

# TODAY, MARCH 17, 2019

# THIS WEEK AT FIRST COVENANT

## 8:30 a.m.

- Dwelling in Prayer and the Word (Swedish room)

## 9:30 a.m.

- Worship (sanctuary)
- Children's programming during worship  
Nursery - infants through age 3  
(Nursery & Toddler Room)  
Children's church - ages 4 through 5th  
grade (Room 252)

## 11:00 a.m.

- Adjourned Annual Meeting/All-church meal  
(Fellowship Hall)

## 12:30 p.m.

- *Street Voices of Change* (Lounge)

Dan Collison, Lead Pastor / [dcollison@1stcov.org](mailto:dcollison@1stcov.org)  
Ashley Aamot, Office Manager / [info@1stcov.org](mailto:info@1stcov.org)  
Heather Albinson, Volunteer Visual Arts Associate / [info@1stcov.org](mailto:info@1stcov.org)  
Lisa Albinson, Digital Content Manager / [info@1stcov.org](mailto:info@1stcov.org)  
Bruce Balgaard, Director of Worship / [bbalgaard@1stcov.org](mailto:bbalgaard@1stcov.org)  
Todd Bratulich, Pastor for Community and Mission Engagement /  
[tbratulich@1stcov.org](mailto:tbratulich@1stcov.org)  
Carma Gjerner, Pastor of Formation & Families / [cgjerner@1stcov.org](mailto:cgjerner@1stcov.org)  
Ashley Grinnell, Associate Music Director / [info@1stcov.org](mailto:info@1stcov.org)  
Andrea Hollingsworth, Theologian in Residence /  
[ahollingsworth@unitedseminary.edu](mailto:ahollingsworth@unitedseminary.edu)  
Brian Ogren, Managing Director / [bogren@1stcov.org](mailto:bogren@1stcov.org)  
Robert Robinson, Artist in Residence / [info@1stcov.org](mailto:info@1stcov.org)  
Doug Vigoren, Facilities Manager / [dvigoren@1stcov.org](mailto:dvigoren@1stcov.org)

## MONDAY, MARCH 18

11:30 a.m. Interlude

6:30 p.m. **Living the Book with Humility** (3rd Floor  
Conference Room)

## TUESDAY, MARCH 19

6:30 p.m. *United International Christian  
Fellowship (Lounge)*

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

6:30 p.m. **Lenten Yoga** (Room 252)

## THURSDAY, MARCH 21

6:30 p.m. **Gospel choir rehearsal** (Lounge)

## FRIDAY, MARCH 22

Church office closed

## SATURDAY, MARCH 23

6:30 p.m. *United International Christian  
Fellowship (Rm 270)*

## NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 24

8:30 a.m.

- Dwelling in Prayer and the Word (Swedish room)

9:30 a.m.

