

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 13, 2018

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1:15-23 read from the *Common English Bible*

OPENING SONG: "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" #323

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: Come to this time of worship expecting great things.

Many: We are here to wait for the promises of God.

One: Is this the time when God will come to reign, when we will receive power and authority?

Many: In God's time, the Holy Spirit will come to us and we will be empowered to be faithful witnesses.

One: We are here to learn about all that Jesus did.

Many: We are here seeking to experience God's rule in our lives, ready to listen to all that Jesus taught.

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

Great, Loving God, we who come to worship are also persons who sometimes feel that you have abandoned us or left us to fend for ourselves. Although we rely on your ever-presence, we suspect your absence. Encourage us when we doubt your promise to be with us always. In our worship, grant us the gifts of discernment and hope. Enable us to recognize your workings in the commonplace and the everyday. Open us to faith and help us to perceive not only what is, but also what, by your grace, might be. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

It's hard for us to wait for anything, God. We want instant answers and immediate gratification of our desires. We are more acquisitive than grateful. We forget the amazing riches of your gifts to us and only want more. We don't take time simply to enjoy being in your presence, singing your praises, delighting in your love. Forgive us for our arrogant, selfish pride and our neglect of values and relationships that would supply all we really need. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: We are no longer blown about in the winds of the world, we are grounded, yesterday, today, tomorrow in God's forgiveness, hope and love.

Many: Today, tomorrow, forever: we can bear fresh fruit, sharing God's peace and joy with everyone we meet. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR SAMUEL JOHN GRINDBERG

Invitation, Welcome, Address, Questions, *Congregational Assent, Affirmation of Faith*, Baptism Prayer, Act of Baptism, Act of Praise, Prayer for the Baptized, Benediction

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 24:44-55

MIDDLE SONG: "Christ Is Alive" #312

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us by the Holy Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Acts 1:1-11 read from *The Message*

MESSAGE: "You Can't Always Get What You Want."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

CLOSING SONG

“A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing”

#322

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Prayer of Confession (adapted) are from *Led By Love-Worship Resources for Year B* by Lavon Bayler. The Opening Prayer (adapted) is by Glen E. Rainsley from *Touch Holiness-Resources for Worship* edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. The Call to 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-2018* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is from the *United Church of Canada*.

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Organist: Liz Reynolds
Lector: David Burrow
Worship Leader: Pastor Chris
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April Radio Sponsor: Scott and Sandy Buchanan

Birthdays: 5-13 - Jack Grindberg

Today - No Seekers
10:00 am. Worship with Baptism
10:15 am. Children’s Sunday School
Monday- 11:00 am Exceptional Opportunities
Tuesday – 9:30-11:30 am. Pastor at Chocolate Season
Wednesday - 7 pm. Baccalaureate at Wilcox PAC
Thursday- 8:30 am. Ministerial Meeting at St. Thomas Episcopal
10:00 am. Evangelism and Outreach Meeting
2:30 pm. Women’s Fellowship
Next Sunday- 9:00am. Seekers
10 am. Pentecost Sunday Worship – (Wear Red)
10:15 am. Children’s Sunday School

Today we celebrate the baptism of Samuel John Grindberg. His family includes his parents Christian and Ashley, sister Greta and brother Jack. Sam’s Godparents are Karine Feddersen and Pamela Rohde.

The women of the church are invited for Guest Day on Thursday, June 7 for a noon luncheon at Algona United Methodist Church. The program will be by Pastor Walter Reemtsma on his trip to the Holy Land. Please RSVP to 515-295-2779 or e-mail dkcraill@gmail.com by May 28.

Happy Mother’s Day!

