



First Congregational Church of Tallmadge
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Liturgy for the Celebration of Worship

YOUTH SUNDAY
APRIL 26, 2026 | 10:00 AM

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.”

WELCOME

The chimes call us to a time of worship

Greeting

Anne Pertick, Katie Higham

Prelude

“Here I Am to Worship” - Tim Hughes

Piano: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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Introit

Nathan Scovern

Leader:

Our help is in the name of the Holy One,

Congregation:

who made heaven and earth.

Leader:

As we have gathered here to worship,
let us stand and greet one another in the
love of Christ.

(Please stand.)

*** Gathering Song** *“This Is the Day”* #652

*This is the day, this is the day
that the Lord has made,
that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice,
we will rejoice and be glad in it,
and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day,
this is the day that the Lord has made.*

***Call to Worship** Colin Ickes

One: Liberating God, you set us free to live a life ripe with
the fruits of the Spirit.

All: Not fear, but love, joy, and peace.

One: Not exploitation, but patience, kindness, and goodness.

**All: Not knee-jerk reactions, but faithfulness, gentleness,
and self-control.**

One: With the Spirit as our guide,

All: help us to nurture the Ways of Life.

***Opening Hymn**

“Graves Into Gardens”

By: Brandon Lake Music

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Opening Hymn - Graves Into Gardens

By Brandon Lake & Elevation Worship

[Verse 1]

I searched the world

But it couldn't fill me

Man's empty praise and treasures that
fade are never enough

Then You came along

And put me back together

And every desire is now satisfied

Here in Your love

(Hey)

[Chorus]

Oh, there's nothing better than You

There's nothing better than You

Lord, there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

[Verse 2]

I'm not afraid

To show You my weakness

My failures and flaws

Lord, You've seen them all

And You still call me friend

'Cause the God of the mountain

Is the God of the valley

There's not a place Your mercy and grace

Won't find me again

[Chorus] x2

Oh, there's nothing better than You

There's nothing better than You

Lord, there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

***Opening Prayer**

Cadence Ickes

Creative God, when fear and old habits take root in us, they can crowd out the fruit you long to grow. Prune away what hinders and nurture within us a life that reflects your Spirit. Expand our imagination so we may bear this fruit in abundance, living fully into the life you intend for all. Lead us beyond shallow freedom into the rich harvest of true liberation. Amen.

Anthem

“A Song Unending” - Dengler

Flute: Cindy Dodge

Chancel Choir, Director: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

Children’s Message Meredith Treen

WE LIFT OUR PRAISE & PRAYER TO GOD

Bobby Higham

Naming our Prayers before God

Moments of Silent Prayer

Intercessory Prayer w/ Lord’s Prayer (using debts/debtors)

HEARING GOD'S WORD FOR THE DAY

*Hymn of Preparation

"So Will I"

By: Benjamin Hastings, Joel Houston, Michael Fatkin

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Scripture Lessons

Troy Thomas

Galatians 5:16-18; 22-25

The Works of the Flesh

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.

The Fruit of the Spirit

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, competing against one another, envying one another.

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God

Everyone: THANKS BE TO GOD

Hymn of Preparation - So Will I (100 Billion X)
By Hillsong UNITED, Benjamin William Hastings

God of creation
There at the start
Before the beginning of time
With no point of reference
You spoke to the dark
And fleshed out the wonder of light

And as You speak
A hundred billion galaxies are born
In the vapor of Your breath the planets
form
If the stars were made to worship so will I
I can see Your heart in everything You've
made
Every burning star
A signal fire of grace
If creation sings Your praises so will I

God of Your promise
You don't speak in vain
No syllable empty or void
For once You have spoken
All nature and science
Follow the sound of Your voice

And as You speak
A hundred billion creatures catch Your
breath
Evolving in pursuit of what You said
If it all reveals Your nature so will I
I can see Your heart in everything You say
Every painted sky
A canvas of Your grace
If creation still obeys You so will I
So will I
So will I

If the stars were made to worship so will I
If the mountains bow in reverence so will I
If the oceans roar Your greatness so will I
For if everything exists to lift You high so
will I
If the wind goes where You send it so will I
If the rocks cry out in silence so will I
If the sum of all our praises still falls shy
Then we'll sing again a hundred billion
times
Like You would again a hundred billion
times
But what measure could amount to Your
desire
You're the One who never leaves the one
behind

Sermon

"Fruitful Spirit" - United Ministry Youth

Love: Cadence Ickes

Goodness: Bobby Higham

Joy: Katie Higham

Faithfulness: Camryn Ickes

Peace: Lauren Scovern

Gentleness: Jocelyn Tulley

Patience: Tapanga Ross

Self-Control: Marcus Hoffman

Kindness: Meredith Treen

THE OFFERING

Invitation to the Offering

Marcus Hoffman

Offertory

"Dance for the Lord" - John S. Dixon

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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(Please stand.)

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly host.

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

GIVE ONLINE HERE



***Prayer of Dedication** Camryn Ickes

Spirit of Wisdom alive in each of us, we dishonor each other's personhood when we fail to treat each other with tenderness and consent. But we honor each other's personhood when we yield to the wisdom alive in each of us. Bless our offerings, that all may be honored -- in the diverse expressions and spiritual gifts -- for the holiness we all bear. Amen.

WE ARE SENT BY GOD TO BE THE GOOD NEWS

***Closing Hymn**

“What A God”

© 2024 written by Bobby Walker, Brunes Charles, Chelsea Plank, Kenzie Walker, and Roosevelt Stewart. It is administered by Be Essential Songs, One House Publishing, and SEU Publishing Designee (BMI)

***Benediction** Bobby Higham

***Congregation Response**

“Go now in peace, never be afraid
God will go with you, each hour of every day.
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.”

