

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 21, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:38-42

from *The Message*

***OPENING SONG:** “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

#88

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: This is a place to pause from the hustle and bustle of our days.

Many: This is a time to listen to the spoken word.

One: This is a time to enjoy the notes of a song.

Many: This is a place to find joy in the face of our neighbor.

Everyone: This is a time to dwell in the Spirit of God. Let's worship!

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Creator of all, we come from many places this morning. Some of us come with heavy hearts. Some of us come with questions and few answers. Some of us come with joy bursting from our souls. Some of us come with long “to do” lists. Help us lay aside all that we carry with us and focus on you—the source of our lives, the one who fills our days with joy and love, the one who provides answers to our questions. We come this day, God, to turn our minds and hearts toward you. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

In the mirror we call scripture, Revealing God, we see ourselves for who we are and are not. We whine about those who are not doing what we think they should, and ignore our failings. We speak words which nibble away at the life in our family, our friends, our neighbors, our world. We step over the poor on our way to get more and more, ignoring their needs.

Forgive us, Reconciling Love. Sit us down at Jesus' feet, so we may learn the balanced life you intend for us. Then, and only then, we can set aside our grudges, to offer our gifts to our neighbors; we can stop licking at our hurts, to bring healing to others; we can reach out and welcome our sisters and brothers, even as we have been welcomed into your heart through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: The Psalmist declares that those who speak the truth from their heart will abide in God's sanctuary. God hears the difficult truths we have named aloud and in the silence of our hearts.

Many: The wonderful gift of God's forgiveness flows through us. The abundance of God's mercy and grace sets us free to serve God with love. Thanks be to God!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 52

***MIDDLE SONG:** “When Our Confidence Is Shaken”

#413

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We believe in God, maker of all things, provider of all things, who loves all people.

We follow Jesus, in whom salvation has come to us: he sees us for who we are, heals the wounds of our hearts, and makes us new. In his death and resurrection, we see the deepest truth of life.

We live by the power of the Holy Spirit, which empowers us for self-giving love.

We give thanks for the Church, the Body of Christ, and for the gift of forgiveness, the power of resurrection and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Amos 8:1-12

read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE: "Rotten Fruit"

Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** "Community of Christ"

#615

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Opening Prayer are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2019* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance (adapted), and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. 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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July Radio Sponsor: Arlen Benschoter

Birthdays: 7/22 Cam Buchanan

We desperately need a driver for Meals on Wheels this coming Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and for July 29th through the 31st. Please let the office know if you can help.

Today is National Ice cream day and we will celebrate after church today in the fellowship hall.

Next Sunday the Corn Belt chorus will sing for us at 10 am.

Newsletter articles and pictures are due in the office by the 30th of July.

A reminder, we need to refill the freezer with cookies.

**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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