

First Congregational United Church of Christ
"Where No One Is A Stranger"
Second Sunday after Pentecost
June 6, 2021

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: On this day, we gather with thanksgiving in our hearts.

Many: For God's love is ever constant in our lives.

One: On this day, we would talk of all that is ours.

Many: Grace upon grace has been poured into our lives.

One: On this day, we would speak of what we believe.

Many: We will sing glad songs for all that God has done.

***OPENING SONG:** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" #56

OPENING PRAYER (prayed together)

God, whose ways are just—we are your people. We place ourselves under your rule. Our souls wait for you, and in your Word we hope. Your truth is eternal; your grace extends to all people. We come to you alone for grace. We live only by your truth and your grace. Come to us. Be present with us as we worship you this day. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (prayed together)

Everybody else does it, Watching God, and we confess that we do as well. We listen to those whose promises are sold to the highest bidder. We idolize celebrities as if they were teachers of ethics. We long for that one person who will make everything right, once again, once and for all.

Is it any wonder we are a disappointed people, God of Hope? Forgive us for turning our backs on you, even as you continue to stretch out your arms to us. Forgive us for trusting in those who prove to be false, rather than having faith in your love. Forgive us, and fill us with the spirit of faith which is given to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: Do not lose heart! God seeks to strengthen our souls, filling us with forgiveness, wonder, and joy!

Many: Glory to you, God of mercy and grace. You want only the best for us, and so we sing praises to you. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 1 Samuel 8:4-20

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UCC Statement of Faith (read together)
(inside back cover of hymnal)

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Mark: 3:20-35 read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE: "Scriptures That Make Us Squirm" Pastor Chris

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S 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

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west, north and south to feast at Jesus's table. We thank you for his presence and for the spiritual food of this bread and cup. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

AFFIRMING OUR GIFTS

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gifts of Jesus' presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all who are fed by this bread and this cup that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Bringing Our Gifts

Offertory

***Doxology** #44

***Prayer of Dedication**

We offer these gifts to you, God, asking that you bless and use them to shower grace and love upon our brothers, sisters, and siblings both near and far. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

***Closing Song** "Lead on Eternal Sovereign" insert

***Going Forth with the Peace of Christ**

The Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer (adapted) is from *Invocations and Benedictions for the Revised Common Lectionary* by John M. Drescher. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (adapted) is from *Book of Worship-United Church of Christ*. The Affirmation of Faith is our United Church of Christ Statement of Faith.

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

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June Radio Sponsor: Scott and Sandy Buchanan

