

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 22, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 79:1-9 from the *Common English Bible*

*OPENING SONG: “How Long, O Lord” #376 (sung to tune of #470)

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Leader: We gather together to celebrate the joy in our lives.

People: God's love fills our hearts to overflowing with laughter.

Leader: We gather, in God's presence, to find comfort and hope for our pain.

People: God's grace wipes away our tears and knits us together as one people.

Leader: We gather together, in God's presence, to worship God in faith and truth.

People: Alleluia! Amen!

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

God of our hearts, you are our Physician in times of hurt; your balm heals our wounds. You hear our prayers, intercessions and supplications. Your presence is pleasing to us and we welcome you. Together in your sanctuary, we rejoice in your embrace and offer you our boundless praise. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)
Holy, One, your ways are as far above our ways as the heavens are above the raging seas. We yearn to offer supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving for the needs of all, but find some people hard to love. We long to be faithful stewards of your many blessings, but often find the effort a hassle in the midst of more pleasurable pursuits. Forgive us when we try to serve two masters—when we seek the shelter and safety of your love, while placing our trust in human wealth, status, and power. Heal our brokenness and our self-centered ways, for you alone are our one true physician, and you alone can make us well. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

Leader: The author of our salvation, the one who weeps for us and our world, is the God of compassion.

People: God meets us in our need and heals our many failings. We will rejoice and be glad! Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 1Timothy 2:1-7

*MIDDLE SONG: “For the Healing of the Nations” #621

*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 Luke 16:1-13 read from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE: “Wasted” Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** “Jesus Call Us o’er the Tumult”

#345

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

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

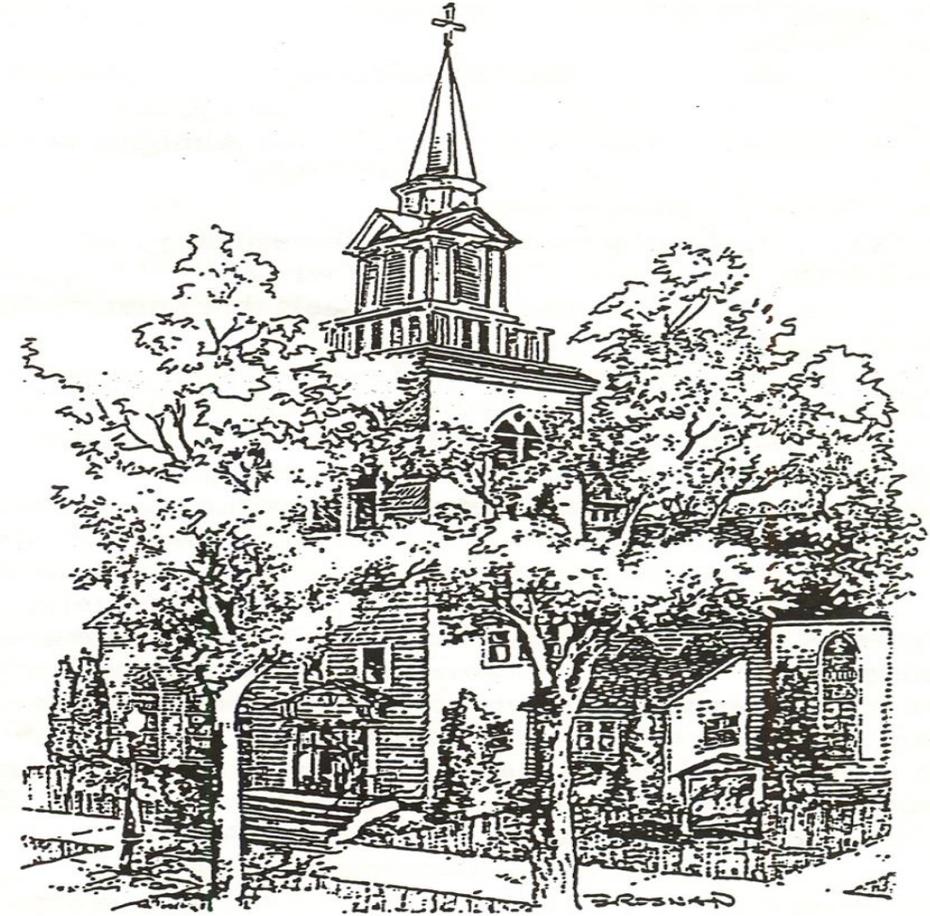
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September Radio Sponsor: David Burrow

Birthdays: 9-26 Margaret Herbst, Derek Person

Worship and Music will meet after today’s service. They will meet in the library.
 The Peace Pole service is to be held here at 4 pm. Please bring lawn chairs.
 Thursday the CARES Committee at Kossuth Regional Health Center is having a \$5.00 Jewelry Party fundraiser from 10 am to 5:30 pm at the hospital. The proceeds will go toward several non-profit organizations in our area.
 Next Sunday will be our monthly potluck.
 Newsletter articles, pictures, etc. will be due next Sunday for October and November.
 Neighbors in Need offering will be taken October 6th.
 The CROP walk will be October 13th at the Methodist Church.

**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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