

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Algona, Iowa  
First Sunday in Lent  
March 1, 2020

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 32 read from *The Message*

\*OPENING SONG: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" #72

## SHARING JESUS' PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

Leader: Forbidden fruit is such a delight to the eye.

People: **God is our refuge.**

Leader: Forbidden pleasures tug at us each day.

People: **God is our joy.**

Leader: Temptation is everywhere.

People: **We can live as God intends, through Jesus who strengthens us.**

Leader: Let's praise God, who saves us from the time of trial.

People: **Let's worship God, our delight and our joy.**

OPENING PRAYER (read together)

Walk with us, faithful traveler, as we journey with Jesus through the season of Lent.

Help us overcome the temptations we face each day. Save us from our times of trial.

Walk with us to guide us in times of weakness. Raise us to newness of life, through the gift of your Spirit and the love of your Son. Amen.

## TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

Led by the crafter of lies, Lord God, we wander into the wasteland of wrongdoing. We hunger for more and more, and feel emptier and emptier. We seek power, especially over others, only to do harm. By our choices, we worship the false gods of success, wealth, and spectacle.

Have mercy on us, God of love, and forgive us for the power we give to temptation in our lives. Help us to become as vulnerable as Jesus, for in that vulnerability, we find the humility to trust you in all things; in that trust, we discover the grace which sets us free from the grasp of the shrewd one; in that freedom, we can leave our badlands behind, in order to follow Jesus in this life, and into the next. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

Leader: Be glad and rejoice! Give thanks with shouts of joy! Grace abounds for everyone.

People: **With glad cries of deliverance, we offer our thanks to God who loves us and forgives us. Amen.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

\*MIDDLE SONG: "O Jesus, I Have Promised" #458

\*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Back of the Hymnal

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Matthew 4:1-11 read from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE: "It's Tempting" Pastor Burtnett

## 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 give you thanks, almighty God, for inviting us to feast at this table, for Christ’s presence, and for the spiritual food of the bread and cup. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will and to Jesus’ ways as we journey with him through this Lenten season. Amen.

**OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**\*DEDICATION OF OFFERING**

**\*CLOSING SONG:** “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” #252

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

The Call to Worship (adapted), Opening Prayer 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 *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) is from *Words of Worship-Resources for Church and Home* . Rainsley. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (adapted) is from the *Book of Worship United Church of Christ*.

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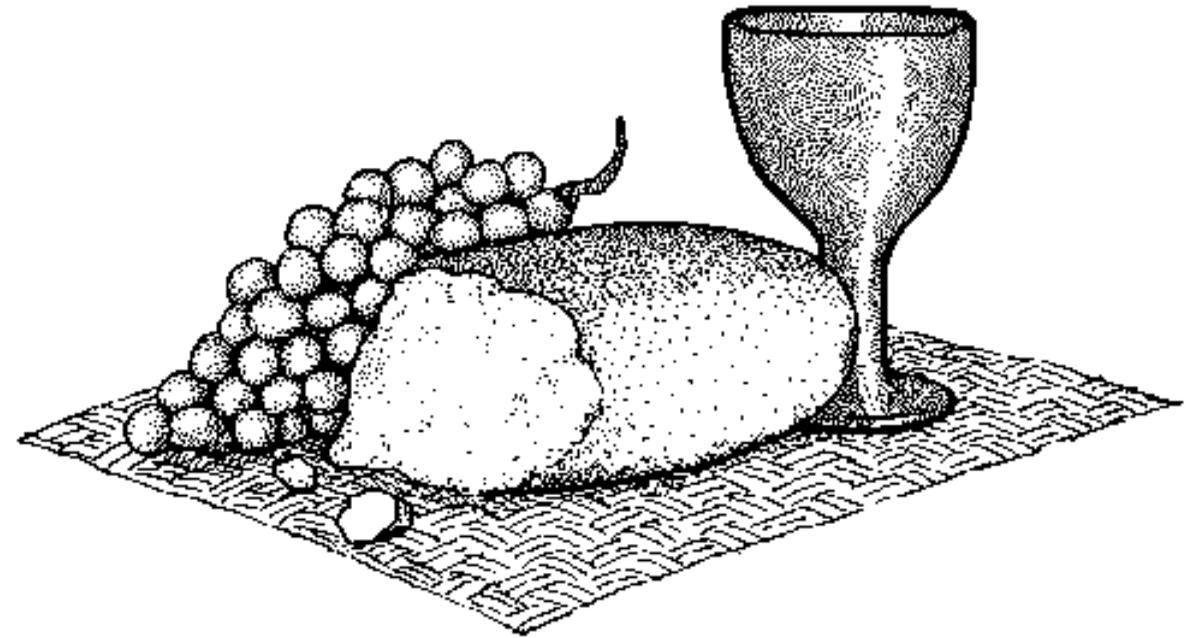
Organist:	Liz Reynolds
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	Pastor Burtnett

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March Radio sponsor: Ginny Buchanan

Birthdays: 3-1 Scott Buchanan, 3-2 Christine Remy

The Board will meet at 7 pm this Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Friday is the World Day of Prayer at 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran church at 1 pm.  
Saturday, Pastor Burtnett will be in Primgar for a meeting.  
Next Sunday begins Daylight Saving Time begins.  
The new Our Daily Bread is in the Fellowship Hall entrance.



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