

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
“Where No One Is A Stranger”  
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
July 6, 2025

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (read responsively)

One: Sing praises to God:  
**Many: who heals us and makes us whole.**  
One: Sing praises to God, faithful children of God:  
**Many: whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.**  
One: Sing praises to God, faithful children of God; give thanks to God's holy name:  
**Many: God's Kindom is near to us; God's peace resides in our hearts.**

\*Opening Song: “Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven” #82

\*OPENING PRAYER (prayed together)

**God our Good Shepherd, we come to worship you, to tell of the story of your marvelous deeds, to lament the horrors and suffering in the world, to find strength to be your witnesses, and to remind ourselves of the truth of what is possible. May our prayers rise to your heart, and your heart infiltrate our prayers. May we sing songs that move you with delight and compassion. May we recognize and ponder the wisdom you impart to us. And, may peace rest upon us as we gather in your name. Amen.**

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (prayed together)

Holy One, why is it that we can grow so weary of doing what is right, yet always energetically do that which we know is harmful to us and others? We sow seeds of hurt and anger, and wonder why we harvest so much bitterness. We spend too much time comparing ourselves to those around us, and too few moments in following Jesus’ example.  
Rather than letting our sins gloat over us, Healing God, we would open ourselves to your

mercy and grace. As you reach out to heal us with your forgiveness, may we embrace your love, your mercy, your grace for our lives. As you pour out your Spirit of gentleness, may we bring the peace of our Savior, Jesus Christ, to all the world. Amen.

A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Sing praises to our God, faithful children. God has heard our prayers and made us whole.  
**Many: We will not be silent, but will sing our joy to the One who has forgiven us and made us a new creation. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 6:7-16

\*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 Luke 10:1-11 read from the *Good News Bible*

MESSAGE: “Close Enough to Bite” Pastor Chris

Communion Song: “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” #698

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:

**Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in this holy feast. May we know the presence of Jesus among us. Take us from this table, raised and restored, ready not to be served but to serve, in the power of the Spirit. 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**  
We give you thanks, Wise God, for cultivating generosity within us and alerting us to the needs around us. Use these gifts for the expansion of your will on earth and the blessing of your beloved. In your name and in hope, we give these gifts. Amen.

**\*Closing Song:** “For the Fruit of All Creation” #723

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

**POSTLUDE**

**\*Indicates all who are able please stand**  
The Call to Worship (adapted), Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted), and Words of Assurance are from *Lectioary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer, and Offering Prayer of Dedication are written by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology 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 by Rev. Stephanie Perdue, PhD from Worship Ways-Worship Resources for the United Church of Christ.

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Worship Leader:	Pastor Chris Burtnett
Lector:	David Burrow
July Radio Sponsor:	Kris & Mick Schlievert

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Birthdays: July 9: Fatu Tennih; 11 Ken Beaver

Sunday, July 6: 10:30am – Worship with Sacrament of Communion  
Coffee / Food Pantry  
2pm.- Manson UCC Closing Worship Service

Tuesday, July 8: 9am. - Committee on Ministry Zoom Meeting  
10:30am-Pastor at Feed Mill.  
1pm-Mission and Memorial Meeting  
6pm. – Pilgrim Heights Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, July 9: 5:30 pm.-Party in the Park

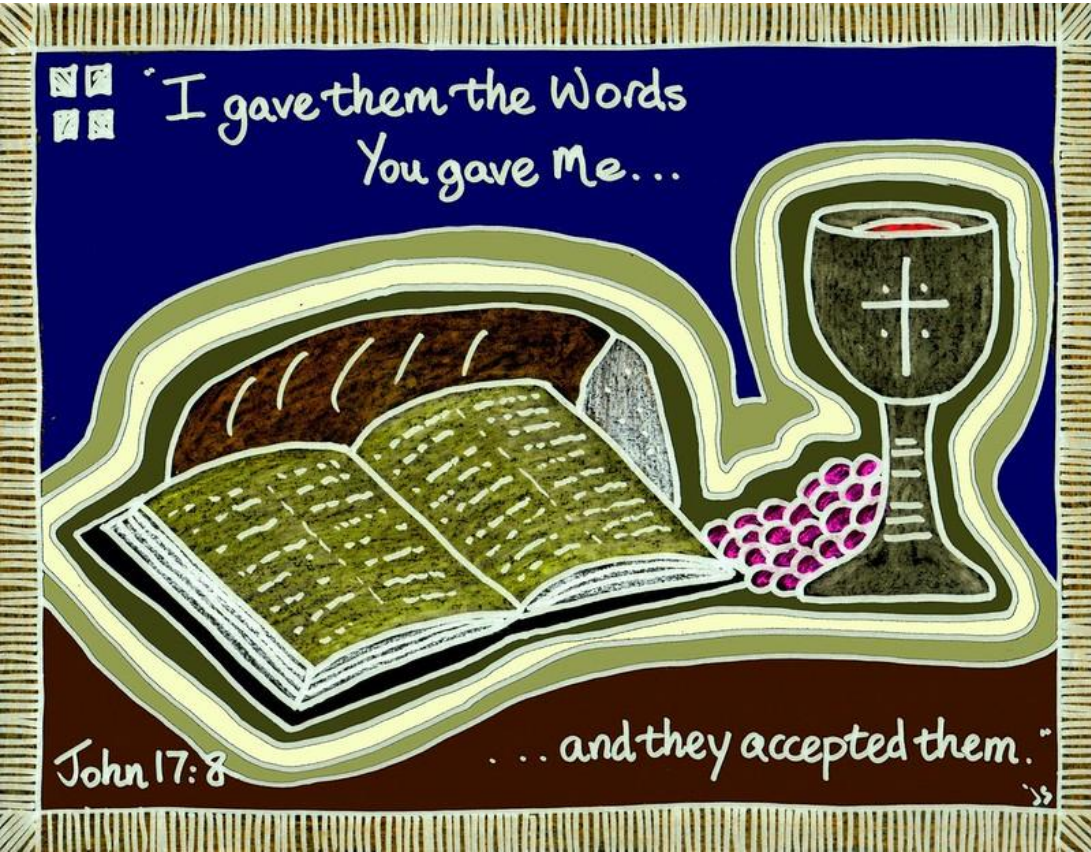
Thursday, July 10: 4pm-Wedding Meeting

Friday, July 11: Founders Day begins

Saturday, July 12: Kids bash at Central Park

Sunday, July 13: 10:30am: Worship/Coffee

Monday, June 7: 12:30-5:30pm.-Algona Com. Blood Drive at 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church



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