

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Reformation Sunday
October 27, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 65 from the *Good News Bible*

*OPENING SONG: "I Sing the Almighty Power of God" #31

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: This is the day the Lord has made:

Many: a day for praise and prayer; a day for gratitude and generosity.

One: This is the time God has given us:

Many: a time for singing and silence; a time for speaking and listening.

One: This is the life to which God calls us:

Many: a life of humility and service; a life of faith and trust. Let's worship!

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

We give you thanks, God, for all the ways that you bless our lives: the beauty and abundance of nature, the love of family and friends, the joy of knowing you and hearing your word. Send Your Spirit during this time of worship so that we might dream your dreams and see visions of the world as you created it to be. Guide our thoughts and actions. Bring us closer to you so that we might do your will and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

Watching God, like the Pharisee, we think we can stick our thumbs into life, pull out a prayer, and congratulate ourselves for being such good Christians. Then, we remember the harsh words we have spoken this week, the hurt we have inflicted on someone we loved, the lack of compassion we failed to offer to someone who needed our help. Forgive us, God of Grace, and deal gently with us. May we become more like the tax collector - humble, penitent, acknowledging our faulty lives to you. Then, may we receive the mercy promised to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: Forgiven and healed, we open ourselves to the grace, the peace, the hope offered to us through our loving God. This is the good news we have received!

Many: Graced and blessed, we are able to live our lives for others, taking them by the hand to reach that finish line called God's Realm. Thanks be to God. Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Joel 2:23-32

*MIDDLE SONG: "Wind Who Makes All Winds That Blow" #333

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

I believe in God the Father-Mother almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Child, our Sovereign, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. Having descended to the dead and having risen on the third day, Christ ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of the Father-Mother, and from there will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Luke 18:9-14 read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE: "Who Needs Reforming?" Pastor Burnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

#507

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted), Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Affirmation of Faith is from *The New Century Hymnal*.

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

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October Radio Sponsor: Dennis and Connie Schwab

Birthdays: 11-2 Don Marine

Please remain after church for the congregational budget meeting, followed by the potluck.
A reminder of the Trunk and Treat event on Thursday.
Next Sunday will be communion and Food Pantry collection, as well as a remembrance for those members who passed away this last year.
The Women’s Fellowship will be collecting new or gently used bedding and linens during the month of November. Items should be placed in the front pews.
The Food Pantry is closed until either the 1st or 4th of November. They are in the process of moving to their new location at 1426 Commercial St.
Remember to set your clocks back next Saturday.

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United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa**



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

315 S. Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511

515-295-2845