

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2020

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We wait with hope,

Many: for God's promises are sure.

One: We wait with patience,

Many: for God's time is a mystery.

One: Come and worship.

Many: We will wait upon the Lord together.

*OPENING SONG "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

#134

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated unto you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

Merciful God, your creatures cry – creation groans – but we turn away; we surround ourselves with noise. We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are young; we are old; we are tired; we are busy. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference.

Life-giving God, wash us clean. Restore our imaginations and our hearts. Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins until we love with abandon and our hands reach out in blessing, for the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God. Amen

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Sisters and Brothers, hear the word of the Lord. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God says unequivocally, irrevocably; you are my own; you are forgiven; and I need you to be about my business in the world.

Many: We have this hope: God's promises are sure, and Christ's mercy is ours. All is well. All will be well.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Romans 8: 12-25 CEV

* AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

Statement of Purpose found inside the front cover of the hymnal.

GLORIA PATRI

(music only, not sung)

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Romans 8: 14-17

MESSAGE: "We Are All Up For Adoption"

David Skilling

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

AFFIRMING OUR GIFTS

*DOXOLOGY

(music only, not sung) Words #44

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(prayed together)

God of ancient times and future hope, we bring these gifts to bless your world with hope. Please bless these gifts, that they may be a blessing to others. And bless us with patience and faith, that we may bring hope to a hurting world. Amen

*CLOSING SONG "Surely the Presence"

#131

GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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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July Radio Sponsor: Arlen Benschoter

Birthdays: 7-22 Cam Buchanan

The June, July, and August Our Daily Bread is in the Fellowship Hall entrance.

You are invited to read the other two lectionary scriptures for today.
Gen 28:10-19 a and Ps 139:1-12, 23-24

Dave Skilling will be on call while Pastor Chris is on sabbatical for the next two weeks. He can be reached at his cell 319-290-2302 or home 395-1102.

The service on the church web site will not be up on the site until late afternoon.

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



"Where No One Is A Stranger"

315 S. Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511

515-295-2845