

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 18, 2017

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FIRST READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19
read from the *Common English Bible*

OPENING SONG: “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” #96

SHARING JESUS’ PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

Leader: We call out to God,

People: and God hears our prayers.

Leader: We lift up our praise,

People: and God hears our songs.

Leader: We wait for God,

People: and God answers our hope.

Leader: We come here to worship,

People: giving all thanks and praise to our God.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Miraculous, wonderful One, come to us now. Pour out your grace and your love.

Shower us with the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may become people of miracles—
people filled with the laughter of hope. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

Be with us and forgive us in our weakness, Holy One. When we laugh out of fear, calm us with your courage. When we laugh out of doubt, empower us with your faith. When we laugh out of our confusion, guide us with your wisdom. Transform our nervous laughter into songs of praise and shouts of joy and trust. In your blessed name we pray. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

Leader: In God’s faithfulness, we are made righteous. In Christ’s love, we find peace and hope.

People: In the Spirit’s strength, our laughter of derision is transformed into laughter of joy. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 9:35-10:23

MIDDLE SONG: “The Summons”

#350

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We belong to God, creator of all that is and all that is to come, abundant provider of the gifts in this life and the gifts in our own hearts. It is God alone who gives life, who is generous beyond measure with grace and blessing.

We follow Christ, whom God sent to teach and heal, to show us a new way of living, with love and trust and courage, with joy and generosity. In this faith Jesus gave of himself, even his very life. He was crucified and buried; yet God raised him from death, and he lives among us, and grants his spirit to us.

We live by that Holy Spirit, and entrust ourselves to its guidance and empowerment. As members of the church, the Body of Christ, we devote ourselves to lives of love, rejoicing in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Genesis 18:1-15
read from *The Message*

MESSAGE: “We Laugh”

Pastor Burnett

***DOXOLOGY**

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

CLOSING SONG: "Sent Forth By God's Blessing"

#712

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted), Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession (adapted), Words of Assurance and Prayer of Dedication are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Call to Confession is from *Taught By Love-Resources for Year A* by Lavon Bayler. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnaas-Holmes.

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Organist: Mary Jo Meyer

Lector: David Burrow

Worship Leader: Pastor Burtnett

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June Radio Sponsors: Pastor Chris and Pam Burtnett

Birthdays: 6-21 Arlene Kenyon, Meredith Hines

The Strengthen the Church offering will be taken this morning.

Tuesday Pastor Burtnett will be at the Food Pantry board meeting at 6:30 pm.

Thursday the Pastor/Parish Relations committee will meet here at 5:15 pm.

A reminder that the Founders Day nativity display will be held two weeks from Friday from 3-6 pm.

**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

Mahana Scholarship Recipients

The Class of 2017

Jeff Buchanan	Megan Eden
Addy Foertsch	Amanda Hentges
Joseph Ingalls	Faith Kahler
Cameron Kaltschnee	Ciera Klein
Morgan Lanndorf	Amber Lenz
Trevor Loeschen	Alyssa Mechler
Madison Miller	Khusbu Patel
Austin Petersen	Michaela Priebe
Ryan Reebenacker	Hannah Reno
Shelbi Schadendorf	Xue (Diana) Wang
Chandler Wilhelmi	Kala Zwiefel
Keagan Zwiefel	Mallory Zwiefel

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