the feet
with which He goes about doing good.
Ours are the hands
with which He blesses His people.

Go forth today and be the very image of Christ to all whom you encounter. Amen.

Resources: Canaan Banana, Zimbabwe, in *With All God's People: The New Ecumenical Prayer Cycle* (Geneva: WCC Publications, 1989), 344. Prayer attributed to St. Theresa of Avila

IN PERSON WORSHIP IS AT 10:45 A.M. Masks are optional for fully vaccinated folks during worship. **Masks are currently mandatory during Sunday School, Nursery, and Jr. Church for volunteer leaders and those in class.** We are asking folks who have not or are unable to be vaccinated please continue to wear masks during worship and other church functions. We have online worship streaming through Facebook or YouTube for those who prefer to join us from the comfort of your home.

COMMITMENT CARDS will be available to make your commitment to First Christian Church for 2022. Members of Stewardship and Finance thank you for your consideration of the needs of First Christian Church and its many ministries. If you wish to have offering envelopes, be sure to mark **YES** on your commitment card.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING will be held **today** in the sanctuary immediately following worship. If you have been involved with church decorating in the past, or are interested in learning more and joining us, please plan to attend.

FCC VOLUNTEERS will serve a dinner this Tues., October 26, from 5-7 p.m. at the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley, coordinated by Becky Carpenter. Desserts need to be to the church **by 11 a.m.**

Join us for **BIBLE STUDY** this Wednesday, October 27, 1 p.m., parlor; and via Zoom

LYDIA CIRCLE is collecting **NEW** undergarments for the men, women and children staying at the Rescue Mission. They are in need of **ALL SIZES** of men's boxer briefs and plain t-shirts, ladies bras and underwear, and children's underwear.

PRAYER REQUESTS – Contact Pastor Chris at 330.442.2558 so that our praises and prayer concerns might be held in prayer throughout the week.

BUDGET RECEIPTS LAST WEEK WERE:

\$1,035.97

CALENDAR

Sun.	9:30 a.m.	Church School
	10:45 a.m.	Worship-sanctuary; Facebook
	following worship	Worship Committee Meeting - sanctuary
Mon.	6 p.m.	Girl Scout Parents Meeting – fellowship hall
Tues.	5-7 p.m.	Youngstown Rescue Mission dinner served
Wed.	1 p.m.	Bible Study – parlor; via Zoom