

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 20, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 36: 5-10 from the *New Revised Standard Version*

*OPENING SONG: “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” #48

SHARING JESUS’ PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: God has made us to be One Body with many members.

Many: **United and uniting. This is our calling.**

One: God calls us to share our diverse gifts activated by the one and same Spirit.

Many: **United and uniting. This is our redemption.**

One: God longs for us to be united in love and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

Many: **United and uniting. This is our worship.**

One: Let us gather in this hour to offer praise and worship to our Holy God, who challenge us and calls us to *create the Beloved Community*.

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

We stand in your house of love this morning God, remembering the many ways you have blessed us with faithful love. Your love is like a fountain in our lives, welling up in ordinary, everyday ways, and in unexpected, extraordinary ways. We stand in your presence with thankful hearts, grateful that your love fills the cosmos and gives us life. Amen

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

Delight of the Ages, we cannot remain silent, but must speak of the ways we misuse your gifts. In our desire to have more and more, we cause more damage to your good creation. In our obsession with ourselves, we have desolated the lives of those around us. When we hoard what you have given us, we cannot be a blessing to other people. Forgive us, Restless God, so we might be restored to life. May your steadfast love save and strengthen us to share our gifts with others, even as you have shared the Gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: God delights in you. So much, that God will not rest until you are at peace. God will not remain silent, but will call you by name: 'My Delight.'

Many: **God's steadfast love extends to the heavens, and reaches down to touch our hearts. Thanks be to God who forgives and saves us! Amen.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

*MIDDLE SONG: “We All Are One in Mission” #552

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

I believe in an innovative God, who does not wait for us to find ourselves but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.

I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God’s crucial initiative, that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become, both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.

I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us, calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.

I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ’s people, called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations as we travel the road towards the “promised land” of God’s future.

Because Christ has called me, in this I truly believe. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE John 2: 1-11 from *The Message*

MESSAGE: “Pushers” Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** “Jesus, Come, for We Invite You”

#669

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship is from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Opening Prayer, and Offering Prayer of Dedication are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019* edited by Mary Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Schuman. The Affirmation of Faith is written by Bruce Prewer

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

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January Radio Sponsor: Scott and Sandy Harmes Buchanan

Birthdays: 1-24 Janice Morey, 1-26 Chuck West

Today after church we need volunteers to prepare the meal for tomorrow’s Week of Christian Unity.

The annual meeting and potluck will be held next Sunday the 27th. A copy of the annual reports will be e-mailed out before the meeting. Let the office know if you will need a hard copy.

The Week of Christian Unity begins on the 21st of January. We will host this Monday. Please consider helping out preparing, serving and cleaning up that day. The Week Ahead will have the schedule for that week.

The Adult discussion group will meet at Chuck’s this coming Wednesday at 7 pm.

Newsletter articles and meeting dates for February and March are due into the office by the 29th of this month. Share pictures and stories that might inspire, humor, or inform our readers.

The sign-up sheet for the radio broadcasts is posted in the parlor.

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



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

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