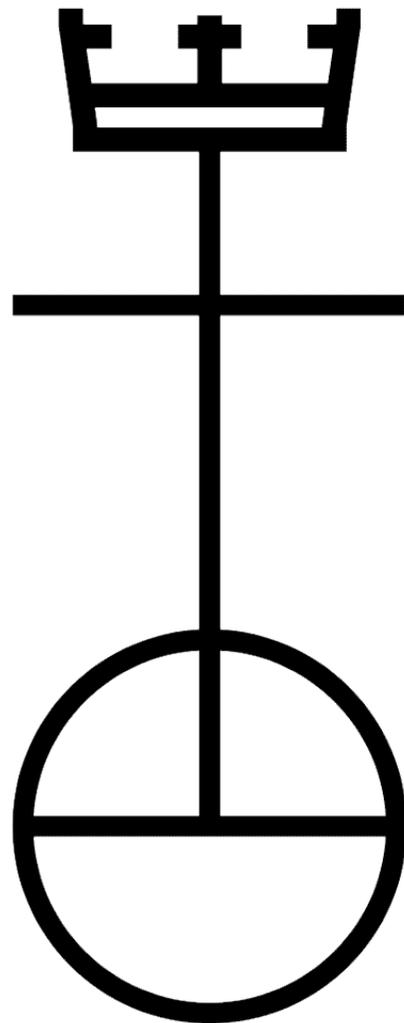


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A Service of Ordination and Installation for  
Elizabeth (Lisa) LeSueur

Called  
to serve  
God's  
People





# 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

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*



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.

Know that in this space you are welcome as you are, for who you are.  
Together we celebrate all of God's children – young, old and in-between;  
male, female and in-between; gay, lesbian, straight and in-between;  
the assured, the doubting, and the in-between;  
the optimistic, the cynics, and the in-between;  
the foolish, the wise, and the in-between.

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.

We assure you, though, that the hard part is making up your mind to visit.  
Once you are with us 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](http://www.gablesucc.org)**

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

## THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

January 31, 2021

11:00 a.m.

*Here I am, Lord, is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night  
I will go, Lord If You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.*

### GATHERING MUSIC

*Siyahamba  
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*  
Dr. Greg Taylor, piano; Dr. Ron Morgan, organ

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Please check your screen for upcoming events and programs  
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](https://gablesucc.org/live).*

*Be sure to "like" us at [facebook.com/gablesucc](https://facebook.com/gablesucc).*

### WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

### CHORAL CALL TO COMMUNITY

*Here I Am, Lord* Dan Schutte  
Anthony Cabrera, Mark Hart, Greg Jackson, Charmyn Kirton, and Alex Woods; vocalists

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Rev. Aaron Lauer, Associate Pastor for Emerging Generations  
Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ

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, political party, or sexual orientation,  
we offer to you the peace of Christ. Peace be with you!

*If you are gathered with others, share the peace of Christ with one another.*

*If you are worshipping individually, know the peace of Christ is with you.*

*Email, text, or message your family and friends and share the peace of Christ with them.*

### SUNG INTERLUDE

from Taizé

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

## THE SERVICE OF ORDINATION



**The Rev. Megan Smith, Associate Pastor of Coral Gables Congregational UCC:  
and representing the Church and Ministry Committee of the Florida Conference:**

Grace to you and peace from God, who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness and the sovereign of the rulers on earth.

**John Graham, Church Moderator of Coral Gables Congregational UCC:**

Coral Gables Congregational Church United Church of Christ, after carefully considering the call to ordained ministry of Elizabeth LeSueur, respectfully requests that the Florida Conference ordain her to the ministry of the church of Jesus Christ, consistent with scripture and with the traditions of the church universal, and according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

The Florida Conference has reviewed the request of Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ. We have prayerfully examined Lisa concerning her fitness for ministry in Christ's church. We are pleased, on behalf of the United Church of Christ, to authorize her ordination into the Christian ministry.

**The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner, Senior Pastor of Coral Gables Congregational UCC:**

Ordination is the rite whereby the United Church of Christ through this Conference in cooperation with the person and a local church of the United Church of Christ, recognizes and authorizes that member whom God has called to ordained ministry, and sets that person apart by prayer and the laying on of hands. By this rite, ordained ministerial standing is conferred and authorization given to perform the duties and exercise the prerogatives of ordained ministry in the United Church of Christ.

