

First Congregational United Church of Christ
315 S Moore ST., Algona Iowa
515-295-2845
“Where No One Is a Stranger”
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Come, let's enter into the House of the Holy One with song and dance.

Many: We have come to worship our God, the Creator of heaven and earth, seas and rivers, and all that dwells within.

One: The Lord of the Dance beckons us to join in this time of celebration and joy.

Many: That we might know that we are gathered in God's holy place.

One: We join the psalmist with songs of the glory of the God of Hosts.

Many: We seek to know God's faithfulness and wisdom.

All: Let us enter God's rhythm of life and follow in the ways of the Word. God will bring us home where dancing and joy will never end!

*OPENING SONG

“Praise to the Lord, The Almighty”

#71

*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

God of grace and glory, renew us with your presence this day. As we gather to bless your name and sing your praise, bless us with your glorious love and your guiding light. Strengthen us each and every hour, through the power of your Holy Spirit and the wisdom of your holy word. In hope and joy we pray. Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

Holy God, we confess that too often we have not been open to the rhythms of life you offer to us. We let ourselves be put off your pace and allow ourselves to wander off into our own songs. Too often the melodies of the world confuse us. We have led ourselves and others to paths that are not according to your loving pace and direction.

Forgive us, God. Help us pay attention with all of our senses. Make our dancing faithful; help us take the risks that are part of letting you lead. Pull us back into your rhythms. Clean our hearts, purify our hands and steady our feet that we might know and share your blessings. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: The God of Hosts assures us that if we trust God's Word, we will be led back to the songs that God would have us sing.

Many: God is eager to show us the path home. We will accept the offer of the new song we have been given through Jesus the Christ. Thanks be to God. We are forgiven! Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 24

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We say God created the universe, and the world we live in, and every living thing on this earth. We believe the Creation shows us the power and presence of God, and makes us want to praise and give thanks to God, and take good care of the earth God has made. We are full of joy that across the world different peoples have their own culture and language, and that in God we are all united together as one. We say God is Spirit, breath of life, who is always working to bring people to life in God. We believe the Spirit has been alive and active in every race and culture, getting hearts and minds ready for good news: the good news of God's love and grace that Jesus Christ revealed. We are full of joy that from the beginning the Spirit was alive and active, revealing God through the law, custom, and ceremony of the First Peoples of this ancient land. We say Jesus is Savior and Lord, and that he began the church, and prayed that the church might be together as one. We believe that in the risen Jesus we are all brothers, sisters, and siblings in the one great family of God, and that God calls us to live in faith, hope, and love for the sake of God's realm here on earth. We are full of joy that we can learn, grow and serve together as a pilgrim people in the name of Christ. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE:

“Then Everyone Went Home?”

Pastor Chris

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bringing Our Gifts

Offertory

***Doxology**

Words #44

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(prayed together)

Take these gifts, God, and bless them. Let them serve your people at home and throughout the world, all of us, your cherished friends. Amen.

***CLOSING SONG**

“Lord of the Dance”

#118

GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

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 and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Affirmation of Faith is by Bruce Prewer.

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Organist:	Mary Jo Meyer
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	Pastor Chris

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July Radio Sponsor: In memory of Arlen Benschoter

Birthdays: 7-11: Ken Beaver, 7-15: Pam Burtnett

Today, July 11: 10:00 am. – Worship
Fellowship Coffee

Tuesday, July 13: 9 am. - Northwestern Association Committee on Ministry Meeting

Wednesday, July 14: 5-8pm. - Mobile Mission at KRHC Staff Picnic

Saturday, July 17: 9-11 am.: Mobile Mission at Farmers Market

Next Sunday, July 18: 10:00 am. – Worship
Fellowship Coffee
Mission and Memorial Committee meet following worship



David Danced with all his Strength Before the Lord!