

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
315 S Moore St.  
Algona, Iowa  
515-295-2845  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
October 9, 2022

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Sing God's praises.

Many: Make a joyful noise to God.

One: We have walked through fire and water with heavy burdens on our backs.

Many: But God has led us into a spacious place to plant gardens of faith.

One: Rejoice in God.

Many: Build houses of joy and shout glory to our God.

*Everyone: Let's worship in gratitude and praise.*

### \*OPENING SONG

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

#82

### \*OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Master Gardener, you revive us when our bodies are weak, and when our spirits faint within us. Though we may be bound by our worries, your word is not chained. Help us build houses of joy and plant gardens of faith. As we pray for the welfare of our communities, help us to bloom where we are planted, that your harvest of hope and love may be bountiful. In gratitude for your blessings, we pray. Amen.

## TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

God beyond borders, we know that on our way to worship, we may not have noticed the exiles in our neighborhoods. We admit how easy it is for us to wander down the streets of temptation, pausing at the corner of easy choices. We fall silent in the presence of those who speak words of anger and hate. We tolerate a culture that suspects all who are different from us.

Have mercy on us, God, for surely you take the side of justice. Open our hearts to all the

wonders you are performing in our lives. You gift us with those of other cultures, that our lives might be blessed. You send us friends out of places we least expect, that our community might be enriched. You call us to be generous with our blessings, so others might be graced with the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

## SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: God challenges us, God encourages us. God confronts us, and God accepts us. God works wonders in our midst and gives us the eyes, the hearts, the souls to see such miracles.

Many: God forgives us, God guides us through the wilderness of the world, God leads us home. Thanks be to God. Amen.

### SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

### \*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come to us in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

### GLORIA PATRI

#734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world with-out end. A-men, A-men.

### FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Psalms 66:1-12

shared from the *Common English Bible*

### MESSAGE:

"Dealing with Exile"

Pastor Chris

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and LORD'S PRAYER (using debts/debtors)

### PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

### OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

#34

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

(prayed together)

Receive these gifts as signs of our thanks, God. Accept our praise for your many blessings. Receive our very lives, that we may serve you in the ministry of our church. Amen.

**\*CLOSING SONG**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

#72

**\*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 by B.J. Beu from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurances are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith is from the United Church of Canada.

=====

Organist:	Vicki Merchlewitz
Lector:	David Burrow
Worship Leader:	Pastor Burnett
September Radio Sponsor:	Todd & Shelly TerHark

=====

October Birthdays: 9-Andrew Burnett; 11-David Burrow; 12-Misty Bachman

Sunday, October 9: 10:00 am.- Worship  
Sunday School  
Coffee

3:45pm. – Tri-Conference Meeting in Sioux City

Monday, October 10: Tri-Conference Meeting in Sioux City

Tuesday, October 11: Tri-Conference Meeting in Sioux City

Wednesday, October 12: 7pm. - Board Meeting

Thursday, October 13: 8:30am – Ministerial /All Agency Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, October 16: 10 am – Worship  
Sunday School  
Coffee

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



First Congregational United Church of Christ

315 S. Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511

515-295-2845