

BE THE CHURCH



Stay Home. Social Distance. Wash Your Hands.
Check on the Elderly. Live Stream Worship.
Give electronically. Support each other.
Love God. Flatten the curve. Pray Daily.
So we can all enjoy this life.

Content Credit: Julia Roberts,
LCSW, Philadelphia, PA





CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING, JUST PEACE, W.I.S.E. & SANCTUARY CHURCH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WELCOME TO CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Faith is over 2000 years old. Our thinking is not.

We invite you to be a part of our community of faith,
to be blessed by God's grace in our midst.

We invite you to grow spiritually, and to find welcome at God's table.

Our vision is to be an inclusive, vibrant, alive, witnessing community of faith.

We are the people of South Florida, a diverse, culturally rich, and intriguing community.

We are young and old, economically fortunate and economically struggling,
with and without disabilities, Hispanic and African-American, gay and straight;
trans- and cis-gender, native Miamians, and transplants from around the globe.

A common misconception is that Church goers are
stuffy, standoffish, and don't like newcomers.

Nothing is farther from the truth here.

We want you to experience our friendship and closeness firsthand.

We want you to feel comfortable and to enjoy worship with us.

Visiting a church for the first time can be a frightening experience.

We know it can be scary walking through those big wooden doors.

We assure you, though, that the hard part is making up your mind to visit.

Once you are here you will find a haven of hospitality, beauty, and inspiring worship.

Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ

3010 De Soto Boulevard

Coral Gables, Florida 33134-6317

Phone: 305.448.7421 ~ www.gablesucc.org

CCLI License # 11282912

WE BELIEVE GOD CAN BLOW THE LID OFF ANY BOX AND TURN IT INTO A DANCE FLOOR. WE ARE OUT OF THE BOX PEOPLE.

May 17, 2020

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Our faith is over 2000 years old
Our thinking is not.*

11:00 a.m.



SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

*We have a chance to do something extraordinary.
As we head out of this pandemic we can change the world.
Create a world of love. A world where we are kind to each other.
A world where we are kind no matter what class, race, sexual orientation,
what religion or lack of or what job we have.
Let love and kindness be our roadmap.*

~Johnny Corn

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness arr. Douglas Wagner
Siyahamba (We Are Marching in the Light of God) arr. John Behnke
Dr. Ron Morgan, organ

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome in this **United Church of Christ** congregation.*

Thank you for signing in online.

We love knowing where everyone is worshipping from today.

*Please use your smartphone to check in on Facebook; let your family and friends know
that you are at Coral Gables Congregational UCC.*

*Invite your family and friends around the world to worship with us online
each Sunday at gablesucc.org/live.*

Be sure to "like" us at facebook.com/gablesucc.

CALL TO COMMUNITY

Gather Us In
Brandon Mowry and Greg Jackson, vocalists

Haugen/Hayes

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of the prophets, call us into Your ways of love and justice;
God of the poets, remind us again how much You love us;
God of the disciples, teach us how to follow You;
God of all creation, help us to know Your ways;
For we gather this day to hear Your call, to sing Your praise,
to teach each other, and to pray and worship as the Body of Christ.

OPENING HYMN

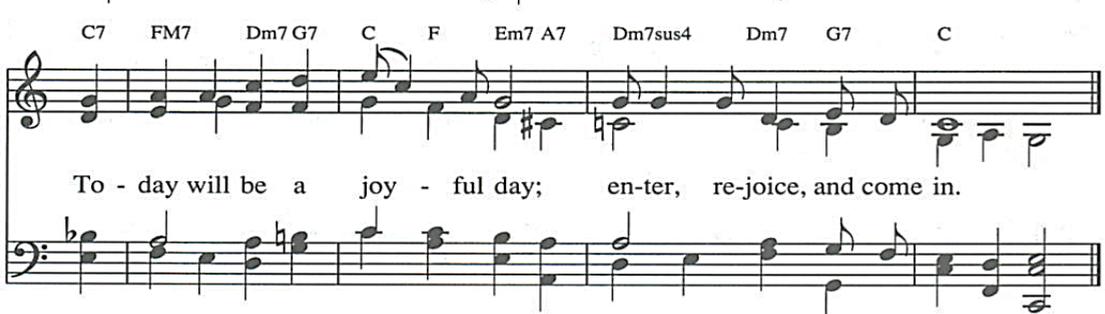
Enter, Rejoice, and Comin In

Unison C FM7 C C7 FM7 Dm7 G7 C



1 En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.
2 O - pen your-self to the song. O - pen your-self to the song.
3 O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one. O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one.
4 Don't be a - fraid of some change. Don't be a - fraid of some change.
5 En - ter, re - joice, and come in. En - ter, re - joice, and come in.

