

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

315 S. Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511
515-295-2845

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 5, 2017, 10:00 A.M. Worship

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELL
GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 58:1-12
read from *The Message*

***OPENING SONG:** "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

#501

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Come, draw near to God, rejoicing in the many gifts God has given us.

Many: We come to lift our hearts and voices in praise, humbling ourselves before our God.

One: Gather to remember God's commandments. Seek for yourselves the wisdom God imparts.

Many: God's wisdom is unlike any other. It draws us away from the world's agenda.

One: God sends us into the world with new priorities, grounded in the Spirit, that we might be discerning.

Many: We are filled with the mind of Jesus, citizens of God's realm.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

We invite your presence as we worship you this day, God. In this hour, we pray that what we don't know, you will teach us, what we don't see, you will show us, what we don't have, you will give us, and what we aren't, you will make us. We pray this through the strong name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEAR

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)
God, you call out to us saying, "Here I am," but we don't listen. You pour out on us spiritual gifts, but we don't discern them. You call us to build a more just world, but we cling to our advantages. Forgive us, we pray, and help us to change. Help us to know and understand Jesus, that we may reflect you in our daily living. Create in us a generosity that reflects your own. Pour out your spirit on us that we might understand and use it to build, repair, and restore. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)
One: God will show us the way to God's realm. Gracious, merciful, and righteous is our God of salvation!
Many: God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes, fills our emptiness with hope and joy. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

***MIDDLE SONG: "Lord, Speak to Me"** #593

***AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (read together)
back of hymnal

***GLORIA PATRI** #73

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:13-20
read from *The Message*

MESSAGE: "Why Are We Here?" Pastor Burtnett

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

Invitation, Communion Prayer, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord's Prayer, Sharing the bread and cup

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, we thank you for the gift of Jesus' presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal, Unite us with all who are fed by this bread and cup that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that we might be salt and light in an uncertain world. In the strong name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer we pray. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

***DOXOLOGY**

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG: "For the Healing of the Nations"**

#621

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted) & Prayer of Confession (adapted) are from *Taught by Love-Worship Resources for Year A* by Lavon Bayler; Opening Prayer (adapted) is from *Invocations and Benedictions for the Revised Common Lectionary* by John M. Drescher; Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) is from *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2017* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu; Call to Confession & Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman; Affirmation of Faith is the *United Church of Christ Statement of Faith*; Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (adapted) is from the *Book of Worship-United Church of Christ*

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| Organist: | Liz Reynolds |
| Lector: | David Burrow |
| Worship Leader: | Pastor Burtnett |

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Birthdays: 2-7 Josephine Reynolds, 2-8 Robin Rochleau

On Tuesday, at 5:15 pm, the Pastor Parish Relations committee will meet.

Wednesday the Fellowship group will meet at 5:30 pm.

Next Sunday Dr. Karen Black will be here to give an organ concert at 2 pm.

Please sign up to sponsor a month for the radio broadcasts.

Trash and Treasure items are needed. Please let the office know if you need some assistance to gather and haul your items.

March is the Meals on Wheels month for our church. The sign up sheet is in the parlor.