

**TODAY,  
MARCH 24, 2019**

**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.**

- Conversation on Social & Economic Justice  
(7th Street Foyer)

**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)

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Bruce Balgaard, Director of Worship / [bbalgard@1stcov.org](mailto:bbalgard@1stcov.org)

Todd Bratulich, Pastor for Community and Mission Engagement / [tbratulich@1stcov.org](mailto:tbratulich@1stcov.org)

Carma Gjerning, Pastor of Formation & Families / [cgjerning@1stcov.org](mailto:cgjerning@1stcov.org)

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Doug Vigoren, Facilities Manager / [dvigoren@1stcov.org](mailto:dvigoren@1stcov.org)

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST COVENANT

**MONDAY, MARCH 25**

**11:30 a.m. Interlude**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 26**

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27**

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

**THURSDAY, MARCH 28**

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

**FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

**Church office closed**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30**

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

**NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

**8:30 a.m.**

- **Dwelling in Prayer and the Word** (Swedish room)

**9:30 a.m.**

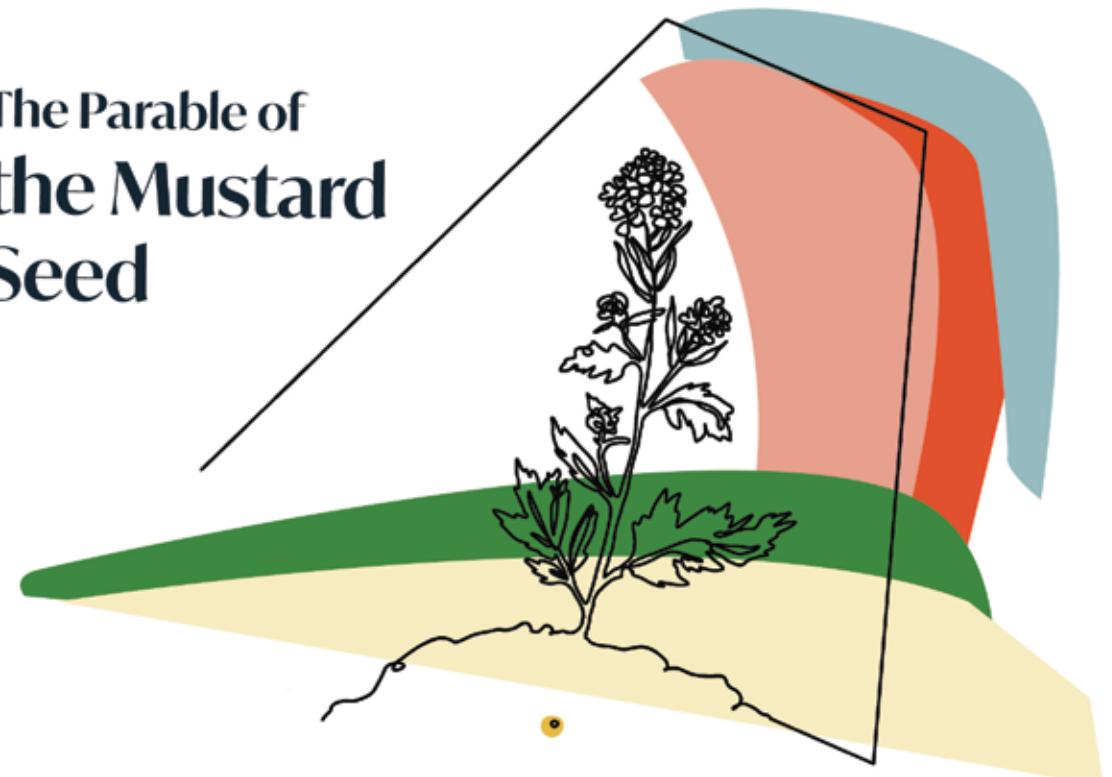
- **Sunday Worship** (Jay Phelan preaching)(Sanctuary)
- **Children's programming during worship**  
Nursery – infants through age 3  
(nursery & toddler room)
- Children's church – ages 4 through 5th grade (room 252)

**12:30 p.m.**

- Street Voices of Change (Lounge)

First Covenant Church events are listed in bold type.

## The Parable of the Mustard Seed



**First Covenant Church  
Sunday, March 24th, 2019 • 9:30 am**

"Shema"

Welcome and greeting

"St. Patrick's Breastplate"

"Love Comes From God"

Children are dismissed for children's church

"Doxology"

Offering

"Cloud of Unknowing"

**Message: "The gift of insignificance" (Luke 13:18-19)**

Benediction

 **First Covenant Church Minneapolis**  
810 S. 7th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55415

612-332-8093  
[www.1stcov.org](http://www.1stcov.org)



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

**Todd Bratulich** is our Pastor for Community & Mission Engagement and is a regular part of our preaching team. He received both his B.A. and M.A. from Bethel University, and is an ordained minister in the Evangelical Covenant Church. Through various life experiences, Todd has grown a desire to see the church become a more just, generous, and humble presence in our city and the world. Todd's pastoral work focuses on forming community and facilitating engagement both within the congregation, and between the church and broader community as we work together on issues such as homelessness, justice, and advocacy. If you are interested in these types of efforts, please let him know.

# Community

**Dwelling in Prayer and the Word:** From 8:30–9:15 a.m., you are invited to a quiet space where you will receive Sunday morning's scripture to read and meditate upon. It's an opportunity to prepare for worship, reflect in the quiet, listen for God's voice, and seek God in prayer. Dwelling is available every Sunday in the Swedish Room located at the top of the ramp in the foyer.

**Parking on Sunday mornings with new redevelopment project:** We've embarked on the affordable housing development! We now have 40 parking spaces near the back door of the church. Please enter the parking lot off Chicago and park in any of the available spaces. In addition, Erik the Red has graciously allowed us to use their parking lot on Sunday mornings (non-event days) so you may also park in their lot if there aren't spaces open in the church spots. Thank you for being flexible as we embark on this exciting new chapter together!

**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.

**It's time for the next issue of 'First Things'**, our community publication where we share stories, creative expressions, and thoughts around a theme that is important to our congregation. The prompt for this upcoming spring publication is **'Dwelling'**. We invite you to think about this word as both a noun and a verb, and what meanings it might hold in your own lived experience. Submissions can range from written stories, visual art, poetry, photography, playlists, recipes, and anything else that translates well to print form. Please email submissions to Ashley at [info@lscov.org](mailto:info@lscov.org) by **Sunday, April 14th**.

## Upcoming Events

**Conversation on racial & economic justice (today):**  
Join us today after the worship service for our monthly Conversation on Racial and Economic Justice (CREJ) in the 7th Street Foyer. In connection with Women's History Month, our conversation will center on gender equity and the changing landscape of gender relations in the era of #MeToo. All are welcome!

**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 6:30-8:00pm. Join us for future dates, including Wednesday, March 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 Gjerning ([cgjerning@lscov.org](mailto:cgjerning@lscov.org)).

**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.

**Living the Book with Humility Class (continuing on April 15):** 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.

## Notes