

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
"Where No One Is A Stranger"  
Transfiguration Sunday  
March 2, 2025

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Jesus has called us here,

**Many: inviting us to offer praise and prayer.**

One: May his presence be revealed in this time,

**Many: showing us the way to go.**

One: May his glory shine into our worship,

**Many: that his glory may shine in our lives.**

One: Let's worship God!

### \*Opening Song:

"When Morning Guilds the Skies"

#111

### \*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

**God of mountaintops and valleys and everywhere in between, we thank you for meeting us where we are. We thank you also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal.**

**Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for Your alive Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus, also shine in us for the good of the world. Amen.**

## TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

We admit that we are often afraid to come near you, Glorious Creator. For if we do, you might see how our faces darken with anger as we speak hurtful words, or whiten with fear of those who are different, or redden from the depths of our desires. We can spend so much time gazing in the mirror of our longings, that we are unable to see the faces etched with loneliness, hollowed by hunger, overshadowed by hopelessness.

You reveal the mystery of your grace, Holy One, by pouring out mercy upon us. As you

bend down to listen, may we speak your love to all those around us. As you call us into your presence, you send us out to do your justice which brings hope to the world. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, our Savior, our Love, our Justice.

## A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: On mountaintops and in valleys, in our hopes and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves!

**Many: By God's mercy, we are forgiven; by God's mercy, we are made whole; by God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 9:28-36

### \*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

inside back cover of hymnal

(read together)

### \*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

Exodus 34:29-35

read from the *Good News Bible*

## MESSAGE:

"Called to Shine"

Pastor Chris

## Communion Song:

"I Come with Joy"

#706

## GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

Invitation, Communion Prayer, Sanctus, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors), Sharing the Bread and Cup

## 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:

**Holy God, we have tasted the light of your love and seen your glory at this table. Now, transform us to find your glory in everyone and everything. This we pray in the light of Jesus our savior. Amen.**

## 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**

**Shine through this offering, Glorious God. May our gifts and our very lives bless your world and reveal your love. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.**

**\*Closing Song:**

“You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

#99

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

**POSTLUDE**

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

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are by Mary Scifres from *The Abingdon Worship Annual, 2025* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer (adapted) is by the Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins, Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ from *Worship Ways- Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ. The Affirmation of Faith is a version of our United Church of Christ Statement of Faith. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving is from Cooking With Elsa*, by Elsa Anders Cook, an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ.

=====

Worship Leader:	Pastor Chris Burtnett
Lector:	David Burrow
Organist:	Antonia Rupert
March Radio Sponsor:	Scott and Sandy Buchanan

=====

Birthdays: March 1: Scott Buchanan 3: Alex Buchanan

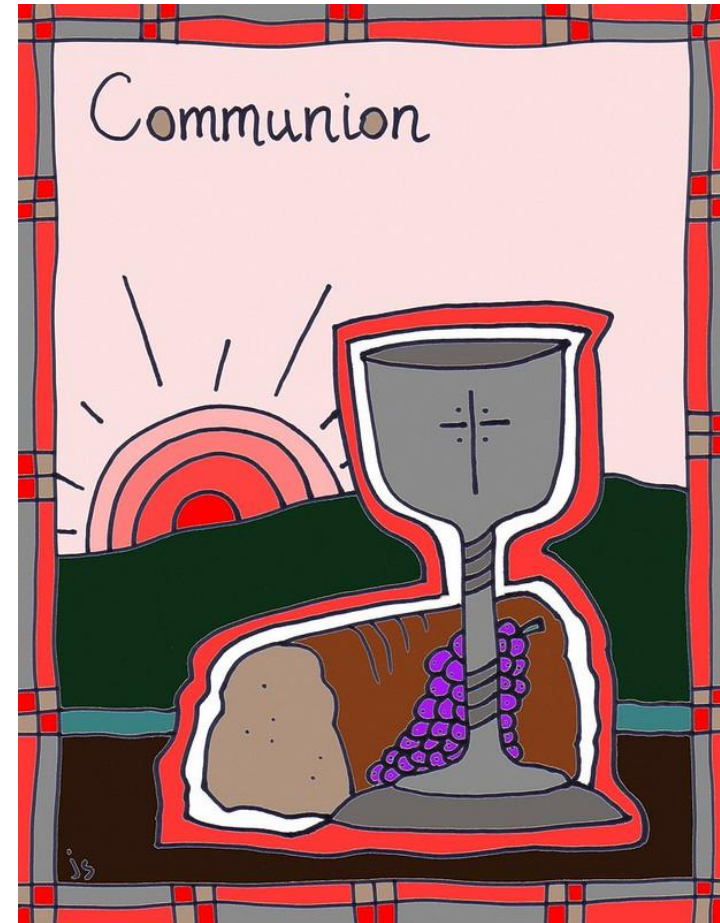
Sunday, March 2: 10:30am – Worship with Sacrament of Communion  
Sunday School  
Coffee  
Food Pantry

Tuesday, March 4: 9:30am.-Pastor at Feed Mill

Wednesday, March 5: 7pm. -Ash Wednesday

Sunday, March 9: 10:30am – Worship  
Sunday School  
Coffee

Our Daily Bread March/April/May 2025 issue may be picked up in the Fellowship Hall entry.



*First Congregational  
United Church of Christ*

**166 Years**

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