

First Congregational United Church of Christ
"Where No One Is a Stranger"
First Sunday after Christmas
December 26, 2021
315 S. Moore Street
Algona, IA 50511



PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

One: God’s love has come to earth to dwell with us.

Many: Sing for joy with the angels!

One: We are God’s people, loved and cherished.

Many: Sing for joy with the angels!

One: The birth of Love has changed us forever!

Many: Sing for joy with the angels!

One: Let’s sing, praise, rejoice, and worship together!

Opening Prayer

God of the Incarnation, even as we celebrate the Love that was born at Christmas, we know your love continues to grow far beyond Christmas Day. You hold us in your compassionate grace throughout our lives. Guide us into mature faith, that we might be like Jesus in our humility and wisdom, and in every word and deed. Shape us, inspire us, challenge us, and bless us with the music to sing your praises. Amen.

Scripture Colossians 3:12-17 read from *The Message*

Meditation “Sing....Sing Your Hearts Out!” Pastor Chris

Songs of the Season (congregation’s choice)

Presenting Our Offerings

Invitation

Dedication Prayer

God of Miracles, today we delight in our chance to join the Christmas party of gratitude. We offer these gifts, our hearts, our deeds, and our entire lives in thanksgiving for the gift of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Closing Song (congregation’s choice)

Going Forth

One: Gabriel foretold it.

Many: The Angels heralded it.

One: The shepherds came to see for themselves.

Many: And it is true. God is with us through Jesus, the babe of Bethlehem.

One: The world will never be the same; we ourselves will never be the same!

Everyone: We will go and tell the world—Jesus Christ is born!

The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer (adapted) and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are by Laura Jaquith Bartlett from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Responsive Benediction (adapted) is by Peggy McClanahan from *Flames of the Spirit—Worship Resources Like Bread for the Journey* edited by Ruth C. Duck.

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Organist: Liz Reynolds

Lector:

Worship Leader: Pastor Chris

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December Radio Sponsor: Mick and Kris Schlievert

Today, December 26: 10:00 am. – Worship
No Sunday School
Coffee

Tuesday, December 28: 9:30 – 11:30 am.- Pastor Chris at Feed Mill

Friday December 31: Have a Safe New Year’s Eve

Saturday, January 1: Happy New Year

Sunday, January 2: 10:00 am. – Worship with Communion
Food Pantry
Coffee

The Mitten Tree is up. Donations of hats, waterproof mittens or gloves, scarves, socks and underwear are welcome. We will be collecting through the end of December.

Sunday School will resume on January 9, 2022.

We deliver Meals on Wheels for the first 2 weeks in January. Sign-up sheet in the parlor.