

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Twenty- third Sunday after Pentecost
Stewardship Sunday
November 17, 2019

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 12

read from *The Message*

*OPENING SONG: “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

#56

SHARING JESUS’ PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Rejoice and be glad, people of God.

Many: God is making all things new.

One: Sing for joy, sisters, brothers, and siblings in Christ.

Many: God bathes us in the well of salvation.

One: Dance with delight, heirs of the Spirit.

Many: God has turned our sorrow into laughter.

One: Rejoice and be glad, people of God.

Many: God is making all things new.

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

God, your creative power is everlasting. Even when fires, wars, revolutions and unaccountable violence destroy everything that we have built, your loving intention of a world without harm remains in place. Thank you for your sustaining interest in us. We ask for strengthening of our tired bones and flagging spirits. Help us to focus on our work so that we are part of creating a new earth. Your creative power is never-ending. You are unfailing. In you, we place our faith and trust. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

We confess that our lives weaken us, Strengthening God. We do not exercise our faith as we should, and so fatigue easily. We see houses as investment property, not as homes built on love, hope, and dreams. We whimper our petty complaints about our friends and families, rather than shouting our hosannas to heaven for the gift of their lives.

You are our hope, Tender God, so forgive us. Create in us new hearts, and fill us with new energy to serve our sisters, brothers, and siblings bringing them to the deep wells of salvation, where they can fill their parched souls, even as we have been led to them by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Rather than remaining white hot, God's anger melts into streams of living water, washing us clean of our sins and refreshing our spirits with hope and joy.

Many: This day! This day we give thanks to the God who is our strength and our salvation. Praise God! Amen.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

*MIDDLE SONG: “O Day of Peace”

#539 (sung to tune of #478 – *Sweet Hour of Prayer*)

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We trust in God, the Creator Spirit, who moved upon the face of the deep at the beginning of creation, who created all that is, and who spoke through the prophets of old.

We trust in Jesus Christ into whom God’s spirit was poured in fullness and in power, that the whole creation might be restored and unified; and who promised that the Spirit would come and fill the faithful with power to witness to the mighty love of God. We await on that Spirit today with longing hearts, seeking to be empowered to the witness to God’s love, with fresh words and courageous actions of love and hope. Glory be to God – Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit – now and always. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:5-19

read from *The Message*

MESSAGE: "But!....."

Pastor Burnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

#405

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Opening Prayer (adapted) is from *Invocations and Benedictions for the Revised Common Lectionary* by John M. Drescher. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted) and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith is from *Creeeds and Statements of Affirmation* pilgrimwr.uniting church.org

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Organist: Liz Reynolds

Lector: David Burrow

Worship Leader: Pastor Burnett

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November Radio Sponsor: Gregg and Julie Buchanan

Birthdays: 11-19 Christian Grindberg, 11-20 Pat Bilsborough, Phil Heath, 11-23 Gregg Buchanan

Women's Fellowship meets this Thursday at 1:30 pm.

Next Sunday the annual Thanksgiving potluck will follow the service. Please bring side dishes.

Orders for poinsettias should be into the office by this coming Friday. They will again cost \$10.

Newsletter articles and pictures are due in the office by Tuesday the 26th.

Linens and Towels should be placed in the front pews. They will be taken to the Care Team at the end of this month.

Pledge cards are in the parlor. If you have pledged and wish to have one of the pens made from the pipe organ, stop by the office and pick one up.

**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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