

First Congregational United Church of Christ
315 S Moore St.
Algona, Iowa
515-295-2845
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
October 23, 2022

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: This is the day God has made:

Many: a day for praise and prayer; a day for gratitude and generosity.

One: This is the time God has given us:

Many: a time for singing and silence; a time for speaking and listening.

One: This is the life to which God calls us:

Many: a life of humility and service; a life of faith and trust.

Everyone: Let's worship God!

*OPENING SONG

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

#31

*OPENING PRAYER

(read together)

Pour out your Spirit upon us as we gather to worship you this morning, God, so your grace might strengthen us for service; your peace might calm our troubled souls; your hope might mend our broken hearts. Take hold of our hands. Enable us to cling to faith when hope runs through our fingers like sand. Open the gateways of our hearts morning and evening, that we might sing our praises with all creation. God in Community, Holy in One, we pour out our hearts to you. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(read together)

Watching God, like the Pharisee, we think we can stick our thumbs into life, pull out a prayer, and congratulate ourselves for being such good Christians. Then, we remember the harsh words we have spoken this week, the hurt we have inflicted on someone we loved, the lack of compassion we failed to offer to someone who needed our help. Forgive us, God of Grace, and deal gently with us. May we become more like the tax

collector - humble, penitent, acknowledging our faulty lives to you. Then, may we receive the mercy promised to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

(read responsively)

One: Forgiven and healed, we open ourselves to the grace, the peace, the hope offered to us through our loving God. This is the good news we have received!

Many: Graced and blessed, we are able to live our lives for others, taking them by the hand to reach that finish line called God's Kingdom. Thanks be to God. Amen.

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(read together)

I am a child of God, God's beloved, in whom God is pleased. I dwell in the arms of God.

You are a child of God, God's beloved, in whom God is pleased. You dwell in the arms of God.

We all are children of God, God's beloved, in whom God is pleased. We all dwell in the arms of God. Amen.

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

Luke 19:1-10

shared from the *The Message*

MESSAGE:

"What Do You See?"

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)

Generous God, we are so grateful that you name and claim us as your beloved ones. We offer you what we have; our resources, our time, our energy, our very selves, for your ministry in the world. Amen.

***CLOSING SONG**

“Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

#457

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

POSTLUDE

*Indicates all who are able please stand

The Call to Worship (adapted), Opening Prayer (adapted), Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurances are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) is by Joanne Carlson Brown from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith is by Steve Garnaas-Holmes

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

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Sunday, October 23: 10:00 am.- Worship
Sunday School
Coffee

Tuesday, October 25: 9:30-11am. - Pastor Chris at Feed Mill

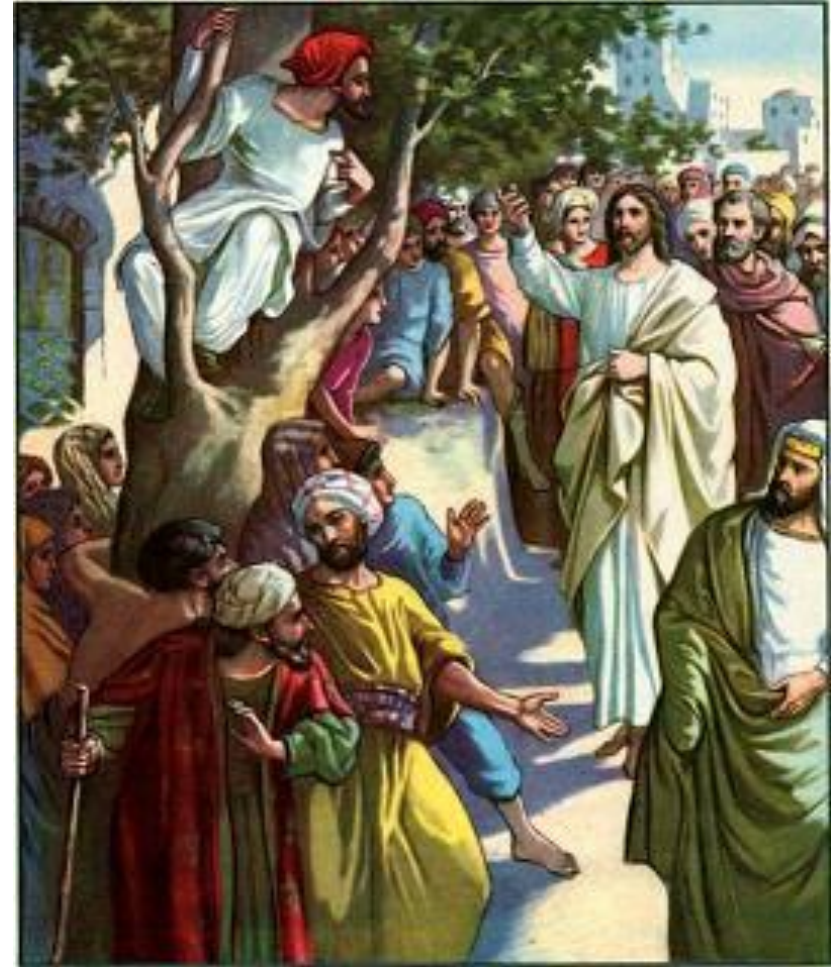
Thursday, October 27: 10am –Pastor at Clergy Cluster in Humboldt

Sunday, October 30: 10 am – Worship – David leading worship
Sunday School
Coffee

Pastor Chris will on vacation from Thursday afternoon, October 27 – October 30. Karen Dearchs will be on call. If you need pastoral assistance, please call Mick Schlievert at 515-341-1727 and he will contact Karen.

Monday, October 31: Trunk or Treat

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



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