

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
“Where No One Is a Stranger”  
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 14, 2021

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Come, let's give thanks to God!

Many: We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak, and hears the prayers of the forgotten.

One: Come, let's give thanks to Jesus!

Many: We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are hungry and alone at this time of year.

One: Come, let's give thanks to the Spirit!

Many: We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.

One: Come, let's worship!

### \*OPENING SONG

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

#71

### \*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

Creating God, we thank you for this day, for the breath of life in our bodies, and for the ability to gather as your faithful followers. As we worship you this morning, may our prayers be honest and heart-felt. May we support and encourage one another. May our words be kind and compassionate. May we be inspired by your Spirit to do good deeds, love without question or boundaries, and glorify you with our whole being. Amen.

## TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG AT HEART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

Almighty God, the road of faithfulness is hard and filled with challenges. Sometimes we complain. Sometimes we take a different road. Sometimes we allow others to lead us astray. Sometimes we forget to follow Jesus. Forgive us. Help us meet whatever challenges we face. Help us rise when we fall. Help us to turn toward you, our Savior and Redeemer. In the name of the one who loves us unconditionally, we pray. Amen.

## SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: The good news is that we are made whole; not by our efforts, not by any work we have done, not by any word of ours.

Many: Out of the riches of grace, God pours forgiveness into our lives, giving us all we need in Jesus Christ, so we might live in hope and joy. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 13:1-8

### \*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. Thanks be to God!

### \*GLORIA PATRI

#734

### FOCUS SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 2:1-10

read from the *Good News Bible*

### MESSAGE

“It's Our Song Too”

Pastor Chris

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

## BRINGING OUR GIFTS

### OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

Words #44

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(prayed together)

We return a portion of what we have received from you, God, in gratitude for all that you have bestowed upon us. Bless this offering. Grant that it may continue to sustain and support the ministries of this church to bring the light of Christ into this community and the world beyond. Amen.

### \*CLOSING SONG

“God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

#572

## GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## POSTLUDE

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

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Organist: Liz Reynolds  
Lector: David Burrows  
Worship Leader: Pastor Chris  
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November Radio Sponsor: In Memory of Gregg Buchanan's birthday. (November 23)

Birthdays: 11-15: Charlotte Reynolds, 11-19: Christian Grindberg, 11-20: Pat Bilsborough, Phil Heath

Today, November 14: 10:00 am. – Worship  
Sunday School  
Coffee

Tuesday, November 16: 9:30 – 11:30 am.- Pastor Chris at Feed Mill

Wednesday, November 17: 9:30 am. Multi-Disciplinary Team meets here

Sunday, November 21: 10:00 am. – Worship  
Sunday School  
Coffee

Thanksgiving Dinner Potluck: meat, potatoes, gravy and drinks will be provided.  
Decorate for Advent/Christmas after our Thanksgiving Dinner

November 30: Newsletter Deadline

It is time to order Poinsettia. They are \$10.70 for a 6" plant. Please call the church office and let Pam know if you would like one and who it is in honor/memory.

Today, November 14: 12:30-2:30pm or 2:30-4:30pm at Algona Methodist Church, we are invited to join for food packaging. Meals will be shipped to Haiti, Tanzania and locally in Iowa. Please call the church office at 515-295-7241 or email [algonaamuc@netamumail.com](mailto:algonaamuc@netamumail.com) to sign up.

The Algona Annual Community Thanksgiving dinner will be held Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. It will be delivery (Algona area) & drive through only. You **must** call in advance for home deliveries. Reservations for home deliveries can be made by calling 295-3435 no later than Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. Free will donations accepted. More information is in the Week Ahead.

# 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





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315 So. Moore St., Algona, IA 50511 515-295-2845

## FOR CHURCH RECORDS

Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_  
(for office use)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to give beginning \_\_\_\_\_ each  week  
(date and year)  month

For our congregation's ministries \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ **Annual Total**

and For our congregation's wider mission \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that this commitment can be changed at any time by giving notice to the appropriate church officer.

I would like to talk with someone about including the church or church-related institution in my will.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## FOR YOUR RECORDS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*With others in my congregation, I  
commit myself to give in proportion to  
what I have for the ministries of the  
church and the proclamation of the  
good news of Jesus Christ.*

*I plan to give beginning \_\_\_\_\_  
(date and year)*

Each  week  
 month Annual Total

*For our  
congregation's  
ministries \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

*and  
For our  
congregation's  
wider mission \$ \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

**God is still speaking.**