C7 FM7 Dm7 G7 C F Em7 A7 Dm7sus4 Dm7 G7 C



To - day will be a joy - ful day; en-ter, re-joice, and come in.

OFFERING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

One: No matter from where you are worshipping with us today; no matter the concerns, worries, or joys that you bring; no matter your background or social status; your race, culture, faith tradition, or sexual orientation, we offer to you the peace of Christ this day. Peace be with you!

MUSICAL INTERLUDE *(Sung)*

*Bless the Lord, my soul and bless God's holy name;
Bless the Lord, my soul who leads me into life.*

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 66:8-20

Bless our God, you peoples;
make the voice of God's praise to be heard;
who holds our souls in life,
and will not allow our feet to slip.
For you, O God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.
You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
You let enemies ride over our heads;
we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.
I will enter your house with burnt-offerings
and will pay you my vows,
which I promised with my lips
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.
I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.
Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what the Lord has done for me,
The One to whom I called out with my mouth
and whose praise was on my tongue.
If I had found evil in my heart,
the Lord would not have heard me;
But in truth God has heard me
and has attended to the voice of my prayer.
Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld steadfast love from me.

Friends, listen. God is still speaking.

Thanks be to God!

GIFT OF MUSIC

My Hope is Built on Nothing
Brandon Mowry, soloist

arr. Tom Trenney

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Commissioner Eileen Higgins

MUSICAL RESPONSE *Make Them Hear You (from Ragtime)*

Gregory Jackson, vocalist

*At this time, you are invited to text your prayer requests to Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482
or email at 3059686482@vtext.com.*

THE MORNING PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father (Creator), 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, forever. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

Don't Be Afraid

Don't be afraid, my love is stronger

My love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid, my love is stronger

And I have promised, promised to be always near.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Please know that your financial support of the church does great things not only within these walls but far beyond. If you wish to give on your mobile device today, please text "GABLESUCC" to 77977 or go to our church app. You can also give on our website.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

There Is a Balm in Gilead

arr. Charles Callahan

Dr. Ron Morgan, organ

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: God of generosity, you call us into community, and promise that you will abide with us. Out of gratitude for your love, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion and justice. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Forward Through the Ages

Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
move the faithful spirits at the call divine;
Gifts in differing measure, hearts of one accord,
manifold the service, one the sure reward.
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.

Wide grows God's dominion, reign of love and peace;
for it we must labor, till all strivings cease.
Prophets have proclaimed it, teachers testified,
poets sung its glory, martyrs for it died.
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.

Not alone we conquer, not alone we fall;
in each loss or triumph, lose or triumph all.
Bound by God's far purpose in one living whole,
Move we on together to the shining goal.
Forward through the ages, in unbroken line,
Move the faithful spirits at the call divine.

BENEDICTION

One: May the peace of Christ guide you through the challenges of this world.
May the love of God lead you from sorrow into joy.
May the transformative power of the Holy Spirit give you the courage to
face each day that lies ahead.
May we travel this journey together in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune on "Lobe Den Herren" arr. David Laskey
Dr. Ron Morgan, organ

*Following the service, please join us for our weekly Connection Café at 12:15 p.m. This morning we are pleased to have Commissioner Eileen Higgins with us to answer any of your questions about our community in light of the COVID-19 virus. You can join us from the livestream page on our website or on our Facebook page. You will be able to comment on the new Facebook video to let us know that you are here, or, on the website, send Elena a chat message or write in the chatbox under the video. We look forward to connecting with you. **Visitors, we would LOVE to have you join us!***

A WARM AND CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL GUESTS!

If you are visiting us today, we welcome you. We are grateful we have found each other. And, if somehow, there is something in you, some still small voice seeking a place to live out your faith, to ask important questions, and to serve beyond yourself, we invite you into our community. For more information about the church, please contact Pastor Laurie at 305.448.7421, ext. 116 or LaurieH@gablesucc.org.

Invite your family and friends around the world to worship with us online today and each Sunday at gablesucc.org/live.