**The Rev. Aaron Lauer**

Hear these words from Jesus Christ to the first disciples; "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of humanity."

Hear too these words of Jesus: "Whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave."

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Elizabeth LeSueur, before God and this congregation, both gathered and scattered, we ask you: Are you persuaded that God has called you to be an ordained minister of the church of Jesus Christ, and are you ready with the help of God to enter this ministry and to serve faithfully in it?

**Elizabeth LeSueur, Ordinand:**

I am.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Do you, with the church throughout the world, hear the word of God in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, and do you accept the word of God as the rule of Christian faith and practice?

**Elizabeth LeSueur, Ordinand:**

I do.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Do you promise to be diligent in your private prayers and in reading the scriptures, as well as in the public duties of your office?

**Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I do, relying on God's grace.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Will you be zealous in maintaining both the truth of the gospel and the peace of the church, speaking the truth in love?

**Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I will, relying on God's grace.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Will you be faithful in preaching and teaching the gospel, in administering the sacraments and rites of the church and in exercising pastoral care and leadership?

**Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I will, relying on God's grace.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Will you keep silent all confidences shared with you?

**Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I will, relying on God's grace.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Will you seek to regard all people with equal love and concern and undertake to minister impartially to the needs of all?

**Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I will, relying on God's grace.

*Continued...*

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

Do you accept the faith and order of the United Church of Christ; and will you, as an ordained minister in this communion, ecumenically reach out toward all who are in Christ and show Christian love to people of other faiths and people of no faith?

**Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I do and I will, relying on God's grace.

**The Rev. Aaron Lauer:**

People of God, you have heard the promises Elizabeth has made. What is your will?

**All United Church of Christ Members in the Florida Conference:**

By the grace of God, she is worthy! Let us ordain her. Come, Holy Spirit.

**The Rev. Megan Smith:**

The laying on of hands is the symbolic act whereby the church in every age recognizes God's call to ministry in the lives of faithful people and asks the Holy Spirit to confer on them gifts for ordained ministry.

**THE RITE OF ORDINATION**

*At this time, you are invited from wherever you are worshipping to reach out toward Lisa so that all will be joined with her as she experiences the laying on of hands, the ancient act of ordination.*

**ORDINATION PRAYER**

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

**DECLARATION**

The Rev. Megan Smith:

In the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, and by the authority of the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ, I declare you to be ordained into the ministry of Jesus Christ.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Gifts of the Church and Words of Congratulations**

**GIFT OF MUSIC**

*Baba Yetu* (A Swahili Adaptation of the Lord's Prayer) Christopher Tin  
Anthony Cabrera, soloist;

Mark Hart, Greg Jackson, Charmyn Kirton, and Alex Woods; vocalists; Seth Woods, percussion

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSON**

*Jeremiah 1:4-9*

Laura Smith, Member of Coral Gables Congregational UCC and a Friend of Lisa's

Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a child.” But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a child’; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.”

Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth.”

Friends, listen. God is still speaking.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **THE CHARGE TO LISA**

The Rev. Dr. Laurinda Hafner

## **SERVICE OF INSTALLATION**

### **John Graham. Moderator of Coral Gables Congregational UCC:**

Coral Gables Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has called Elizabeth LeSueur as its pastor and teacher and respectfully requests that the Florida Conference install her in the ministry among us, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

### **The Rev. Megan Smith:**

The Florida Conference has reviewed the request of Coral Gables Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ and we are pleased to install Elizabeth as your pastor and teacher.

Elizabeth, seeing that you are called to ordained ministry by the grace of God and that this church has been led to call you as associate pastor and teacher, are you willing to enter this covenant with its members who are one in Christ with us in the Southeast region of the Florida Conference?

### **The Rev. Elizabeth LeSueur:**

I am willing, and I promise to serve this church faithfully, fulfilling the pastoral office according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

### **John Graham:**

On behalf of the members of this church, we receive Elizabeth as our Minister for Congregational and Staff Care, promising to labor with her in the ministry of the gospel and to give her due honor and support. We offer our prayerful blessing and loving support to Elizabeth as she enters into this covenant with us. May we together find the excitement of new discoveries and new creations, building together a faithful and faith-filled community where love, joy, and peace abounds!

