

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Algona, Iowa  
Transfiguration Sunday  
March 3, 2019

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** Exodus 34:29-35 from the *Common English Bible*

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

## SHARING JESUS’ PEACE

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (read responsively)

One: Something drew us together this morning

**Many: Something we can’t name but which we experience in worship.**

One: Some holy mystery we call God.

**All: Some sacred calling we hear in the life of Jesus.**

One: Some indescribable hope we feel when we gather in the Spirit.

**All: May our experience of the Divine transform our doubts and fears  
and prepare us to love the world.**

**OPENING PRAYER** (read together)

Source of awe and mystery, as your presence caused Moses’ face to shine with your glory, may your presence in our time of worship cause our lives to shine with your glory.

Reveal the glory of Jesus to us this day. Transform our worship with the delight of discovery, that our soul might shine the light of Christ into a world in need of your love.

Amen.

## TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (read together)

We admit that we are often afraid to come near you, Glorious Creator. For if we do, you might see how our faces darken with anger as we speak hurtful words, or whiten with fear of those who are different, or redden from the depths of our desires. We can spend so much time gazing in the mirror of our longings, that we are unable to see the faces etched with loneliness, hollowed by hunger, overshadowed by hopelessness.

You reveal the mystery of your grace, Holy One, by pouring out mercy upon us. As you bend down to listen, may we speak your love to all those around us. As you call us into your presence, you send us out to do your justice which brings hope to the world. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior, our Love, our Justice.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** (read responsively)

One: On mountaintops and in valleys, in our hopes and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves!

**Many: By God's mercy, we are forgiven; by God's mercy, we are made whole; by God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 9:28-36

**\*MIDDLE SONG:** “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd” #99

**\*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (read together) inside back cover of hymnal

**GLORIA PATRI** #734

**FOCUS SCRIPTURE** 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 from *The Message*

**MESSAGE:** “Transfigured By Degrees” Pastor Burtnett

## GATHERING AT JESUS’ TABLE

Invitation, Communion Prayer, *Sanctus*, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord’s Prayer, Sharing the Bread and Cup

**SANCTUS**

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

We thank you, God for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and received all of Christ’s gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another and let us show forth your praise in our lives through Jesus Christ our transfigured Savior. Amen.

**OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

**\*CLOSING SONG:** “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright” #144

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

The Call to Worship is adapted from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2019* edited by Mary J. 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 the United Church of Christ Statement of Faith. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving is from the *Book of Worship-United Church of Christ*.

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Organist: Carter Nath  
Lector: David Burrow  
Worship Leader: Pastor Chris Burttnet

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March Radio Sponsor: John and Helen Scuffham

Birthdays: 3/9 Samuel Grindberg

Pastor Burttnett will be conducting Bible study at every Tuesday in March at 2 pm.  
The Pastor, Parish Relations group will meet at 4 pm this coming Tuesday.  
Fellowship night will be this Wednesday starting at 5:30 pm followed by the Ash Wednesday service.  
Daylight savings begins this weekend. Remember to set your clocks ahead.



**THEIR EYES WERE OPENED, AND THEY  
RECOGNIZED THE RISEN CHRIST IN THE  
BREAKING OF THE BREAD.**