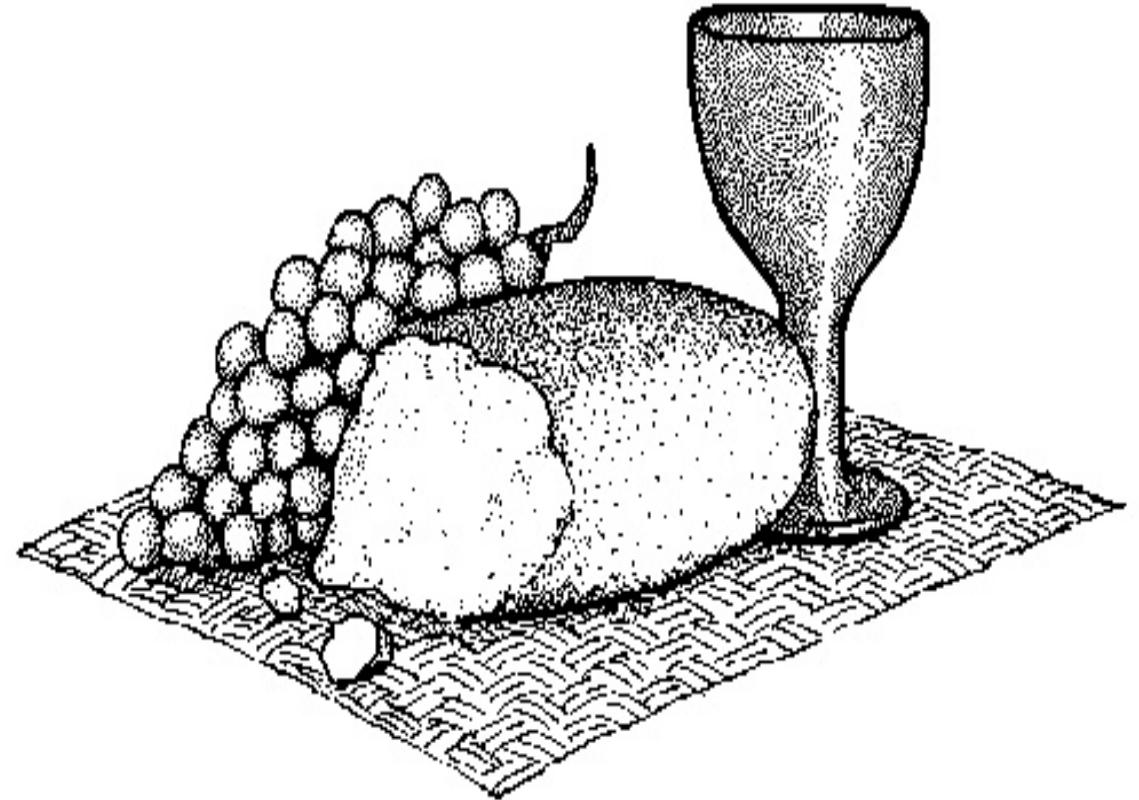
Birthdays: 6-7: Ashley Grindberg, 6-8: Anita Secrease, 6-10: Tim Boyd, 6-12: Luke TerHark

Today, June 6: 10:00 am. – Worship with Communion
Food Pantry

Sunday, June 13: 10:00 am. – Worship

Pastor Chris will be on Sabbatical June 7-21st. Dave Skilling will lead worship and be on call for those two weeks. His phone numbers are: home - 515-395-1102; Cell: 319-290-2302

We will be celebrating the sacrament of communion this morning. Everyone is welcome at the table. The inner ring is wine and outer ring is grape juice.



*First Congregational
United Church of Christ*

315 Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511
515-295-2845

The June, July and August Our Daily Bread is here and in the Fellowship entry.

Our church is scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheels from June 16-30. We will be doing all three routes. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the parlor.

Today is Food Pantry Sunday. Donations of canned food, paper products and monetary donations are welcome. If you include your monetary donation with your offering be sure to mark the amount in the memo of your check.

Algona Community Blood Drive: Monday, June 7 from 12:30-2pm and Tuesday, June 9 from 9 am-2pm. at 1st United Methodist Church 201 E. Nebraska, Algona.

Words and music: Arr., Contributors: Ernest Shurtleff, Henry T. Smart

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Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1887; alt.

1 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low in your way;
 2 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, we fol - low not with fear,
 3 Lead on e - ter - nal Sov - ereign, till sin's fierce war shall cease,

loud rings your cry for jus - tice, your call for peace this day:
 for in each hu - man con - flict your words of strength we hear;
 and all your saints to - geth - er will sing a hymn of peace;

Through prayer - ful prep - a - ra - tion, your grace will make us strong,
 That when we serve with glad - ness, you will not let us fall,
 Then all in your do - min - ion will live with hearts set free,

to car - ry on the strug - gle to tri - umph o - ver wrong.
 our trust is in your prom - ise that love will con - quer all.
 to love and serve each oth - er for all e - ter - ni - ty.

At Andover Seminary, fellow students asked Ernest W. Shurtleff to write a hymn for their graduation. This is the result. Shurtleff became a Congregational minister and in his last years established churches in Europe and did relief work during World War I.

Tune: LANCASHIRE 7.6.7.6.D.
 Henry T. Smart, 1836