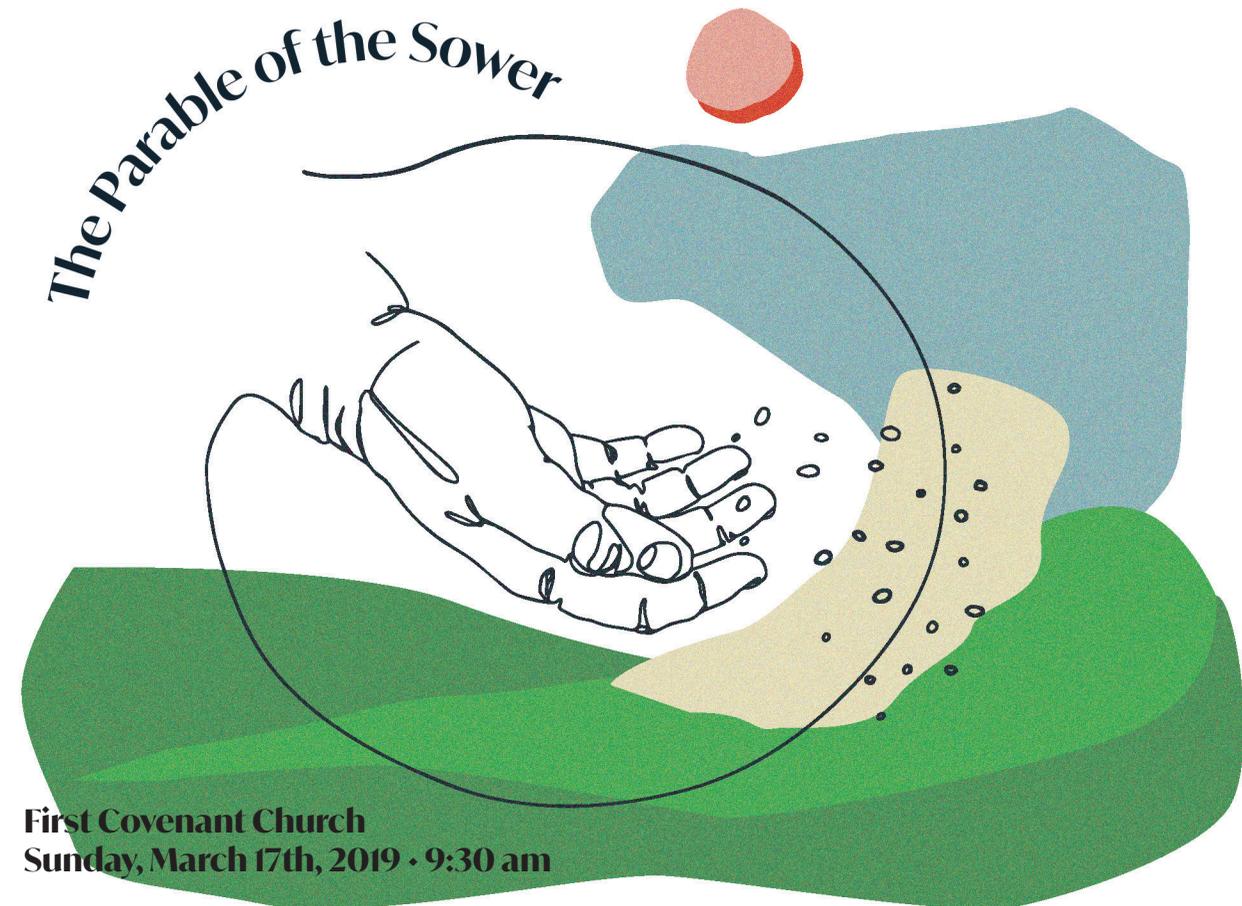
- **Sunday Worship** (Todd Bratulich preaching)(Sanctuary)
- **Children's programming during worship**  
Nursery - infants through age 3  
(nursery & toddler room)  
**Children's church - ages 4 through  
5th grade** (room 252)

11:00 a.m.

- **Conversation on Racial & Economic Justice**  
(7th street foyer)

12:30 p.m.

- *Street Voices of Change* (Lounge)



First Covenant Church  
Sunday, March 17th, 2019 • 9:30 am

"Free Worshipper"

Welcome and greeting

"Praise the Lord Almighty"

"Beautiful Savior"

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

"Agnus Dei"

Children are dismissed for children's church

Offering

"Come Before His Presence"

**Message: "The parable of the sower" (Mark 4:1-20)**

"In the Sanctuary"

Benediction



Heard something great, but didn't  
have a chance to make a note?  
Head to [1stcov.org](http://1stcov.org) this week and grab  
the MP3 of today's sermon!

# Welcome!

First Covenant Church is a diverse, multi-generational, urban Christian community offering hope and transformation through the love of God and the life and teachings of Jesus.

## Glad You're Here

Welcome, children: Care for infants through age three is available beginning at 9:20 a.m. for the worship service. Children's church (ages 4 through fifth grade) begins right before the sermon starts. An announcement will be made and teachers will guide kids to Room 252. After the worship service, pick up your children first and stick around for conversation and coffee.

Looking to connect deeper into community? The connection card in your worship guide is one way to ask for prayer, get information, and let your voice be heard. Fill out a card and drop it in the offering plate. If you have a question or prayer request, write it on the back. Pastors and staff meet every week to pray. In addition, we invite you to head to the website to check out our Connect page to see various ways to connect deeper into community, whether that be serving a meal in the shelter or attending one of many community-led groups.

The FCC website: Check out [1stcov.org](http://1stcov.org) for up-to-date event schedules, ministry opportunities, and sermon MP3s and PDFs.

## Today's Speaker

**Andrea Hollingsworth** is Theologian in Residence at First Covenant Church of Minneapolis. Currently she teaches at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. In the past, she has held teaching and/or research posts at Boston University School of Theology, Berry College (Rome, GA), and the Center for Theological Inquiry (Princeton, New Jersey). Andrea earned her M.A. in Marriage and Family Therapy from Bethel Seminary (St. Paul) in 2005, and her Ph.D. in Theology from Loyola University Chicago in 2012. As a theologian, Andrea's main focus and passion spirituality; she loves teaching and writing about the work of God's Spirit, dynamics of human spiritual development, spirituality and science, and the historical writings of Christian mystics. She has an existential bent, and keeps coming back to the question of how struggle, suffering, and unanswered questions factor into spiritual transformation. Andrea's

husband (Ryan) and son (Bennett, born May 2017) are the great joys of her life, and her favorite place to be is sitting on the rocky shores of Lake Superior, contemplating God's mystery and infinity.

