

First Congregational United Church of Christ
First Sunday after Christmas
December 29, 2019

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

PRELUDE

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG "Joy To the World" #179

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CHRISTMAS PRAYER OF THE DAY (prayed together)
Gracious and Holy One, it is a long way to Bethlehem to our homes; it is a long way from a crib in a stable to a place in our hearts. It has been a long time since that first Christmas. But as new life came into the world then, we have faith that it can come into our lives today. Over the busyness of our lives, and the noise of the world, may we hear your voice speaking the word of peace and love that we need to hear. Bless our time together. Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG AT HEART

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 1:16-25; Matthew 2:13-15

MESSAGE ""The Man Who Loved Mary" Pastor Karen Dearchs

HYMN "Star Child" #223

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

 (sung to the tune of Away in a Manger)

Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your, name!
Your Kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortals and angels. Come, Lord, reign alone:
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.

The bread that we yearn for provide us each day:
As we forgive others, our sins take away;
In times of temptation, to lead us be near;
From evil deliver your children most dear.

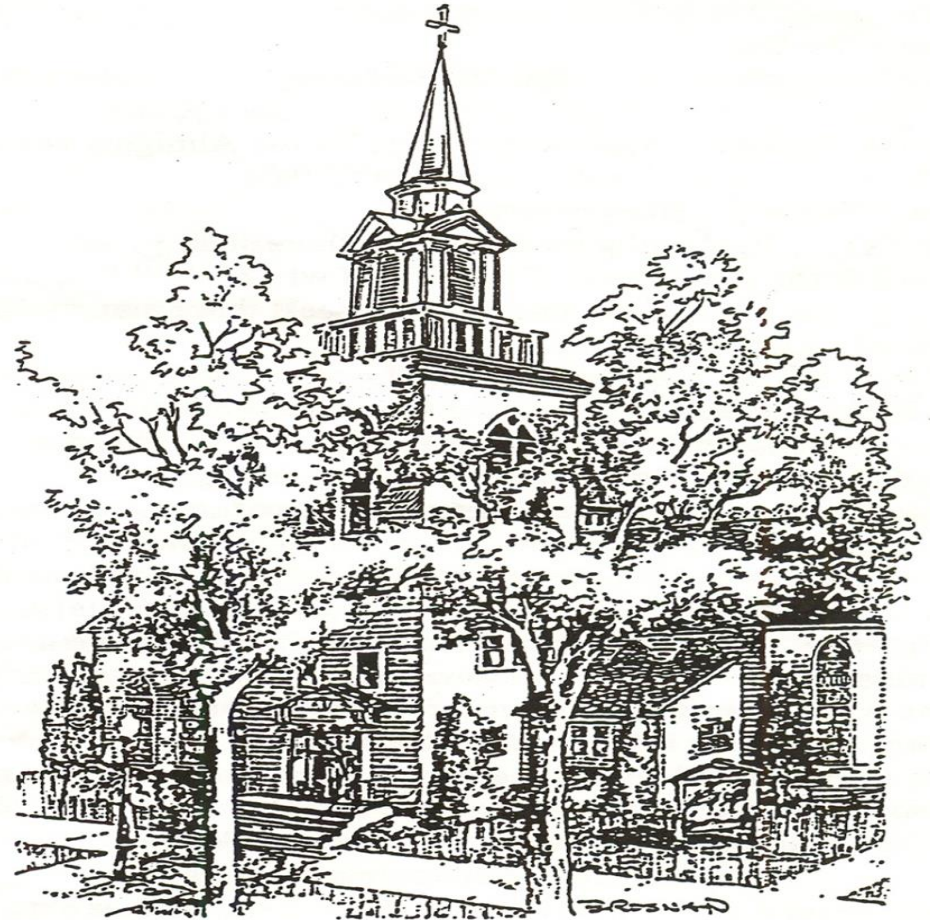
For Yours is the kingdom; o'er all things You reign;
And Yours is the power; all things you maintain.
To You be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever! Amen.

OFFERING, DOXOLOGY, PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING SONG "Love Came Down at Christmas" #210

BENEDICTION

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

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