

First Congregational United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa
First Sunday After Epiphany/Baptism of
Christ Sunday
January 10, 2021

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: God's strong voice calls us to worship,

Many: calling us to sing and offer praise.

One: God's creative voice calls us to worship,

Many: calling us to light and life.

One: God's loving voice calls us to worship,

Many: calling us to love and be loved.

One: Listen, for God's voice calls to us now.

***OPENING SONG** "I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

#31 verses 1 & 3

OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Creating, Calling, and Faithful God, we come to this time and place to be with you, to worship you, and to learn from you. May our time together be like your creation of light in the darkness that you called good. May it be that you would call us good while we respond to your call and as we listen to you. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

You created us, God, but we have chosen to go our own way. You have reclaimed us, but we have rejected your claim. You have sent your Holy Spirit to break into our controlled and unimaginative routines, but we have not appreciated the burst of creative energy. We are ready now, ready to admit that our ways are full of dangerous byways. Our mistakes and failures have often come because we have not listened to you. Save us again by your forgiving love. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: A voice from heaven said to Jesus: you are my own Child, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." He passed that gift on to those who would dare to follow.

Many: We, too, are God's beloved children, loved, forgiven, and sent on a mission. We are relieved of sin's burden and recreated in God's image. Thanks be to God!

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Acts 19:1-7

* AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We sing of God the Spirit, who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation, animating all energy and matter and moving in the human heart.

We sing of God the Spirit, faithful and untameable, who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy not only in what is familiar, but also in that which seems foreign.

We sing of the Spirit, who speaks our prayers of deepest longing and enfolds our concerns and confessions, transforming us and the world.

We offer worship as an outpouring of gratitude and awe and a practice of opening ourselves to God's still, small voice of comfort, to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.

Through word, music, art, and sacrament, in community and in solitude, God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

(music only, not sung)

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Mark 1:4-11

read from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE: "Like a Dove"

Pastor Burnett

THE LORD'S PRAYER

AFFIRMING OUR GIFTS

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(prayed together)

Mighty God, bless the gifts that we offer with your voice of creation, your healing and your love. Transform them into abundant gifts for a world in need of your light and life. Amen.

*DOXOLOGY

(music only, not sung) Words #44

*CLOSING SONG “Breathe on Me Breath of God”

#461 verses 1 & 3

GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. The Opening Prayer is from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Call to Confession (adapted), Prayer of Confession (adapted), and Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *Led By Love -Worship Resources for Year B* by Lavon Bayler. The Affirmation of Faith is excerpted from *Song of Faith* of the United Church of Canada (2006).

=====

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

=====

January Radio Sponsor: Marilyn Deal

Birthdays:
You are invited to read the other two lectionary scriptures for today.
Gen 1:1-5 and Ps 29

The Annual meeting will be held this month on the 31st via Zoom. Annual reports are needed in the office by the 18th of January.

February and March newsletter articles are due in the office by January 25th.

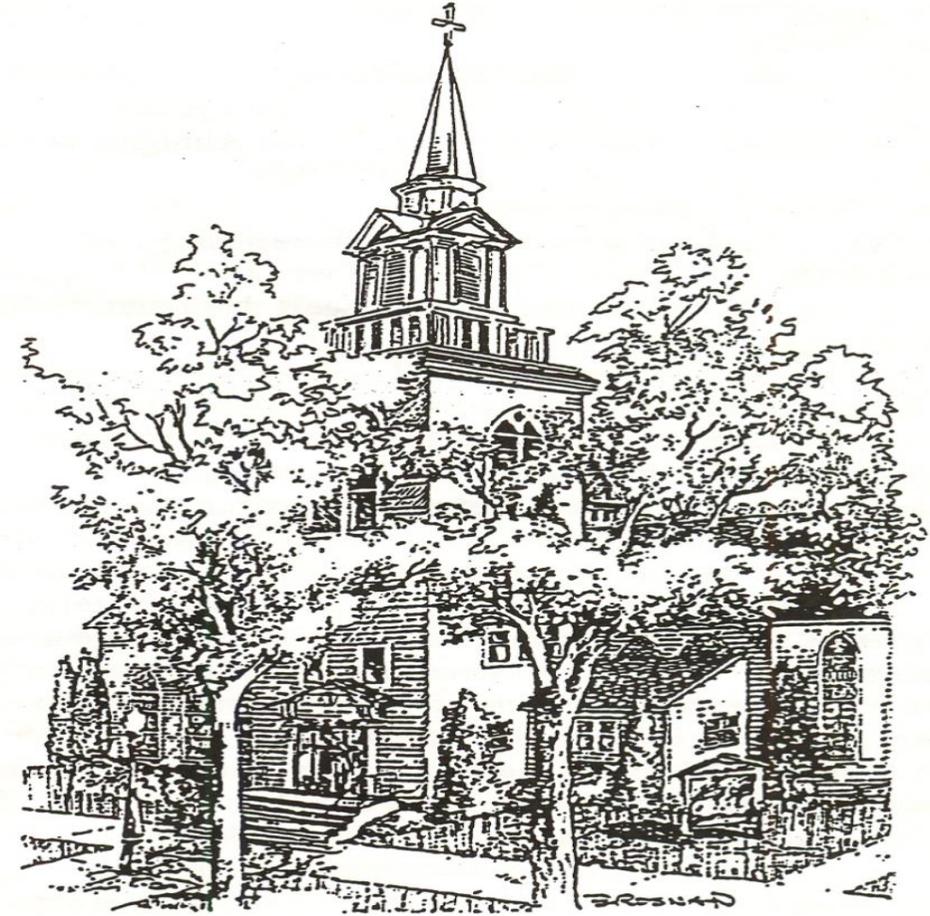
Pledges are still being accepted. Let the office know if you wish to do so.

Radio sponsors for this new year are needed. January, February and August are taken already.

Let the office know if you would like to sign up for a particular month.

The Algona Community Blood Drive will be held this Monday from 12:30 pm-5:30 pm and Tuesday from 9 am to 2 pm at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship hall.

**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