IN OUR PRAYERS

We remember all those places of war, violence and unrest, as we continue to pray for peace for all people around the world. Today's prayers especially include our global community as well as our own nation and city as all encounter the coronavirus. A lighted candle on the altar symbolizes our prayers for peace, healing, compassion, and unity.

STAY IN TOUCH

Once a week or so, Pastor Laurie emails a pastoral letter, *Laurie's Lines*, to all members and friends, filling them in on the week's events, any special concerns that have arisen, and general church business. If you would like to be included, contact Drew at DrewS@gablesucc.org.

WELCOME EILEEN HIGGINS TO OUR PULPIT TODAY

It is an honor to have County Commissioner Eileen Higgins of the Fifth District with us today to bring our morning message. Eileen represents parts of Miami Beach, Downtown, and Brickell as well as Coral Way neighborhoods like the Roads, Silver Bluff, and Shenandoah—along with Little Havana and West Flagler to the north. Eileen believes that Miami-Dade can be the best place on Earth to live, but only if we come together to solve our most pressing problems. This is why Eileen has always fought—and continues to fight—for resiliency in the face of a changing environment, common sense gun reforms to keep us safe, and programs that afford everyone an equal shot at the American Dream. From more reliable transportation to sea level rise, from affordable housing to better paying jobs, she is a champion for the policies that help everyone in our community succeed. Welcome back to your spiritual home Eileen and thank you for your service to our community.

PLEASE NOTE: THE CHURCH BUILDING IS CLOSED THROUGH MAY 31 AND ALL PUBLIC INDOOR EVENTS, PROGRAMS, AND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED OR MOVED ONLINE.

Be sure to join us through our church website, Facebook page, church app, and Instagram page for our various online offerings.

Online Morning Devotions Each Weekday at 9:00 a.m.

Online Sunday Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Please also keep checking our various social media outlets for up-to-date information, programs, and community connection time.

www.gablesucc.org

GET OUR CHURCH APP

For all Apple and Android users, get your official Gables UCC App by going to the App Store or Google Play and downloading it. It's free! And it will keep you up-to-date and connected with church information, special announcements, calendar, and the staff. Need help? Contact Elena Korallis, our Director of Communications, at ElenaK@gablesucc.org.

LOTUS HOUSE DONATIONS

Our Sunday School children and youth are supporting Lotus House Homeless Shelter. **In May, we are collecting new children's flip flops of all sizes.** You may send your items to Pastor Megan at Gables UCC via Amazon. Thank you.

WISE (WELCOMING, INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTIVE, AND ENGAGED FOR MENTAL HEALTH) SUPPORT

However, being socially distant does not mean having to be socially isolated.

WISE is now offering two weekly support groups:

Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., Lisa LeSueur, Minister of Congregational and Staff Care, will lead a Zoom opportunity to connect with other members of our church community as we share stories, as well as survival strategies, for getting through these challenging times. If you are interested in joining, please email Lisa at LisaL@gablesucc.org and the link to the meeting will be forwarded to you.

Each Thursday at 11:00 a.m., WISE will offer a weekly support and chat group to give parents in our church community an opportunity to connect with one another. Whether it be homeschooling, trying to balance working from home, or simply finding a way to carve out time for yourself, a supportive community of other parents can provide an opportunity to share experiences and learn from others. Please plan to join in the conversation by emailing Lisa LeSueur at LisaL@gablesucc.org, and she will email you the Zoom link.

LUNCH AND THE BIBLE

Tuesday, May 19 at 12:00 p.m. by Zoom

Join one of our pastors for lunch, fellowship, and a discussion on one of their favorite Bible passages. Please email Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org so that she can send you the Zoom link and meeting ID.

NEAT ONLINE MEETINGS

Second and Fourth Tuesdays of the Month at 7:00 p.m. via Meetup

N.E.A.T. offers practical, motivational, emotional and spiritual support when facing challenges in business, career and life transitions. We are professionals helping professionals. For topics, requests and to receive information and email, register for free at: www.meetup.com/Network-Empower-And-Transition-Life-Work. If you have further questions, contact Suely Piraino Argianas at suely@crownecoaching.com.

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

For Adults:

The Acts of the Apostles; Embracing the Spirit of Easter

Sundays, through May 31 at 9:00 a.m.

The book of Acts tells a dramatic story of the birth and expansion of the church from the time of the ascension of Jesus until the arrival of Paul in Rome. Join Pastor Megan via Zoom for this five-session look at the early Christian movement. Please email Pastor Megan at MeganS@gablesucc.org for the Zoom ID and password. Be sure to have a Bible available for use either online or in print. All are welcome.

