

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2020

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Micah 6:1-8

*OPENING SONG: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" #248

SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Leader: God does not require your sacrifice.

People: **We will be a people who lives justly.**

Leader: God does not need rivers of oil.

People: **We will offer loving kindness to the world.**

Leader: God does not ask you to ignore your loved ones.

People: **We will walk humbly with our God.**

All: Let's worship God!

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

Gracious and holy presence, no matter our state of being, you are with us. When we mourn, you call us blessed. When we yearn for righteousness, you call us blessed. When we worry that we might be fools for our faith, your wisdom guides our lives. Open our minds and our lives this day to your manifold blessing. In the blessings of your presence, may we speak your truth from grateful hearts. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

We confess, **Holy One**, that in our human foolishness, we often seek to appear wise. Help us know the wisdom of your ways and the truth of your Word. We confess, **Spirit Guide**, that we often fail to acknowledge your presence, seeking to go our own way, and following our own call. From this centeredness on self, we let you down, we let others down, we let ourselves down. Help us follow your direction, your call, and your guidance. Help us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

Leader: No matter how we come before God, the wisdom of God will be with us.

People: **Our very beings overflow with the forgiveness that allows us once again to walk humbly before our God. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 5:1-12

*MIDDLE SONG: "The Bond of Love" #395

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Back of the Hymnal

GLORIA PATRI #734

SERMON SCRIPTURE Colossians 3:12-14

MESSAGE: "The Well-Dressed Christian" Karen Dearchs

GATHERING AT JESUS' TABLE

Invitation, Communion Prayer, *Sanctus*, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord's Prayer, Sharing the Bread and Cup

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, **O God Most High**. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ

and have received all of Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG:** "Grace Alone"

#436

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2020* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving is from the *Book of Worship-United Church of Christ*.

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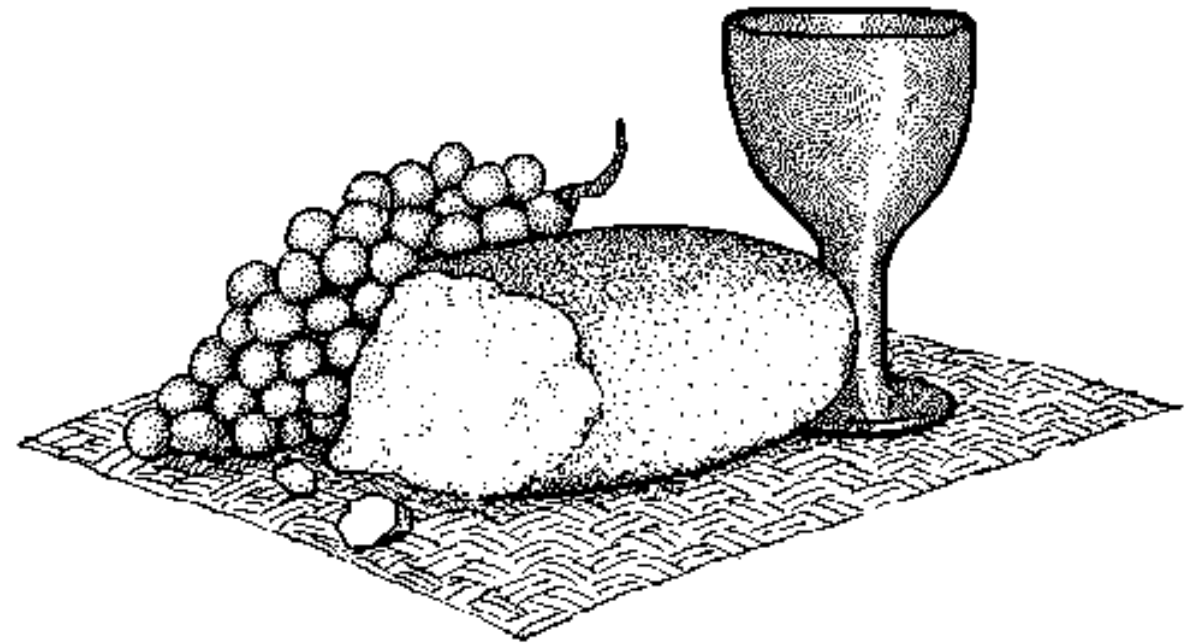
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|-----------------|-----------------|
| Organist: | Liz Reynolds |
| Lector: | David Burrow |
| Worship Leader: | Pastor Burtnett |

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February Radio sponsor: David Burrow in memory of George and Betty Burrow and Margaret Sullivan

Birthdays: 2-4 Laurel Walker, 2-7 Josephine Reynolds, 2-8 Robin Rochleau

The Meals on Wheels board met this past Monday. They have changed our date to April of this year and we will have one route. We will work with Grace church which will have two routes.



**THEIR EYES WERE OPENED,
AND THEY RECOGNIZED
THE RISEN CHRIST
IN THE BREAKING
OF THE BREAD.**