

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 9, 2020

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 112:1-9 read from the *Contemporary English Bible*

***OPENING SONG:** “When Morning Gilds the Skies” #111

SHARING JESUS’ PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Come and see! God's light is shining brightly.

Many: God’s light shines in us.

One: When we honor God’s commandments,

Many: God’s light shines in us.

One: When we feed the hungry and give to those in need,

Many: God’s light shines in us.

One: When we show mercy and compassion,

Many: God’s light shines in us.

One: We are the light of the world!

Many: God’s light shines in us. Amen

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Luminous God, we give thanks for this Epiphany season of light. When fear casts shadows in our lives, open our hearts to your radiance. Shine on us, shine in us, and shine through us. Make us beams of justice, mercy and love, that we may brighten your world. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

Almighty God, we have asked for your righteous judgment against others, but we have not acknowledged the sin in our own lives. We have worshiped you with our lips, but have dishonored you with our actions. We have prayed for you to end the suffering in our world, yet we have not practiced compassion and generosity toward others. Our religion has become the source of quarreling rather than a testimony to your grace. Forgive our self-righteousness and give us integrity of heart, that we may shine forth the light of your salvation, through Christ our Lord. Amen

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Many: For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5: 13-20

***MIDDLE SONG:** “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

#248

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

The Statement of Purpose

in the front of the hymnal

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Matthew 5: 14-16

Contemporary English Bible

MESSAGE: “How to Influence People”

David Skilling

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

***DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

***CLOSING SONG** “Here I Am, Lord”

#559

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship (adapted), Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2020* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Feasting on the Word* Kimberly Bracken Long, editor. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnaas-Holmes.

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Organist:	Liz Reynolds
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	David Skilling

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February Radio Sponsor: David Burrow in memory of George and Betty Burrow and Margaret Sullivan
 Birthdays: 2-13 Bridget Schlievert, Wayne Clegg,

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



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

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