

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
February 17, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 1 from the *Common English Bible*

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

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: Blessed are those who trust - in God!

Many: We come in trust, to be grounded in God's love.

One: Blessed are those who hope - in God!

Many: We come in hope, trusting in the One who gives us life.

One: Blessed are those who delight - in God's Word!

Many: We come to hear God speak, hoping for healing and joy.

One: Let's worship God.

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

God of blessings and woes, bless us this day with lives filled with love, caring, generosity, and deep, abiding hope. We pray that your realm will dwell among all people, and that we may be instruments of your love and grace. Open our hearts with the joy of healing a world filled with brokenness and pain. In the name of the one who taught us the ways of light and love, be in our worship and in our very lives. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

We confess what we are afraid to face, Blessing God, that the seductions of this world gnaw away at our hearts. We have more and more to choose from at the market, and so we forget those whose only choice is hunger. Our sense that we are your favorites causes us to make fun of those we are convinced are not. We are so consumed with saving enough for the future, we overlook those who have so little this day.

Forgive us, Heartbroken God, for thinking we are the center of your world. Pour your living water into us, so we might send down roots deep into your heart, and so become those people who are blessings to others, as we have received the gift of new life from Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: Blessed are you: for God forgives you and restores you to new life. Rejoice in this day and dance for joy!

Many: Thanks be to God! Our faith is true, and our hope is grounded in the promises of the One we can trust not only on this day, but in every day to come. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 17:5-10

*MIDDLE SONG: "Come, We That Love the Lord" #67

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

We believe in God, the maker of all things, source of all life and Mother of all children.

Our life is in God, and in God we are one with all beings.

We follow Jesus, the Christ, the Revealer of God, who taught us to love, who gave us courage to trust God's grace, and who bid us to take up our cross and follow him. In his life and ministry and his death and resurrection, he has shown us that in losing our lives we find them. He who was crucified is the Lord of the Universe.

We rely upon the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints, the unity of the church, the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the reality of eternal life.

Therefore we devote ourselves to disciplined practice of the Way of Jesus in our daily lives, so that we may grow in faithfulness, and serve God in humble, confident love for the sake of the healing of the world. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Luke 6:17-26 from *The Message*

MESSAGE: "We're Blessed! Now What?"

Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** "Two Thousand Years Since Bethlehem"

#540

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

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

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February Radio Sponsor: Chris and Pam Burtnett

Birthdays: 2-17 Pat Beaver, Father Taylor, 2-18 Karen Dearchs, 2-20 Kris Schlievert

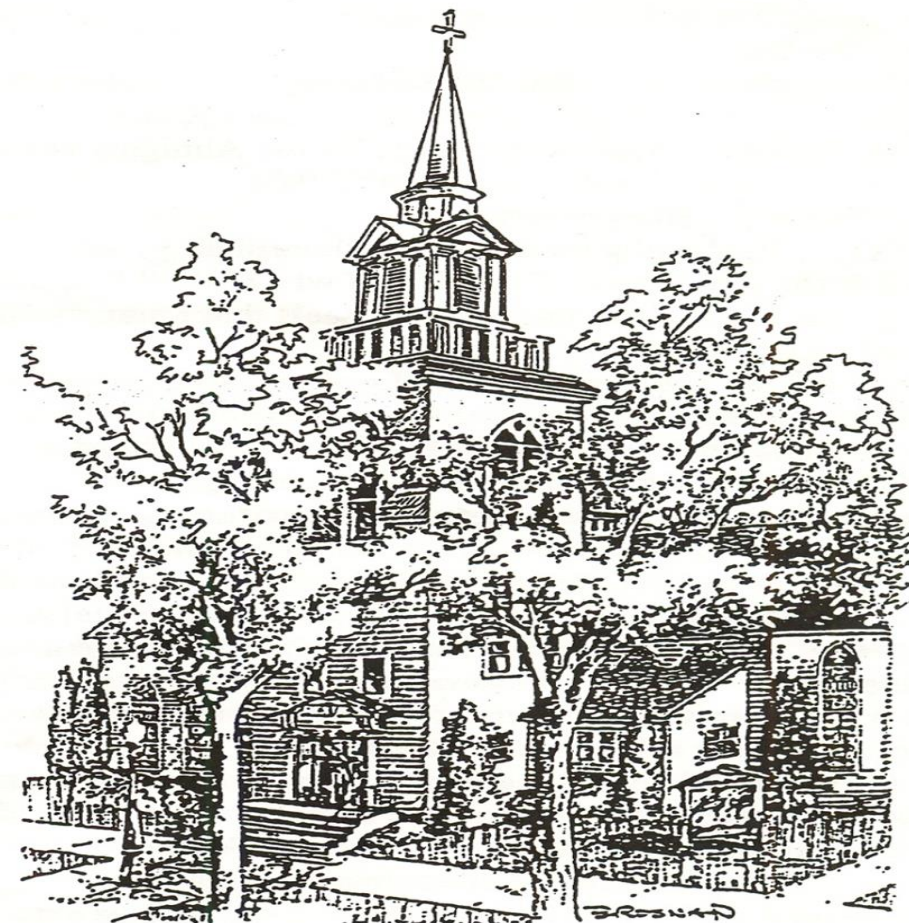
Missions and Memorial committee meets this Tuesday at 4 pm.

The Board meets Wednesday at 7 pm.

Friday Pastor Burtnett has a by-laws meeting in Manson.

Next Sunday a potluck will follow the church service.

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



"Where No One Is A Stranger"

315 S. Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511

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