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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
July 14, 2024

Thank you for joining us for worship today! It is our sincere hope that all who gather in this place will know and experience the love, forgiveness, hope, and new life available through Jesus Christ.

Worship Summer 2024 1 John: A Summer Worship Series ~ See What Kind of Love
Come and Have Breakfast! ~ Brunch Church!

*As you come in, leave any items you've brought to share for our brunch on the tables in the classroom and find your way to the table of your choice.
Perhaps you'll sit with some people you don't know well!*

*Today we are gathering for a delicious and fun way to worship together as we share brunch, conversation and worship together around tables.
Most of the worship service happens right at your table so you don't need to turn and face anywhere but to see each other.*

Welcome, Announcements and Opening Grace

After our opening, we'll get food and beverages and return to our tables

Scripture: 1 John 3:1-7

Look at the remarkable love God has given us – that we should be called God's children! That indeed is what we are. That's why the world doesn't know us, because it didn't know God. Beloved ones, we are now, already, God's children; it hasn't yet been revealed what we are going to be. We know that when God is revealed we shall be like God, because we shall see God as God is. All who have this hope in God make themselves pure, just as God is pure. Everyone who goes on sinning is breaking the law; sin, in fact, is lawlessness. And you know that God was revealed so that God might take away sins, that there is no sin in God. Everyone who abides in God does not go on sinning. Everyone who goes on sinning has not seen God, or known God. Children, don't let anyone deceive you. The person who does righteousness is righteous, just as God is righteous.

Table Conversation

Worship Leader – Dan Kiefer

Joys and Concerns

(We'll share together our prayers of thanksgiving, concern and prayers for our communities and creations.)

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

(Doris Akers)

(You are invited to stay seated for the singing of the hymn.)

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.
Sweet, Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,
Stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.
And for these blessings, we lift our hearts in praise.
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived,
When we shall leave this place.

Blessing

Feel free to stay for coffee and conversation at your table!