

First Congregational United Church of Christ
315 S Moore St.
Algona, Iowa
515-295-2845
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 28, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: With gifts of praise,

Many: we come to worship.

One: With heartfelt prayers,

Many: we come to worship and pray.

One: With open minds, eager to grow,

Many: we come to worship and grow this day.

*OPENING SONG

“Gather Us In”

#649

*OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Gracious God, our helper, we seek the assurance of your presence in this time of worship. We have come to listen and to receive your counsel. Melt our stubborn hearts to remove the barriers that keep us from seeing your glory and doing your will. Challenge all that us worthless and unprofitable in our lives, that we may become worthy imitators of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

God of love and grace, flow through our messy lives with your abundant grace. When we would close our hearts and doors, open us to share your grace with others. When we would neglect the needs of your world, forgive us so abundantly that we might be moved to give as abundantly as we have received. When we let pride and self-interest rule our days, forgive us so miraculously that we might live with humility and selflessness. In your abundant love and miraculous grace, may your world come to know your ways. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: There is no greater joy in the heart of God than the moment we become open to the gift of forgiveness. God’s Spirit reaches out to assure us of welcome in Christ.

Many: In the name of Jesus we are God’s by grace. With great joy we are made alive. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven!

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 81:1, 10-16

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We believe in God the creator who created water for us in diverse forms; creeks and currents, springs and spas, ponds and puddles. Without this gift of water, we would perish.

We believe in Jesus, baptized by John in the waters of the Jordan, and sent by God to bring Living Water to all people. This Jesus spent time chatting with a Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well. His contact with her so refreshed her that she was able to start life anew and, in turn, give new life to her community. We believe that our contact with Jesus enables us to do likewise.

We believe in God’s Spirit which has the force of a thundering waterfall, ready to be used to renew the world, if only we would let it.

We believe that God calls us all to work joyfully to create communities where the river of water of life gives fullness of life to all people. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Luke 14:1, 7-14

shared from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE:

“H Words”

Pastor Chris

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

#34

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(prayed together)

Generous God, bless these gifts we return to you now, that they may be gifts of abundance and grace for a world in need. Amen.

***CLOSING SONG**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

#393

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

POSTLUDE

*Indicates all who are able please stand

The Call to Worship, Offering Prayer of Dedication, and Prayer of Confession are by Mary Scifres from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Opening Prayer is from *Gathered By Love-Worship Resources for Year C* by Lavon Bayler. The Call to Confession is by Sandra E. Graham. The Words of Assurance (adapted) are by David E. Bowman but are from *Touch Holiness-Resources for Worship* edited by Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi. The Affirmation of Faith (adapted) is by *Ross Mackinnon*.

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

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August Radio Sponsor: Marilyn Deal

Birthdays: 8-30: Laurie Zook; 9-1: Mark Williams

Sunday, August 28: 10:00 am.- Worship
Coffee
Christian Education Meeting after Worship

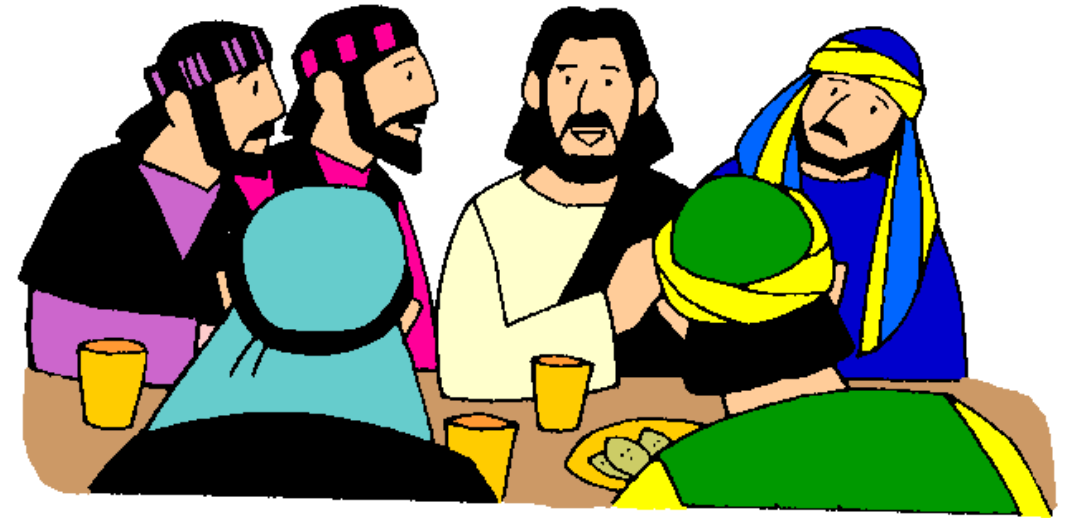
Tuesday, August 30: 9:30 -11am. - Pastor at Feed Mill

Sunday, September 4: 10 am – Worship with Communion
Coffee
Food Pantry

“Our Daily Bread” Unity in Jesus: 10 Reflections on Christian Unity is here. It may be picked up in the Fellowship entry.

“Our Daily Bread” September, October, November issue is here. It may be picked up in the Fellowship entry.

This is the last Sunday to give to the Care Team. We have been collecting a special offering for the Care Team throughout the month of August. You may make out a special check or designate an amount in the memo section on your regular offering check. This way it will be credited to the right account.



“All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up.” Luke 14:11