

First Congregational United Church of Christ
“Where No One Is A Stranger”
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
Final Regular Weekly Worship
10:30 A.M. – August 31, 2025

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come! Let’s lift our voices to praise God!
We rejoice in the One who cares for all creation.
We eagerly anticipate growing in faith as we worship the Lord.
It is this God who yearns to lead us;
this God who wants to satisfy and meet our every need—
So let us worship God!

* OPENING HYMN: “We Are Called to Be God’s People” #580

* OPENING PRAYER

God Almighty, thank you for the ways you support and sustain your beloved children! Thank you for bringing us together in this space as one part of the whole Body of Christ. Thank you for the ways you continue to make yourself known, both here and in every aspect of our lives. Grant us eager hearts, ready to overcome our anxieties, our fears, and our stubborn selfishness as we draw closer to you. Fill us once again with your sweet Spirit, inspiring us to action and to accountability as faithful followers of Jesus, the Christ. AMEN

OPENING THE TIME CAPSULE

HYMN: “Pass It On” #557

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace.

Forgive us, God. In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and renew us once again with your Spirit, so that, as forgiven and renewed people, we may reflect the love and life of Jesus Christ into our world.

SILENCE FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION AND CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our God is a God of grace and mercy and love, abounding in steadfast love.
We know that our sins have been forgiven. May we be strengthened in all goodness. Thanks be to God. Amen.

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 3:1 – 8, 11 – 12

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: on cover and inside front of hymnal

* GLORIA PATRI: “Glory Be to the Father” #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.

* HYMN: “Hymn of Promise” #515

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:2 – 7a, 9 – 11

MESSAGE: “Our Work Is Not Done” David Burrow

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Respond: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (with debts/debtors)

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS – OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #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

Lord Jesus, we dedicate our gifts to you, but beyond those, we dedicate ourselves. We give you my hands to do your work. We give our feet to go your way. We give our tongues to speak your words. We give our minds, that our thoughts may be of you. And above all we give our hearts, that you may use them to show your love for all humanity. Amen.

* CLOSING HYMN: “They’ll Know We Are Christians” #595

* GOING FORTH WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

*Indicates all who are able please stand

- Call to Worship and Opening Prayer from Center for Faith and Giving of the Disciples of Christ
- Prayer of Confession from the Presbyterian Church of Canada
- Prayer of Dedication from St. Angela Church – Fairview Park, Ohio

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Organist/Pianist: Alicia Miller

Worship Leader: David Burrow

August Radio Sponsor: Becky Bibler

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Sunday, August 31: 10:30am – Worship
Coffee

September 21: 4pm. Service of Peace

Starting October 1, we will be meeting for fellowship and prayer on the first Wednesday of each month at 6pm. For other church activities, check your email and the church website <http://www.algonaucc.org> . The website will be updated and simplified in the next few weeks to reflect our current ministry."

Radio Ministry: Our radio ministry will continue on KLGA after we stop meeting regularly on Sunday, using sermons from the archives on our website. The sermons air each Sunday shortly after 11am. Sponsors are needed for October, November, and December.

Our Daily Bread Sept./Oct./Nov. 2025 issue may be picked up in the Fellowship Hall entry.

Thank you, David Burrow for leading worship for us today and on the September 21for the Service of Peace

Hospice of the Heartland will be starting a Grief Support Group that will run every Wednesday from September 3-October 8. Anyone who is struggling with grief is welcome to attend.

Pastor Chris will be on vacation August 18-31. If you need pastoral assistance, please call Dave Skilling at 319-290-2302. **After** August 31, contact Mick Schlievert, who will make arrangements with another local pastor."

The purpose of the First Congregational United Church of Christ of Algona, Iowa is to be an alive and growing family of faith in God, the God whom we know through Jesus Christ and who has given us in Jesus the image of what human life is meant to be.

We strive to mature in faith by encouraging the free exploration of our Christian beliefs so that our faith will be more relevant to our individual lives and to the society in which we live.

With friendship and understanding, we find strength in the diversity of the interests and backgrounds of our members. We welcome all persons who would seek with us answers to life's ultimate questions.

We take love to be the heart of the Gospel of Jesus and the unifying force in our church. Therefore, we celebrate God's love and blessings in worship. We nurture one another through acceptance, caring, and sharing. We reach out beyond ourselves to the needs of others, to promote justice and to witness to God's love.

In all that we do, we seek to continue our heritage of being a pioneering people in a changing world.

*First Congregational
United Church of Christ
166 Years
315 Moore Street – Algona, IA 50511
515-295-2845*