

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST—ALGONA, IOWA
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 A.M. – September 11, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETING, GOOD NEWS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS, & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

When the lost are found,
there is joy!
When hope overcomes despair,
there is joy!
When we seek and find God's faithfulness,
there is joy!

* OPENING HYMN: "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

#136

OPENING PRAYER

God of abundant grace, may your Holy Spirit be with us now as we worship you this day. Open our eyes to truly see one another, that we might discover your presence in the smile of a neighbor. Open our ears to the needs of the world, that we might hear your wisdom in the words spoken around us. And open our hearts to your grace and love, that we might find guidance and strength for the journey, for ourselves and for one another. Amen.

BRIEF REFLECTION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abundant grace, may your Holy Spirit be with us now as we worship you this day. Open our eyes to truly see one another, that we might discover your presence in the smile of a neighbor. Open our ears to the needs of the world, that we might hear your wisdom in the words spoken around us. And open our hearts to your grace and love, that we might find guidance and strength for the journey, for ourselves and for one another. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

In Christ we are given the grace to grow and the courage to continue our journey. Thanks be to God, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

FIRST READING:

Luke 15:1 – 10

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

God created the universe, the world we live in,
and every living thing on this earth.
We believe the Creation shows us the power and presence of God,
and makes us want to praise and give thanks to God,
and take good care of the earth God has made.
We are full of joy that across the world
different peoples have their own culture and language,
and that in God we are all united together as one.
We say God is Spirit, breath of life,
who is always working to bring people to life in God.
We believe the Spirit has been alive and active
in every race and culture,
getting hearts and minds ready for the good news
of God's love and grace that Jesus Christ revealed.
We are full of joy that from the beginning
the Spirit was alive and active,
revealing God through the law, custom, and ceremony.
We say Jesus is Savior and Lord,
that he began the church,
and prayed that the church might be together as one.
We believe that in the risen Jesus
we are all part of the one great family of God,
and that God calls us to live in faith, hope, and love
for the sake of the Kingdom of God here on earth.
We are full of joy that we can learn,
grow, and serve together as a pilgrim people
in the name of Christ.

AMEN.

* GLORIA PATRI: "Glory Be to the Father ..." #734

SECOND READING: Luke 15: 11 – 22

MESSAGE: "Lost and Found" David Burrow

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Respond: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (with debts/debtors)

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS – OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" #34

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Eternal God, we can not begin to list the many ways you bless us. We thank you for providing for us, and we pray that our gifts may further the work of this church and help do your work in the world. Amen.

* HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" #59

* GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

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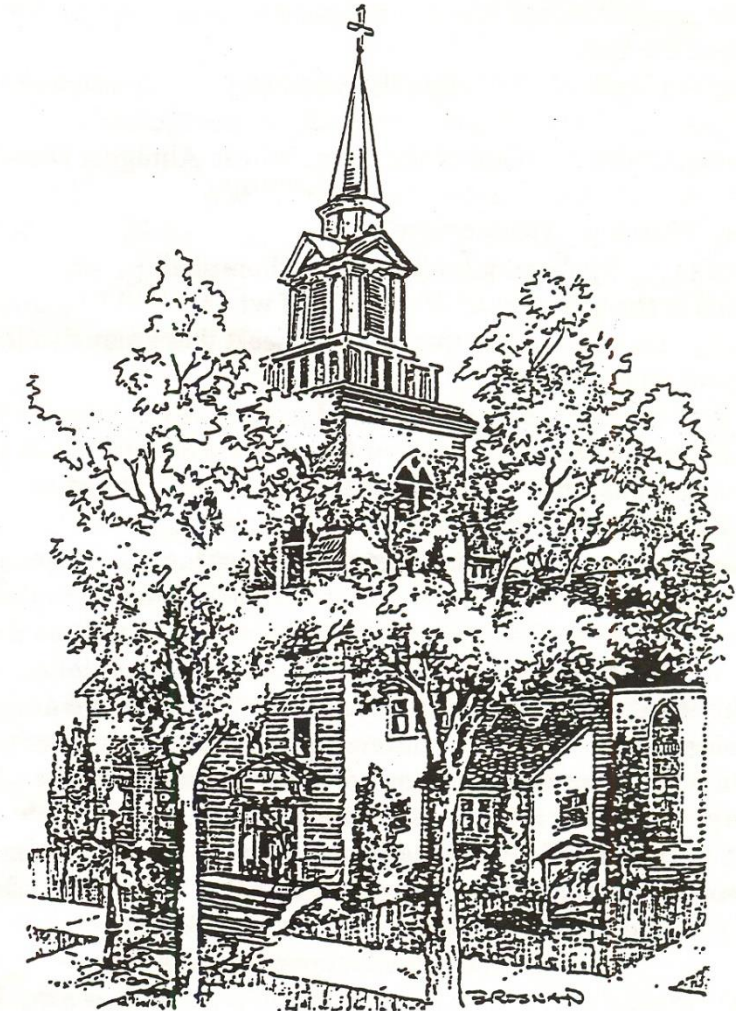
Organist:	Vicki Merchlewitz
Worship Leader:	David Burrow
Pastor:	Rev. Chris Burnett
September Radio Sponsor:	Connie Schwab

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- Call to worship and opening prayer from MinistryMatters.com
 - Prayer of Confession by Beth Merrill – holdfasttowhatisgood.com
 - Affirmation of Faith from the Uniting Church in Australia
 - Prayer of Dedication from the Church of Scotland
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During Rev. Burnett's recovery, contact Mick Schlievert if there is a need for pastoral care. He will get in touch with Rev. Karen Dearchs.

First Congregational Church United Church of Christ Algona, Iowa



"Where No One Is A Stranger"