

First Congregational United Church of Christ
315 S Moore St.
Algona, Iowa
515-295-2845
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 31, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: God of the past who whispered in the prophets' ears; who rescued us from sin's slavery:

Many: we are here to thank you.

One: God of the future, who is tearing down the old world, and building your kingdom in our midst:

Many: we are here because we trust you.

One: God of the present who, in the giftedness of our diversity, creates us to be one people:

Many: we are here to praise you.

One: God of life that surprises us when we find it within us:

Many: we celebrate your grace.

*OPENING SONG "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" #56

*OPENING PRAYER (read together)

Holy Love, we worship you as your people. You tether us to you in righteousness and covenant. Reveal your face to us. Let us see you in our midst, in our neighbors, and in ourselves. Clothe us in love and compassion, and continually fashion us as your people for you are our God. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (read together)

How can we forget them, Calling God, those who have been thrown aside by the world, those whose cries are no longer heard by the powerful? How can we judge them, those who make choices with which we disagree, those who are so different from us? How can we still follow the hurlers of angry words, the purveyors of prejudice?

Forgive us and continue to teach us better ways of living and doing, God of grace. You

gather us from our foolishness, so we might be led into acts of mercy. You redeem us from our mistakes to we might bend down and feed those who hunger for hope. Your compassion, so warm and tender, is gifted to us through Jesus our Savior, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: Do not be afraid. More than anything else, God would rather turn fetid swamps into pools of crystal-clear water; bonds of sin into cords of compassion; sinners into servants.

Many: God loves us. God forgives us. God lifts us to new life. Thanks be to God. Amen.

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE RADING Psalm 107:1-9, 43

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (read together)

We believe in God, who creates us, who sustains us each moment, who is our life and our breath.

We follow Christ, who showed us God. He received and shared God's grace. He trusted God in everything. He let go of things so that he might cling to Life. He let go of life, so that he might hold onto Love. He gave of himself, even his very life, for the sake of the healing of the world. And though he was crucified, God have him life again; and he rose and is still among us in a new way.

We live by the Holy Spirit, which alone gives us life.

We rejoice in the church, the Body of Christ, and in the oneness of all life, the gift of forgiveness, the reality of resurrection, and the mystery of eternal life.

By power of that Holy Spirit, and in the name of Christ, we devote ourselves to give generously of all that we receive, for the sake of the healing of the world, and the eternal glory of God. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI #734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE Luke 12:13-21 shared from the Good News Bible

MESSAGE: "Bigger Barns" Pastor Burtnett

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Words #34

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(prayed together)

Loving God, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts. Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your abundance and gift of life and love. Amen.

***CLOSING SONG**

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

#466

***GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

POSTLUDE

*Indicates all who are able please stand

The Call to Worship (adapted), Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted), and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication are from *Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ*. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnaas-Holmes.

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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

Sunday, July 31: 10:00 am.- Worship
Coffee

Tuesday, August 2: 9:30 -11am. - Pastor at Feed Mill

Sunday, August 7: 10 am – Worship with Sacrament of Communion
Coffee
Food Pantry

**First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Algona, Iowa**



“Where No One Is A Stranger”

315 S. Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511

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