

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Algona, Iowa  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
June 28, 2020

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** Psalm 13 read from the *Common English Bible*

**\*OPENING SONG:** “Let All Creation Bless the Lord” #25

**SHARING JESUS’ PEACE:** The Peace of Christ Be with You

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (read responsively)

Leader: God invites us to this time of worship.

**People: We come, trusting in God’s steadfast love seeking the way of salvation and peace.**

Leader: God has made an everlasting covenant with us.

**People: We come to proclaim God’s faithfulness to all generations.**

Leader: God deals bountifully with us in much that we take for granted.

**People: God shows us the value of life and helps us celebrate it. Let’s worship!**

**OPENING PRAYER** (read together)

Holy One, who calls us into community, and invites us to welcome your prophets and messengers, let us experience your welcome to us gathered in various places but joined in this moment. Show us that we are beloved and honored in your presence and in this community. Show us how to put our resources at the service of all, help us know that the cup of water given in your name nourishes the one who gives and the one who receives. Satisfy our thirst to know your presence here and now. Amen.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: The idol of our times is personal independence, but in truth, we are bossed around by our faults, our poor choices, the hurts we cause to others. Yet, by God's grace, we are set free from all these passions, so let us join in offering our confessions to the One who welcomes each of us with forgiveness and hope.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (read together)

It seems so simple, God of compassion, to offer a cup of cold water to a thirsty person, yet we know we worry more about how that might inflate our bill at the end of the month. We are to open our hearts to others, but they may need to be careful lest they slip on our icy attitudes towards them. People are looking for places to lay their heads, yet our spare bedrooms continue to be the place where only the dust bunnies sleep. Forgive us, Radical Hope. You did not have to become one of us, but you did, so we might know your love. You did not have to welcome us into your family, but you do, so we might experience unexpected grace in our lives. You did not have to die for us, but in Jesus Christ you did, so we might have life with you forever. Amen.

## *SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** (read responsively)

Leader: Broken, we are made whole; thirsty, we are filled with living water; longing for a renewed relationship with God, we are welcomed with open arms by the One who forgives us.

**People: Without a doubt, God's love never comes to an end. We will tell our kids and grandkids of the grace and peace which is ours. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

**SECOND SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 10:40-42

**\*MIDDLE SONG:** “Help Us Accept Each Other” #596

**\* AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (read together)

**We believe in God, who creates us, who sustains us each moment, who is our life and our breath.**

**We follow Christ, who showed us God. He received and shared God’s grace. He trusted God in everything. He let go of things so that he might cling to Life. He let go of life, so that he might hold onto Love. He gave of himself, even his very life, for the sake of the healing of the world. And though he was crucified, God have him life again; and he rose and is still among us in a new way.**

**We live by the Holy Spirit, which alone gives us life. We rejoice in the church, the Body of Christ, and in the oneness of all life, the gift of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life.**

**By the power of that Holy Spirit, and in the name of Christ, we devote ourselves to give generously of all that we receive, for the sake of the healing of the world, and the eternal glory of God. Amen.**

**GLORIA PATRI** #734

**FOCUS SCRIPTURE** Genesis 22:1-14

read from the *Common English Bible*

**MESSAGE:** “It Takes Sacrifices”

Pastor Burtnett

**OFFERING**

**\*DOXOLOGY**

Words #44

**\*DEDICATION OF OFFERING PRAYER**

(prayed together)

Welcoming One, bless our gifts with your Spirit. Transform our gifts into the balm that your world needs. Using our gifts, may we welcome in a new world of love. Amen.

**\*CLOSING SONG** “Trust and Obey”

#443

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

The Call to Worship (adapted) is from, *Taught by Love-Worship Resources for Year A* by Lavon Bayler. The Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. 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 by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

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

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June Radio Sponsor: John and Helen Scuffham in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on the 20<sup>th</sup> of June.

Birthdays:

A reminder that we will have in-house worship starting next Sunday. Communion will not be served.

# First Congregational Church United Church of Christ Algona, Iowa



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

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