

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 28, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Luke 11:1-13

from the *Good News Bible*

*OPENING SONG: "For Beauty of Meadows"

#28

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: We come abounding in thanksgiving:

Many: For in Christ we find in all fullness the holiness, the justice, the hope of God.

One: We come abounding in thanksgiving:

Many: To feel God's life in us flowing through our roots in Christ and establishing our faith.

One: We come abounding in thanksgiving:

Many: To celebrate the mystery of God-with-us: Christ, who lives fully in us and in whom we fully live.

Everyone: Let us welcome the One who was sent to make us alive in the fullness of God. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

God, we know you will come to us and give us what is good. Let your glory till the landscape of our hearts so that it will yield an increase of love for you. Speak peace to us, your faithful, and to all who yearn for you. Help us to be willing to do as you ask, that we may rejoice to be children of the living God. For we know that as we ask, it will be given and as we knock, the door will be opened to us. Come, bring your goodness to us your children. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

We do not find it easy to speak of how we do not live as your people, but you invite us to share our weaknesses and failures with you, Inviting God. Tempted to think your salvation is for a select few, we put up barriers for others. Clinging to all you give to us, we are reluctant to share with those in need. Surrounded by evil and violence, we find it easier to close ranks with those just like us, rather than seeking peace and reconciliation for our world.

Forgive us, Salvation's God. Open our eyes to our sisters and brothers all around us.

Open our ears to the word of hope you speak to us. Open our spirits to the presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who flings wide the open doors of your realm, that all might find life with you.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Here is the good news, my friends: Christ came searching for us, calling us by name, leading us into God's realm.

Many: In Christ, we become new people: broken, we are made whole; lost, we are found; forsaken, we are restored to new life. Thanks be to God. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 85

*MIDDLE SONG: "Renew Your Church"

#462

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We know that God is in the world.....was and is and will be. God made it all, and continues to renew, remake, and resurrect.

We know God best in the life of Jesus, who was and is our maker of hope, the one who saves.

We know the power and energy of God in the Holy Spirit.

We are filled with God's joy and pledged to discipleship and love.

We trust in God. We celebrate God. We work together for justice and peace through God.

We are never alone. We are free in the chosen bonds of the ways of the Christ. Thanks be to God. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Colossians 2:6-19

read from *The Message*

MESSAGE: "Stay Centered"

Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

Words #44

*DEDICATION OF OFFERING

*CLOSING SONG "Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult"

#345

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Opening Prayer are from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) is from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2019* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is by Mary Sue Gast and Roger D. Straw from *Flames of the Spirit-Resources for Worship Like Bread for the Journey*.

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Organist:	Liz Reynolds
Lector:	Sandy Person
Worship Leader:	Pastor Burtnett

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July Radio Sponsor: Arlen Benschoter

Birthdays: 8-1 Marilyn Deal

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

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

Next Sunday is communion and Food Pantry collection.

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 United Church of Christ
 Algona, Iowa



"Where No One Is A Stranger"

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