

First Congregational United Church of Christ
“Where No One Is a Stranger”
Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 16, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: God has made us to be One Body with many members.

Many: United and uniting. This is our calling.

One: God calls us to share our diverse gifts activated by the one and same Spirit.

Many: United and uniting. This is our redemption.

One: God longs for us to be united in love and to manifest the Spirit in our different ways.

Many: United and uniting. This is our worship.

Everybody: We gather in this hour to offer praise and worship to our Holy God, who challenges us and calls us to create the Beloved Community.

*OPENING SONG

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

48#

*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

Living Water, flow through our worship. Nourish us with your loving presence. Draw us ever closer to you, that our empty vessels maybe filled and our dry souls may be transformed in to fountains of love, life, and joy. Amen.

TIME FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

Delight of the Ages, we cannot remain silent, but must speak of the ways we misuse your gifts. In our desire to have more and more, we cause more damage to your good creation. In our obsession with ourselves, we have desolated the lives of those around us. When we hoard what you have given us, we cannot be a blessing to other people. Forgive us, Restless God, so we might be restored to life. May your steadfast love save and strengthen us to share our gifts with others, even as you have shared the Gift of Jesus Christ, our sovereign Savior. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: God delights in us. So much, that God will not rest until we are at peace. God will not remain silent, but will call us by name: 'My Delight.'

Many: God's steadfast love extends to the heavens, and reaches down to touch our hearts. Thanks be to God who forgives and saves us! Amen.

SHARING OF FIRST SCRIPTURE READING John 2:1-11

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

Jesus stays with us in the Spirit, who renews our hearts, moves us to faith, leads us in the truth, stands by us in our need, and makes our obedience fresh and vibrant.

The Spirit's gifts are here to stay in rich variety—fitting responses to timely needs.

We thankfully see each other as gifted members of the fellowship which delights in the creative Spirit's work. It gives more than enough to each believer for God's praise and our neighbor's welfare. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

shared from *The Message*

MESSAGE

“Transforming Gifts”

Pastor Chris

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Words #44

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(prayed together)

Transform these gifts we return to you, God, that they may be gifts of abundant life, and ever-flowing love, for a world thirsting for your grace. In gratitude and joy, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING SONG

“We All Are One in Mission”

#552

GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

*Indicates all who are able please stand

The Call to Worship (adapted) is from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Opening Payer and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are by Mary Scifres from *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2022* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted), and Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith (adapted) is from *Our World Belongs to God: A Contemporary Testimony*, Article 31, 33, ©1987, CRC Publications, Grand Rapids MI, 1-800-333-8300. In *Keeping in Step with the Spirit*, posted on the **Calvin Institute of Christian worship website**. <http://worship.calvin.edu/resources/resource-library/keeping-in-step-with-the-spirit-romans-8-galatians-5/>

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Organist: Liz Reynolds
Lector: David Burrows
Worship Leader: Pastor Chris
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January Radio Sponsor:

Today, January 16: 10:00 am. – Worship
Sunday School
Coffee

Tuesday, January 18: 9:30 – 11:30 am.- Pastor Chris at Feed Mill

Wednesday, January 19: 8:30 am. Multi-Disciplinary Team meets here

Sunday, January 23: 10:00 am. – Worship
Sunday School
Coffee

The annual meeting will be held January 30th. Reports are due in the office by Sunday January 16th. Please e-mail your reports to uccalg@netamumail.com.

We are be collecting good used or new towels, blankets, etc. for the Care team through the end of January. If you would like to donate, please bring them to the church.

Radio sponsors for this new year are needed. There is a sign-up sheet in the parlor or let the church office know if you would like a particular month.

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

First Congregational United Church of Christ



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