

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 26, 2018

Welcome, Good News, Announcements

A Reading from Scripture: Psalm 84 shared from *The Message*

Sharing Jesus' Peace

Call to Worship (read responsively)

One: Come! Dwell in God's courts forever.

Many: Happy are those who live and pray in God's house.

One: In God alone our hearts sing for joy.

Many: In God alone we find strength.

One: God of Hosts, how lovely is your dwelling place.

Many: We have come in prayer to worship God.

Song: "For the Beauty of the Earth" (song sheet)

Opening Prayer (read together)

You are Creator and Sustainer of us all, God. Today we want to worship you with gladness and come into your presence with singing. We invoke your presence among us today so that no one will leave this place without a deep assurance of your love, without strong confidence of your faithfulness, without a fresh and full commitment to live by your power and your glory. Amen.

Time for the Children and Young at Heart

An Affirmation of Faith (read together)

We believe in God the Creator, who created and is creating everything: the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us; each of us, unique, individual and beloved of God.

We believe in God the Christ, who saved and is saving everything: the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us: each of us; unique, individual and beloved of the Christ.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who guided and is guiding everything: the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us; each of us, unique, individual and beloved of the Spirit.

We believe that this one God in three persons, is present among us, working directly in our lives and the lives of all who are born into this world, striving to bring us back into harmony with all creation and with God: forgiving, healing, touching everyone, never rejecting any who willingly receive this freely offered gift of love and grace and eternal life. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Special Musical Offering "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Just Cause

Focus Scripture: 1 Kings 8:22-30 shared from the *Good News Bible*

Meditation: "It's a Rhetorical Question" Pastor Burnett

Prayers of the People/Lord's Prayer

Offering, Doxology, Prayer of Dedication

Closing Song: "This Is My Father's World (song sheet)

Benediction

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual -20108* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu is from; The Opening Prayer (adapted) is from *Invocations and Benediction for the Revised Common Lectionary* by John M. Drescher. The Affirmation of Faith is written by Lisa Frenz.

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Special Music Just Cause

Lector: David Burrow

Worship Leader: Pastor Burnett

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August Radio Sponsor: Chuck West and Becky Bibler

Birthdays: 8-26 Holly Filson-Heath, 9-1 Tyler Rochleau

Call Park Song Sheet

For the Beauty of the Earth

(words from The New Century Hymnal)

For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the good that love inspires, for a world where none exclude,
For a faith that never tires, and for every heart renewed,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

This Is My Father's World

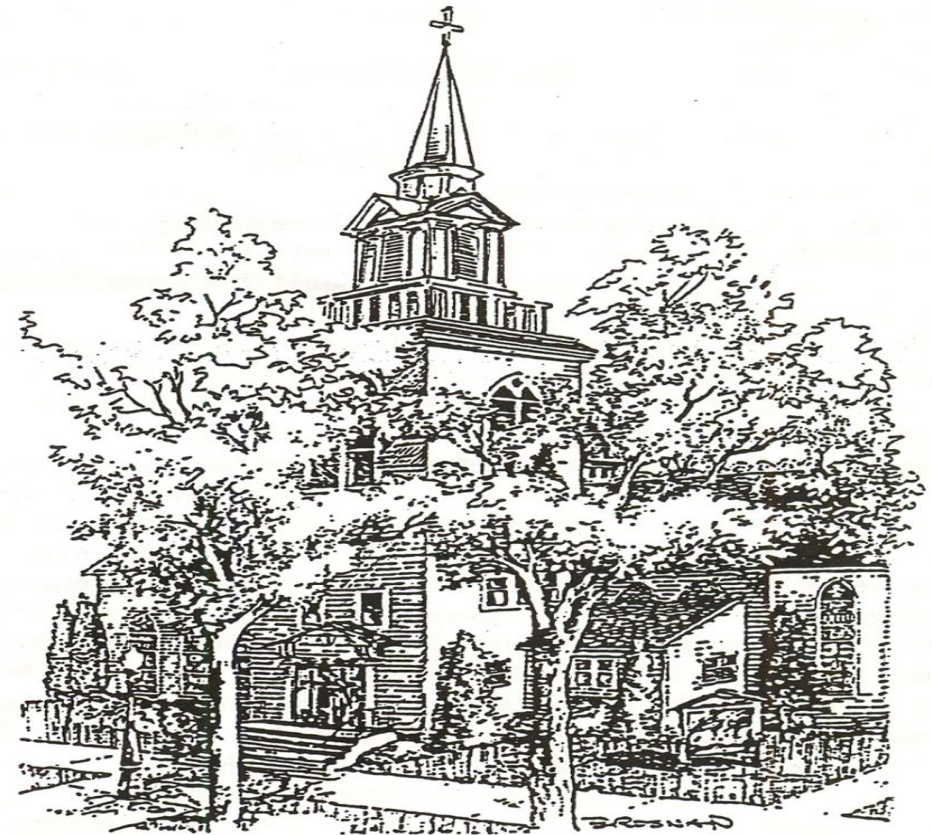
(words from the Chalice Hymnal-Christian Church-Disciples of Christ)

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears.
All nature sings and round me rings, the music of the spheres.
This is my father's world; I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; God's hands the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world; the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the flowers bright, declare their Maker's praise.
Our God has made this world and shines in all that's fair;
In rustling grass I hear God pass, who speaks to me everywhere.

Our God has made this world; oh, let us ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.
God trusts us with this world, to keep it clean and fair.
All earth and trees, the skies and seas, God's creatures everywhere.

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ Algona, Iowa



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

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