For Children:

Pastor Megan is teaching Sunday School each Sunday for children via Zoom. We share a video scripture story, we sing, we pray and we check in with each other because we care about each other. There are also emailed activities to do at home before Sunday or after we meet. If you would like your child to join us via Zoom, please contact Pastor Megan for the Zoom ID and password at MeganS@gablesucc.org.

CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Do you know the Called to Care Team prays together each Wednesday at 12:00 noon from their respective homes or wherever they are? They use a list compiled from your prayer requests texted to Pastor Laurie on Sunday morning (or throughout the week). To be in touch, text Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482 or email Carol Fifield, Coordinator of the Called to Care Team, at miamifife@gmail.com.

THE COMPASSION FUND

We have established a “Compassion Fund” to help church family and friends in need through these challenging days. We invite you to give knowing that your gift will assist those struggling to make ends meet. If giving through our church website, app, or by texting “GABLESUCC” to 77977, please go to where it says “Fund,” scroll down to the Compassion Fund, and contribute. It’s that easy and you will be helping other members.

FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE

Do you love and miss the Fair Trade Shop?

The feeling is mutual!

While we can’t be open, we can help you with gift suggestions during this extraordinary time. For Mother’s Day, Virtual Weddings, Graduations, or an uplift for the homebound.

Call our personal shopper: Marilyn Smit at **786-897-1515**.

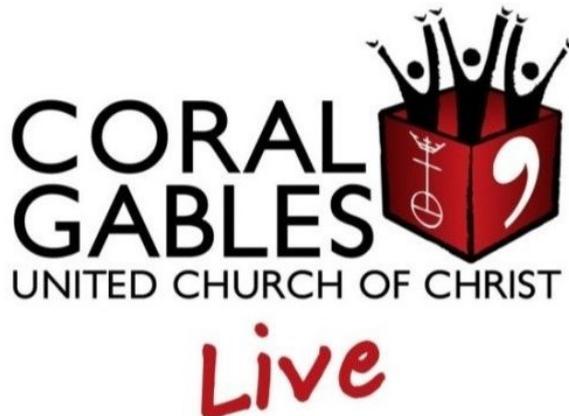
We offer curbside pickup and delivery too.

Take 20% off every purchase through June 5th.



REMEMBER:

These are the times that call upon our faith—times like this, when we and those around us need assurance that we’re not alone, and that together we will get through whatever lies ahead. Now is the time to draw close to God in prayer, and to one another in acts of compassion and care. If you are in need of groceries, a meal, conversation, a pharmacy run, or anything else, let us know. Remember, we are not all in the same boat but we are in the same storm.



CORAL GABLES CONGREGATIONAL UCC STAFF DIRECTORY
305.448.7421 (Extensions listed below)

Ministers

All Members of the Church

Pastoral Staff

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner, Senior Pastor

LaurieH@gablesucc.org ext. 116

The Rev. Megan Smith, Associate Pastor

MeganS@gablesucc.org ext. 119

The Rev. Aaron Lauer, Associate Pastor

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Program Staff

German Worship Information

GermanMinistry@gablesucc.org

Mark Hart, Exec. Dir. of the Community Arts Program

MarkH@gablesucc.org ext. 120

The Rev. Yoli Izquierdo-Yglesias, Spanish Worship

Valeyosly@gmail.com/786.506.9890

Lisa LeSueur, Minister for Congregational and Staff Care

LisaL@gablesucc.org, ext. 150

Dr. Ronald Morgan, Director of Music Ministries

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Brooke Bagnall-Koger, Director of Early Childhood Center

BrookeB@gablesucc.org

To contact Early Childhood Center, please call:

305.444.9792

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Allen Feldman, Pew Organizer

Elena Korallis, Director of Communications

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Tony Prinzi, Print, Rentals & Reception Coordinator

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Dennis Rodrigues CPA, Business Manager

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Drew Sandbulte, Events Coordinator

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Dr. Gregory Taylor, Parish Musician

Gregpiano1@aol.com

Alexandra Woods, Children's Choir Director

Awoods@cushmanschool.org

Maintenance and Custodial Team

Rene Dominguez (Lead Custodian)

Carlos Barrios, Rosario Noriega



WE ARE OUT OF THE BOX PEOPLE