

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 19, 2018

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FIRST READING FROM SCRIPTURE

read from the *Common English Bible*

Psalms 111

***OPENING SONG:** “O Worship the King”

#2

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Come, seekers of wisdom and truth.

Many: God's wisdom has called us here.

One: Come, lovers of Christ's teaching and guidance.

Many: Christ's love has called us here.

One: Come, singers of thanksgiving and praise.

Many: God's wisdom is a chance for a new beginning.

One: Come! Let us worship.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

God of steadfast love, your works delight our hearts and expand our thoughts. Your grace and mercy draw us together to praise you and to celebrate your wonderful deeds. Dwell among us today, and reign within the lives of each one gathered here, helping us to grow in discernment and understanding. Grant wisdom and courage that we may walk in your ways and keep your commandments. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

It is not easy to admit, **Watching God, but we are not very careful with our lives. We could find a home in your heart, but seem to stay in the Airbnb run by fear. We could sip the Spirit's best vintage, yet get drunk on cheap bottles of bitterness. We could learn your ways of wise choices, but prefer sin's silly paths.**

Forgive us, God of mercy. Remind us that we no longer need to live in the old ways, or to yearn for those good old days. But we are free to listen to your hopes, to learn from your heart, and to walk with Jesus Christ, our Lord and A MOMENT FOR SILENT

REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Are you watching what God does? God's love embraces us. God's grace forgives us. God gives us hope and the wisdom to walk in God's ways.

Many: Our God restores our lives with the peace of the Spirit, so we may feast on the gifts of mercy and grace offered to us by the Bread of heaven. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:51-58

***MIDDLE SONG:** “Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”

#403

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We believe in God, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all of God's works, and whose will is ever directed to all of God's children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of humankind, the gift of God's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of Jesus our Savior, to the end that the realm of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

1 Kings 2:10-12,: 3:3-14

from *The Message*

MESSAGE: “Any Requests?”

Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

CLOSING SONG: “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#72

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2018* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Opening Prayer is from *Led By Love-Worship Resources for Year B* by Lavon Bayler. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith (adapted) is from Rehobeth Methodist Church.

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

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August Radio Sponsor: Chuck West and Becky Bibler

Birthdays: 8-20 Adeline Reynolds, 8-22 Larry Person

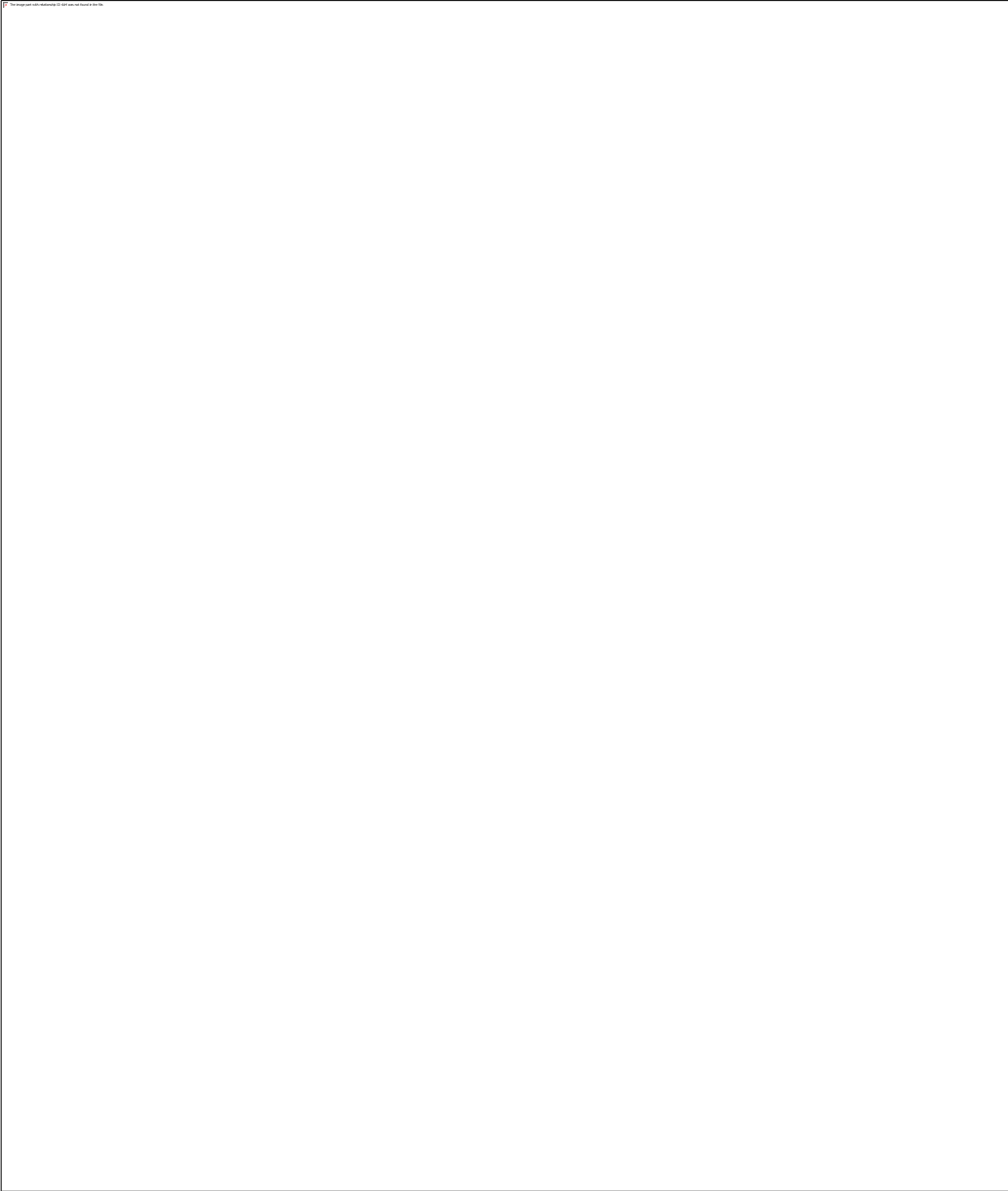
Wednesday, the 22nd, the Adult discussion group will meet at 7 pm at Chuck West’s home.

Next Sunday will be at the Call State Park. The potluck will follow the 10 am service.

Cookies are needed for our gatherings in the parlor.

Daily bread

Bring your box tops for education by September 9th.



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