## Community

**Household goods needed!** Thanks to all of you who donated to help a former shelter guest furnish their new apartment! We have another guest who also found housing and is in need of new or gently used household goods and furnishings. Please consider dropping off donations at the donation table in the foyer in the next two weeks. Contact Pastor Todd Bratulich for more details. Current needs include:

Household Items:  
Pots/Pans  
Cooking utensils  
Towels  
Twin sheet set  
Toiletries  
Cleaning supplies  
Laundry Basket/Detergent

Furniture: (Talk to Todd before delivering)  
Twin Sized Mattress & Bed Frame  
Couch or chair  
Small kitchen table/chairs

**Want to join the prayer call email list?** Reach out to Ashley ([info@1stcov.org](mailto:info@1stcov.org)) and let her know of your interest and she'll add you to the list of folks who receive pray requests from within our community.

**Shelter Hospitality Volunteers Needed!** We will soon be temporarily relocating our homeless shelter to the Gym in preparation for a construction project that will bring much needed upgrades to our shelter space. Hospitality Volunteers will act as part of the shelter team to manage the evening operations of the shelter and support guests while the shelter undergoes construction in March and April of 2019. The Hospitality Volunteer role is a temporary position. To apply, please visit <https://ststephensmpls.org/join/volunteer-application> and fill out the volunteer application, or contact Pastor Todd Bratulich for more details.

## Upcoming Events

**Adjourned Annual Meeting / All-church meal (today):** Our Adjourned Annual Meeting will be held during our monthly all-church meal today, after the service. We'll have time to grab some food, get settled and the meeting will begin at 11:30 a.m. Children are invited to remain downstairs in Fellowship Hall during the meeting. We will share ministry updates, the pastor's report, welcome new members, and update you on several important matters and opportunities before our congregation. We encourage all to make time to attend; you do not need to be a member as the purpose of this meeting is for the sharing of information and to celebrate the continuing life of our church community and how God is actively leading FCC.

**Lenten Yoga: A Series for Reflection and Preparation (Wednesdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.):** You are invited to a time of meditation and movement during the Lenten season in the upcoming class. Beloved Jenni Bratulich, a certified and experienced yoga teacher, will be leading and teaching the class. Everyone is invited and no prior yoga experience is necessary. Lenten Yoga started on Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30-8:00p.m. Join us for future dates, including Wednesday, March 20th, 27th, April 10th and April 17th. Childcare will be provided. Suggested donation to cover cost: \$15/session. Bring your yoga mat and your beloved self. Scholarships and yoga mats are available upon request. Fill out the enclosed registration form and drop it in the offering. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Carma Gjerner ([cgjerner@1stcov.org](mailto:cgjerner@1stcov.org)).

**Living the Book with Humility Class (beginning tomorrow, March 18):** The Bible is the most popular and historically preserved book of all time and yet it is also the most misunderstood and mishandled book of all time. "Living the Book with Humility" is a four-part class intensive that will provide a historical overview of biblical interpretation and challenge participants to interact with one another about the conclusions and questions that have arisen from that history. Additionally, this class will propose a framework for understanding the complex controversial issues that have sifted the American church in the last 250 years: slavery and race-based oppression, the role of women in church and society, and most recently—same-sex relationships and LGBTQ identity.

The "Living the Book with Humility" class will meet in the third floor conference room on the third Monday of every month from March through June, 6:30pm-9:00pm: (March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17) Please contact Pastor Dan

Collison at [dcollison@1stcov.org](mailto:dcollison@1stcov.org) or 612-927-3123 if you are interested in joining the class.

**Scripture study session (Wednesday, April 3, 7-9 p.m.):** What if you could bring your whole self to a Bible study? Where theology mixed with vulnerability and every voice held an important space in the conversation. Where the Story of God is explored as a multi-faceted gem and questions abound with no fill-in-the-blanks. 40 Orchards is a non-profit that shepherds just these kinds of discussions. We're hosting a single meeting at First Cov on Wednesday, April 3rd from 7-9pm to give us a taste of this kind of approach. We will consider further studies depending on interest. To register, email Claudia Oxley ([csoxley60@gmail.com](mailto:csoxley60@gmail.com)). Cost is \$15/person, but we can make adjustments. Please also see [40orchards.org](http://40orchards.org) for more background information.

**SAVE THE DATE: Kids Adventure Week (July 16-18, 2019):** Soon the snow will be melting and the sun will be sweltering. We invite you to put Kids Adventure Week on your calendar now!

## New community member: Karen Benson

Thank you for your commitment to joining with First Covenant Church as we worship together, share our gifts, and demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in the world.

