

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 32:1-3a, 6-15 from the *Good News Bible*

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

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Leader: When we are lost and uncertain,

People: God provides prophets and storytellers to guide us toward the truth.

Leader: When we are in need of rescue,

People: God provides refuge and shelter during our darkest days'

Leader: When we are looking, seeking, and hoping,

People: God provides open arms to welcome us with love and faithfulness.

Leader: Come! Let us worship.

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

Loving God, our rock and foundation, we thank you for the opportunity to gather in your holy name. May this be a time when we remember your faithfulness. You give us hope when despair creeps into our lives. You carve out a path when we lack direction. You send family members, friends, and even strangers when we need reminders of your promise. You sent Jesus to show us how to live in your ways. May we open our hearts to receive all you provide. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

All-powerful God, we have become so comfortable with our advantages, that we forget who makes them possible. We are so eager for riches that we wander away from faith. We consider ourselves more worthy than others to enjoy your bounty. We look down on people less industrious or differently gifted. We turn away from the plight of our neighbors who need our helping hand. Forgive our misplaced priorities, God. Have mercy on us and melt our hardened hearts so we may participate in the joy of your realm here and now. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

Leader: God's loving presence never abandons us, not even when we abandon God. All we have to do is call, and God responds.

People: God answers us with rescue and honor, forgiveness and mercy, life and salvation. Thanks be to God!

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING 1 Timothy 6:6-19

*MIDDLE SONG: "Take My Life and Let It Be" #466

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

We trust in God, Spirit of life, Creator of all that is and all that is to come; who surrounds us and fills us; who speaks the Word of life in us; and so we listen.

We listen to Jesus, Revealer of God, our brother and teacher; who lived in prayer and in love. Listening to God's voice and doing God's will, he gave his life in love; but God raised him to life that is eternal; and so we follow him.

We follow in the power of the Holy Spirit, God alive in us, for the sake of the healing of the world.

We trust in the power of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, the gift of the universal Church as the body of Christ, and the mystery of eternal life. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Luke 16:19-31 read from *The Message*

MESSAGE: "" Pastor Burnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

#748

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship, 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 (adapted), and Prayer of Confession are from *Gathered By Love, Worship Resources for Year C* by Lavon Bayler. The Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2013* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnas-Holmes.

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Organist: Liz Reynolds
Lector: David Burrow
Worship Leader: Pastor Burtnett
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September Radio Sponsor: David Burrow

Birthdays:

The budget committee will meet this Wednesday at 7 pm.
Newsletter articles, pictures, etc. will be due by this Tuesday morning for October and November.
Neighbors in Need offering will be taken next Sunday, 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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