

First Congregational United Church of Christ
315 S Moore St.
Algona, Iowa
515-295-2845
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 17, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Let us gather in spirit and truth to worship the Holy One!

Many: **We come as green olive trees, fragrant with life and vibrancy.**

One: Let us praise the God who reveals, questions, and listens.

Many: **We come as green olive trees, ripe with possibilities.**

One: Let us give thanks for God's abiding and faithful love.

Many: **We come as green olive trees, proclaiming the goodness of God and creation.**

*OPENING SONG

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

#48

*OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Divine Gardener, we need your care and nurture. Fertilize our soil and our souls. Plant seeds of wisdom, inspiration, and discernment. Prune us today for more abundance tomorrow. Refresh us with living water. Revive us again. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

In the mirror we call scripture, Revealing God, we see ourselves for who we are and are not. We whine about those who are not doing what we think they should, and ignore our failings. We speak words which nibble away at the life in our family and friends. We step over the poor on our way to get more and more, ignoring their needs.

Forgive us, Reconciling Love. Sit us down at Jesus' feet, so we may learn the balanced life you intend for us. Then, and only then, we can set aside our grudges, to offer our gifts to our neighbors; we can stop licking at our hurts, to bring healing to others; we

can reach out and welcome our sisters and brothers, even as we have been welcomed into your heart through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Christ Jesus comes to reconcile us to God, so we can be reconciled to one another. Recreated in God's image, we are made whole. Do you really believe this?

Many: **When we are in Christ, everything becomes new. Our past is just that - our past! Thanks be to God! We will go forth and live as reconciled people. Amen.**

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE RADING

Psalm 52

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

In our waking and arising, God, be the first thought that enters our head. In our eating and drinking, be the first thought that enters our head. In our walking and journeying, be the first thought that enters our head. In our working and serving be the first thought that enters our head. In our sowing and harvesting, be the first thought that enters our head. In our rejoicing and sorrowing, be the first thought that enters our head. In our resting and sleeping, be the first thought that enters our head. In all that we think, say and do, we endeavor above all else, to focus on God, God's will and God's ways in the lives we lead. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Luke 10:38-42

shared from *The New English Bible*

MESSAGE:

"Distracted Discipling"

Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Words #44

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(prayed together)

Alpha and Omega, may these gifts meet the needs before us, the community around us, and the call within us. Amen.

*CLOSING SONG

"Be Thou My Vision"

#502

*GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

*Indicates all who are able please stand

The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication are from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*.
The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *Lectioary Liturgies* by Thom M. Schuman. The
Affirmation of Faith (adapted) is written by John Birch, and posted on Faith and Worship. <http://www.faihandworship.com/>

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Organist: Vicki Merchlewitz
Lector: David Burrow
Worship Leader: Pastor Burtnett

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July Radio Sponsor: Becky Bibler and Chuck West

Birthdays: July: 18 - Jeff Hines; 22 - Cam Buchanan

Sunday, July 17: 10:00 am.- Worship
Coffee
“The Future for First” meeting following worship with a potluck meal

Monday, July 18 - 23: Pastor on vacation

Sunday, July 24: 10 am – Worship
Coffee

Pastor Chris will be on vacation July 18 - 23. Karen Dearchs will be on call. If you need pastoral assistance, please call Mick Schlievert at 515-341-1727 and he will contact Karen.

The First United Methodist July Newsletter is in the parlor, if you would like to look at it.