### **The Rev. Megan Smith:**

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the Southeast Region of the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ, I declare that Elizabeth LeSueur is duly installed as Minister of Congregational and Staff Care of Coral Gables Congregational UCC. **Thanks be to God!**

CLOSING HYMN

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?



1 & 6 Won't you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
 2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - elers on the road;  
 3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the shad - ow of your fear;  
 4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
 5 When we sing to God in heav - en we shall find such har - mo - ny,



Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
 We are here to help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
 I will share your joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
 Born of all we've known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

*(repeat stanza 1)*



BENEDICTION

The Rev. Lisa LeSueur

POSTLUDE

*Now Thank We All Our God*

J.S. Bach

Dr. Greg Taylor, piano; Dr. Ron Morgan, organ



CONNECTION CAFÉ

*Following the service, please join us for our Connection Café and a chance to congratulate Lisa on this occasion of her ordination and installation. We go right into the Connection Café after the postlude. It will be in the same video, so you do not need to refresh your page. Please send messages through our Facebook video, the website chat, the YouTube video, or text or email Pastor Laurie directly at 305.968.6482 or 3059686482@vtext.com.*

## **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](https://gablesucc.org/live)*

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## **FRIENDS WHO CHURCH CHECK-IN**

**Join us TODAY at 12:30 p.m.**

Every Sunday, the young adults of Gables UCC are gathering for a time of check-in, reflection, and learning. Each week, a new leader facilitates a great conversation and encourages our growth in community. If you are in your 20s or 30s+ and would like to join us, contact Pastor Aaron for the Zoom login at AaronL@gablesucc.org or 651.252.7544.

## **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.

## **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.

## **CHURCH PRAYER LIST**

The Called to Care Team prays together each Wednesday. They use a list compiled from your prayer requests texted to Pastor Laurie on Sunday morning. Contact Pastor Laurie at 305.968.6482. or Carol Fifield, Called to Care Coordinator, at miamifife@gmail.com.

## **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 Communications Coordinator, at ElenaK@gablesucc.org.

## **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. Thank you!

## **FAIR TRADE MARKETPLACE**

**Store Hours: Thursdays – Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Located on the Columbus Boulevard Side of the Church**

Each of your purchases helps artisans in developing countries build strong, local economies. These skilled workers are paid fair-living wages while crafting sustainable products that do not harm the environment. No child labor is used. Women's lives are changed as they support their families with the dignity and pride of their work. Come and safely shop (masks required) in support of our justice ministry.

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

**Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.**, Lisa LeSueur leads a Zoom opportunity to connect with other and to 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](mailto:LisaL@gablesucc.org) and the link to the meeting will be forwarded to you. Remember: *Being socially distant doesn't mean being socially isolated.*

## **N.E.A.T.**

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

N.E.A.T. (Network, Empower, And Transition) offers practical, motivational, emotional and spiritual support when facing challenges in business, career and life transitions. If interested, send an email to Suely Piraino Argianas at [suely@crownecoaching.com](mailto:suely@crownecoaching.com).

## **GABLES UCC WALKING GROUP**

**Every Wednesday, through February 24 at 6:00 p.m.**

Join Pastor Megan, church members, and friends for a weekly walk around the Granada Golf Course and back. Walk at your own pace. We will meet outside our church's Fair Trade Shop on Columbus Blvd. and leave the church together as we begin our walk at **6:00 p.m.** sharp. You may choose to walk slowly or quickly, with a friend or alone. Please bring a face mask and flashlight.

## **GERMAN LANGUAGE BIBLE STUDY**

**Wednesday, February 3 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

Join our German Language church family in a bible study led in German. For the Bible Study Zoom ID and password, please contact [germanministry@gablesucc.org](mailto:germanministry@gablesucc.org). All are welcome!

## **PASTOR AND PARENT CONNECTION**

**Thursday, February 4 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom**

All parents are invited to join Pastor Megan for a time of check-in, support, group wisdom, and prayer as we gather via Zoom. Register in advance for this meeting at:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZMvf-6rqzopH9AX6Ka2SvZ1-lW\\_mUmxqv-O](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZMvf-6rqzopH9AX6Ka2SvZ1-lW_mUmxqv-O)

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN**

**Sunday Mornings through February 14 on Zoom**

These classes, which are taught by Pastor Megan, include a Bible story, activities, video, music time, discussion questions, and so much more. Please contact Pastor Megan at [MeganS@gablesucc.org](mailto:MeganS@gablesucc.org) to register your child.



