

First Congregational United Church of Christ
"Where No One Is A Stranger"
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 2, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: We gather to increase our faith!

Many: **We come, that our worship might uncover clearer understandings of God.**

One: We gather to increase our trust!

Many: **We come, that our worship might unearth stronger connections to God.**

One: We gather to increase our hope!

Many: **We come, that our worship might unleash fresher possibilities from God.**

OPENING SONG

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

#569

*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

Meet us here in this time of worship, God, with all our questions and insecurities.

Challenge our knowledge and certainties. Transform our beliefs and perceptions.

Influence our commitments and actions that we might be more faithful servants of you.

Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

We think if we turn off the media, we will not need to listen to the voices of our neighbors, God of all the world. We are blessed with family and friends, and so do not know the lonely. We are at ease in a world which is troubled, and so do not notice the bitter tears of others. Because we are people of affluence and privilege, we cannot understand those who are broken by the anger and brutality of the world.

Yet, you know, God of the sufferers. You hear the cries of those living in oppression, and call us to listen. Your tears mingle with those whose children lie mangled or dead in war zones, and would have us be peacemakers. Your faithfulness is great, when ours

seems so futile, yet you would have us serve the world alongside your Child, Jesus, even as he served us with his life and gifts. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: Call this to mind: God is ever faithful; hope is the gift passed on to us, love is the gift we can share with others; God's mercies never come to an end.

Many: **Great is God's faithfulness to all people, in all places. Thanks be to God, who has given us the promise of life in Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.**

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UCC Statement of Faith

(read together)

(inside back cover of hymnal)

*GLORIA PATRI

#734

FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Luke 17:5-10

shared from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE:

"Enough Faith"

Pastor Chris

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

Invitation, Communion Prayer, Sanctus, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord's Prayer

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of new life, with joy we have received this sacrament of bread and cup, giving you thanks for Jesus, our peace and our hope. Unite your church throughout the world in continuing his ministry of love and servanthood, that your name may be praised in all the earth. Amen.

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

#34

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

We thank you for these gifts of money, time, and selves that we cheerfully give to you, Multiplying God. Expand and bless every single one in service to you and the work you've called us to do. Amen.

***Closing Song** "One Bread, One Body" #689

***Going Forth with the Peace of Christ**

***Indicates all who are able please stand**

The Call to Worship (adapted), Opening Prayer (adapted), 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 Assurances are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (adapted) is by Ruth C. Duck from *Bread for the Journey-Resources for Worship* edited by Ruth C. Duck. The Affirmation of Faith is a version of our United Church of Christ Statement of Faith.

=====
Organist: Vicki Merchlewitz
Lector: David Burrow
Worship Leader: Pastor Chris Burtnett
October Radio Sponsor: Tod & Shelly TerHark
=====

Today, October 2: 10:00 am.- Worship with Sacrament of Communion
Coffee
Food Pantry
Neighbors in Need Offering

Tuesday, October 4: 9:30-11am - Pastor Chris at Feed Mill

Friday, October 7: 9 am. – Care Center Worship

Sunday, October 9: 10:00 am. – Worship
Coffee
3:45 pm. - Tri-Conference Meeting at Sioux City through Tuesday noon

We are celebrating the sacrament of communion this morning. Everyone is welcome at the table. The inner ring is wine and outer ring is grape juice.

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

Algona Community Blood Drive: 1st United Methodist Church on Monday, October 3 from 12:30-5:30pm and Tuesday, October 4 from 9am-2pm.

Trunk or Treat: Donations of sacks of candy are needed. Please leave them in the church kitchen.



*First Congregational
United Church of Christ*

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