Go Now in Peace—Besig, © Harold Flammer Music, A division of Shawnee Press, Inc.

Postlude “Crown Him with Many Crowns” - Elvey/Burkhardt

Organ: Nancy Lynn Robinson

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Closing Hymn - What a God
By SEU Worship, ONE HOUSE

VERSE 1

Who thought I'd find you at the lowest
place
Who knew you'd feel me in the crowd
Who knew you'd make good of my mis-
takes
You're nothing like I thought
You were, you're better

CHORUS 1 (2X)

What a God, what a God
What a God, what a God

VERSE 2

I thought you'd show up for perfection
What kind of God looks for the lost
They say it's over for a sinner

PRE-CHORUS (2X)

But you say
No it's not, no it's not

CHORUS 2 (2X)

What a God, what a God
What a God, what a God

BRIDGE 1

If the highest place I reached is at your
feet
Then I've done it all
If the best thing that I've seen is your glo-
ry
Then I've seen it all
Your love has changed my life, forever
satisfied
God, you are my everything

BRIDGE 2

If one word is the only thing you speak
Then I've heard it all
If I feel your heart and never see your
hand
I still have it all
No treasure of this life could ever satisfy
God, you are my everything

TAG

God, you are my everything
God, you are my everything

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH OUR SERVICE TODAY

Tech Team: Vince Scovern, Megan Farnworth, Diana Fiocca
Ushers: Bobby Higham, Colin Ickes, Tapanga Ross, Nathan Scovern, Troy Thomas
Greeters: United Ministry Youth

Today's Altar Flowers are provided by: United Youth Ministry

"In honor and celebration of our United Ministry Youth family, we celebrate each of them for their love, service, courage and joy they bring to our ministry."

UPCOMING EVENTS

**SPRING BOOK AND
BIBLE STUDY**
Wednesdays, Beginning
April 29
12:00 PM

The book for the spring 2026 Book/Bible Study has arrived. We have copies in the office for \$16 each. Remember, there will only be one 12 noon class for the spring study in the David Bacon Room. That study will begin on Wednesday, April 29 and run through May 27.

**SUMMIT BELLS
CONCERT**
Monday, May 11
7:00 PM

Join us for a concert on Monday, May 11, at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. The "Summit Bells," directed by Chuck Kobb, will perform hymn arrangements, original handbell music, and a transcription of a Bach organ work and a Scott Joplin rag.

**WF MOTHER'S DAY
BRUNCH AND TEA**
Thursday, May 14
12:00 PM

All ladies are invited to join us for a Mother's Day Brunch and Tea on Thursday, May 14, at 12:00 PM. Please bring your favorite brunch dish to share as we enjoy fellowship together. Sign-ups will be available on Sundays - April 26, May 3, and May 10 - at our table in the atrium. We will also be hosting a fun baby picture contest! Be sure to submit your baby photo by May 10 at the Women's Fellowship table. We look forward to celebrating with you!

**NEW MEMBER
CLASSES**
Sundays, May 24 and 31
9:00 AM

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge will offer two membership orientation classes on Sundays, May 24 and 31, at the 9:00am hour before worship. If participants are led to join FCC in membership, the New Member Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, June 7th. Please let the church office know if you are interested. You can email Cathy Cotter, the church's Office Administrator, at info@fcctallmadge.org

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THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the names listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723. **Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm**

Debbie B.
The Becking Family
Katie Ann Bickett
Joyce Bojarski
Margarete Boschert
John Calvarese
Patti Calvarese
Sue Canavan
Jim Caplinger
Mark Clark
Patty Conely
Rylin Davis and family
Sean and Sara Doty
Mark Downey
Elaine Engle
Ron Evans
Bonnie Fordham
Darrell Goodson

Eleanor Hall
Sue Hamilton
Jim Jackson
Gene Jarjabka
Nancy Johnson
Anita Kelly-Lahrmer
The Klinginsmith Family
Yvonne Larson
Roberta Lewis
Gary Miller
Ron Mitchell
Spenser Moreno
Lynn Norton
Bob Poff
LTJG John Norton
Richard Reynolds
Ensign 5 Kaylie Spear
Lt. Maxwell Spear

Richard & Karen Thomason
Kim and Noel Walters
PO3 Kaitlyn Wetter
Don Woerz
Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group

VOTING BAKE SALE

May 5 is voting day and the Board of Christian Education will be hosting a bake sale. We would love to have some volunteers offer to make some items for the bake sale. Things that went well last year: Homemade bread, Muffins, Chocolate covered items- peanuts, pretzels, etc., Homemade Cookies, and Savory pastries.



We will take anything you are willing to provide, but we would like them to be single servings or ½ dozen portions (things that you would buy for \$7 or less). We are happy to make smaller portions if that is helpful to you. The funds raised will support our youth programming.

Please bring all items the church on Sunday, May 3 or Monday, May 4, before 3 pm. We also could use a few helpers willing to sit at the table to sell items; you can contact Wendy or Anne to fill a two hour time slot.

Rev. Daniel J. Doty, *Senior Minister*
Nancy Lynn Robinson, *Choir Director/Organist*
Wendy Brown, *Director of Family Ministries*

IN PERSON | PARKING LOT | ONLINE WORSHIP
SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday: 9:00 am—3:00 pm
Fridays—9:00 am—12:00 pm

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