**ANNUAL MARDI GRAS SERVICE AND CELEBRATION**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14: 11:00 A.M.**  
**OUTDOORS AND ONLINE**



Join us for our annual Mardi Gras celebration as we prepare for the more reflective days of Lent with a jumping, jazzing, and joyous service. This year, we invite you to be with us either outdoors, online, or in your car. If you are joining us outside, please bring your own lawn chair. If you wish to remain in your car, please park on the Church Green and tune into the service on your car radio at 87.9 FM. Or, gather with us online on our website, Facebook, or church app! Wherever you choose to worship from, be sure to wear your favorite Mardi Gras beads, boas, and masks (this year the protective kind).

Those attending in person will receive a bag filled with Mardi Gras beads and a treat plus items to guide you through the season of Lent, including a devotional guide, a home communion set for the first Sunday in Lent, and a small bag of ashes for Ash Wednesday. If you are unable to be with us on that day and would like a bag, you may either pick one up at the church office throughout the week or upon request we will mail one to you.

Mardi Gras Sunday is worship at its celebrative best! We hope you will help us keep this Gables UCC tradition alive in these “new now” days!

**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE**  
**Trilingual Worship in English, German, and Spanish**  
**Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary or Online**

Begin your Lenten journey in worship, prayer, music, and the symbolic act of receiving ashes. On this night, we are reminded of the fragility of life and our call to live life abundantly. This is a children-friendly service and we encourage families to worship together whether online or in the sanctuary. You may attend in person by making a reservation at the link below (limited reservations are available) or by joining us online. To register for the in-person service go to: <https://gablesucc.org/ash-wednesday/>. For those worshipping in person, physical distancing and masks are required.

**KEEPER OF THE ALLELUIA**

Traditionally on Mardi Gras Sunday, whoever finds the coin in the King’s Cake is crowned the Keeper of the Alleluia and keeps the alleluia until Easter Sunday when it is brought back to worship on that joy-filled day. This year, we invite all children between the ages of five and twelve to submit their names to Pastor Laurie who will put them in a jar and during the Mardi Gras service, a name will be chosen and a new Keeper of the Alleluia crowned. It may be your name! Be sure to let Pastor Laurie know that you are interested at [LaurieH@gablesucc.org](mailto:LaurieH@gablesucc.org) and she will add your name to the jar! You do not have to be present to be crowned!

**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.

## ELIZABETH (LISA) LESUEUR



Born in Miami, Florida, Lisa was raised by her mother, Betty, who died in 2000. Although Lisa and her mother had attended Coral Gables United Church of Christ for several years, it was at Betty's funeral, officiated by Rev. Chuck Eastman, that Lisa became a member of the church. She is married to Celia Arevalo, and has two children, Anthony (20) and Meiling (12).

Lisa graduated from Florida International University with a Bachelor of Public Administration, and a Master of Public Administration. After working for the Miami Dade Clerk of Court as a manager for 35 years, Lisa retired in 2018, and began working part-time at Gables UCC as the Minister of Congregational and Staff Care.

During her years as a member of the church, Lisa served on a variety of Boards, including Spiritual Formation, Trustees, and Justice and Witness, as well as serving on Church Council. She has led adult Bible study and has been an Our Whole Lives educator for the middle and high school youth of the church.

Lisa began her seminary journey by attending classes that were offered by Eden Theological Seminary at Gables UCC. After transferring to Chicago Theological Seminary, she graduated with her Master of Divinity in May 2019.

It was during her time in seminary that Lisa began the work that would lead to the development of the W.I.S.E. Mental Health Ministry of Coral Gables UCC. Through this work, the church became the eighth church in the United Church of Christ to become W.I.S.E. (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged). She currently serves on the Executive Board of Directors of the UCC Mental Health Network, and frequently contributes to their blog. Lisa also served on the Florida Conference Mental Health Ministry and led the Florida Conference in becoming the first W.I.S.E. Conference in the UCC.

Lisa has accepted a call into ordained ministry as the Minister of Congregational and Staff Care at Coral Gables United Church of Christ.