

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2020

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,

Many: Whose love has conquered death.

One: Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,

Many: Who leads us into life.

***OPENING SONG** “Seek Ye First”

#349

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

I awake this day eager to receive divine instruction and to enact your word. As the day unfolds, may I step more deeply into your heavenly realm through loving you and serving your world. Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

We confess that we have turned away from you and have not lived with upright hearts. Forgive us for failing to follow you. Guide our feet to walk in your ways and serve your world to the glory of your name. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Your sins are forgiven; be at peace, for all things work together for good for those who love God.

Many: In Christ, we who are broken are healed, forgiven, filled and transformed. Alleluia!

Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 CEV

* AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

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

GLORIA PATRI

(music only, not sung)

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Matthew 16:26

MESSAGE: “ We Must Lose In Order To Gain”

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)

We dedicate our lives to you this day and seal that promise by way of this offering. We give out of the abundance of our hearts, that the treasure of your kingdom may be shared with many. Thank you for giving us grateful hearts and a spirit of generosity for the flourishing of your realm. Amen.

***CLOSING SONG** “Here I Am Lord”

#559

GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship, Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance and Words of Dedication are from *Feasting on the Word* Kimberly Bracken Long, editor. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnaas-Holmes. Prayers of the People (adapted) *The Worship Sourcebook, Second Edition*.

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Organist: Liz Reynolds
Lector: David Burrow
Worship Leader: David Skilling
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July Radio Sponsor: Arlen Benschoter

Birthdays: 8-1 Marilyn Deal

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 29:15-28 and Ps 105:1-11, 45b

Dave Skilling will be on call until this coming Tuesday. 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