

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 20, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING SONG:** “His Name Is Wonderful”

#102

SHARING JESUS’ PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Taste and see that God is good.

Many: God’s blessings are sweeter than honey.

One: God keeps our feet from wandering down the wrong path.

Many: God’s precepts make us wiser than those who are accounted wise.

One: Let’s worship the one who guides our lives.

Many: Let’s worship the one who leads us into life.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

God of discernment and truth, be with us in our time of worship. Open our minds to receive your wisdom. Open our hearts to accept your love. Open our spirits to embrace your ways. Be present with us as we seek your guidance, that we may follow in your wisdom and truth. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

We confess, God, that we are not eager to wrestle with you or take responsibility for the sin in our lives. We see ourselves as basically decent, respectable people. Yet we have bent your commandments to our own conveniences. We listen only to the word we want to hear. We participate in the greed that is destroying your good earth, and we allow evil to triumph through our neglect. Shake us into awareness that brings change, and support us, we pray, on the difficult path toward greater faithfulness. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Our self-disclosing God proclaims: I will forgive your sin and remember it no more. I will be your God and you will be my people.

Many: We rejoice in the new life God offers! We will attune our lives to God’s eternal values. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

inside front cover of the hymnal

GLORIA PATRI

#734

***SERMON HYMN** “O, How I Love Jesus”

#109

SERMON SCRIPTURE Luke 19:1-10

SERMON “The Size That Counts”

Pastor Karen Dearchs

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** O How He Loves You and Me”

#270

***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. Ben. The Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (adapted)
are from *Gathered By Love-Worship Resources for Year C* by Lavon Bayler.

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Organist:	Liz Reynolds
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	Pastor Karen Dearchs

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October Radio Sponsor: Dennis and Connie Schwab

Birthdays:

Next Sunday the congressional budget meeting will be held after the service, followed by the monthly potluck.

**First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa**



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

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