

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 25, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 71:1-6 from the *Good News Bible*

*OPENING SONG: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #71

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: We come to worship our God, to listen to the One who calls us here.

Many: We come trusting God to lead us in the coming days, as surely as were our grandparents in the faith.

One: We come to worship our God, to shout with joy to the God of all people.

Many: We come to the Creator of all things, to be bathed in the waters of life.

One: We come to the Feast of God's faithful, to be fed by the One who never forsakes us.

Many: We come to worship our God, to sing aloud to the One who saves us.

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

O God of all goodness, you welcome us, forgive us and heal us. You seek us out from places where we have hidden from you. You crown us with steadfast love and mercy. Reveal yourself to us in this moment. Let us know your presence so that we may bless you: Bless you, O God! Bless your holy name! Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

We are always uncomfortable, Watching God, when you notice how we want to sit in the seats of honor. We can be so proper, so good, so well-off, that it is easy to imagine we are superior to the poor. We are so busy completing our 'To Do' list each day, that we forget to do good when we have the chance.

Forgive us, Welcoming God. Fill our emptiness with your grace and humility that we would spend our lives alongside Jesus, our Lord and Savior, throwing a party for the poor, the damaged, the prisoner, the lost, the oppressed. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: This is the good news: after what God has done for us, what can anyone or any thing do to us? We are new people, graced by our loving God.

Many: Forgiven, embraced, welcomed by our God, we will offer open hearts and serving hands to everyone we meet. Thanks be to God. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 1:4-10

*MIDDLE SONG: "We Are Called to Be God's People" #580

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

We believe in God, who creates us, who sustains us each moment, who is our life and our breath.

We follow Christ, who showed us God. He received and shared God's grace. He trusted God in everything. He let go of things so that he might cling to Life. He let go of life, so that he might hold onto Love. He gave of himself, even his very life, for the sake of the healing of the world. And though he was crucified, God gave him life again; and he rose and is still among us in a new way.

We live by the Holy Spirit, which alone gives us life.

We rejoice in the church, the Body of Christ, and in the oneness of all life, the gift of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life.

By the power of that Holy Spirit, and in the name of Christ, we devote ourselves to give generously of all that we receive, for the sake of the healing of the world, and the eternal glory of God. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Luke 13:10-17 read from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE: "Good Posture"

Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

Words #44

*DEDICATION OF OFFERING

*CLOSING SONG "Stand Up and Bless the Lord"

#11

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Opening Prayer, is from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Offering Prayer of Dedication is from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2019* edited by MaryJ. 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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August Radio Sponsor: Chuck West and Becky Bibler

Birthdays: 8/26 Holly Filson-Heath

First Congregational Church
 United Church of Christ
 Algona, Iowa



"Where No One Is A Stranger"

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