

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 13, 2017

PRELUDE
RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FIRST READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Romans 10:5-15
read from the *Good News Bible*

OPENING SONG: "Sing Praise to the Father"
SHARING JESUS' PEACE

#142

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

Leader: Those who wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah 40:31 NRSV)

People: We need this kind of hope.

Leader: Come; worship the Holy One who meets you where you are. Come; open yourselves to the God who lifts us up.

People: We are here to worship; we are here to surrender to God.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

God of Presence, as you walked upon the water to meet the disciples, meet us in the midst of the storms in our lives. God of Renewal, as you lifted Peter from the water, lift us from despair to hope, from distraction to focus, from death to life. God of the Journey, direct us in your way, work out your purpose in and through our lives. We pray in the name of Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

In truth, God of silence and seas, we are more adept at making waves than calming storms. We find it easier to push people out of the boat, rather than make room for those who are different from us. And our lives are such a whirlwind of activity, that we do not notice your presence or hear your sheer silence singing your shalom to us.

Have mercy on us, God of patience. Grab hold of us to keep us from drowning in our oceans of temptations. Give us the words to speak of your hope to others. Fill our hearts with the love of Jesus Christ, which is nearer to us than we dare to imagine. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read together)

Leader: Immediately, immediately! your sins are forgiven, your life is restored, and grace becomes your guide through this life.

People: Thanks be to God! We are not left alone, but take heart in the forgiving love of our God. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

MIDDLE SONG: "Children of the Heavenly Father"

#83

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We believe in God, Creator of all things, heavenly father and mother, Soul of infinite love, wisdom, and power, ruler of all that is and all that is to come, who is mystery, yet revealed.

We follow Christ, God's chosen one, who loved and served humbly, who healed the broken and included the outcast, who chose to suffer rather than harm for the sake of the healing of all Creation, who gave his life for our redemption, and who was raised by God to new life.

In his teaching, in his death and resurrection, and in his presence with us in all circumstances, he reveals God to us. He calls us to serve him for the sake of proclaiming God's grace. We trust that he accompanies us and will help, guide, heal, and defend us through all difficulty and suffering.

We believe the Holy Spirit sustains us, and guides us and empowers us as servants of God's grace.

We live as the body of Christ, in the power of forgiveness and the reality of resurrection, and the light of eternal life. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:22-33
read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE: "Signs and Miracles"

Pastor Burnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

***DOXOLOGY**

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

CLOSING SONG: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

#439

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship and Opening Prayer are from *Worship Ways – Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) is from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2017* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnas-Holmes.

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Organist:	Liz Reynolds
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	Pastor Burnett

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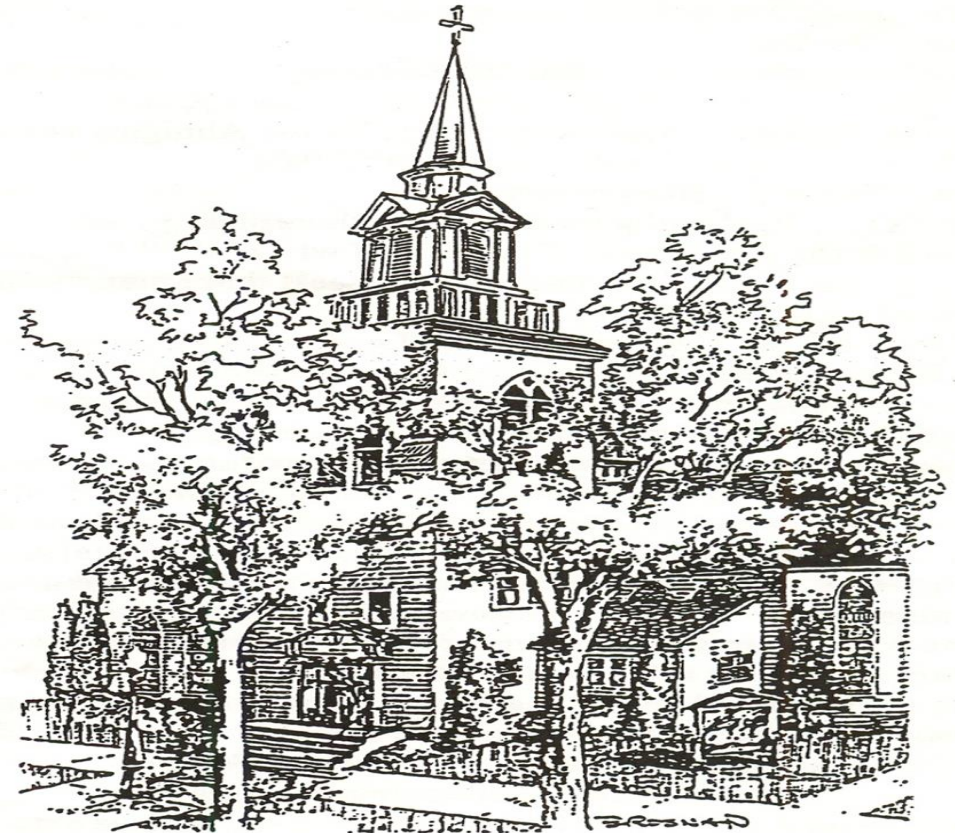
August Radio Sponsors: Chuck West and Becky Bibler

Birthdays:

Announcements

Pastor Burnett will be at the Food Pantry board meeting this Tuesday evening.
 The Board will meet Wednesday at 7 pm.
 Friday Christian Education will meet at 9 am to clean up the Sunday school room.
 Homemade cookies are needed for the freezer.
 Remember the explore space exhibit begins 8-16-17 at the Public library.

**First Congregational Church
 United Church of Christ
 Algona, Iowa**



"Where No One Is A Stranger"

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