

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
"Where No One Is A Stranger"  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 6, 2023

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Come to this time of worship hungry for a word of hope.

**Many: We come to be fed and nourished.**

One: Come to this time of worship yearning to see the bounty of God.

**Many: We come to see and believe.**

One: Come to this time of worship ready to witness to the power of God.

**Many: We are ready!**

One: Come! Let's worship!

### \*Opening Song:

"Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

#138

### \*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

**Your changes touch our lives with mystery and hope, God. We come to this time of worship, ready to see your power working through us. Be present among us this morning and help us to be open to your Word, that we might answer your call among us. Through Jesus we pray.**

## TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

Here at the river's edge, Healing God, we are hesitant to cross over. For on the other side are all the people we have hurt. On that far shore is everyone we have ridiculed, scorned, ignored. Across the water stand the poor, the homeless, the lost - all those we have looked down on, believing they are beneath us. On the other bank stands the cross we must carry if we are to follow Jesus. Before we can cross, Most Holy One, we must struggle with you. We cannot meet the others, if we have not encountered you.

Forgive us and reconcile us, not only to them, but to yourself. Bless us, that we would be a blessing to them. Rename us and carry us across the river as faithful disciples of the One we are blessed to call our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Here, face to face, God meets us. Here, face to face, we can speak every longing in our heart. Here, face to face, God forgives us.

**Many: Here, face to face, we meet the One who has great compassion for us, and who forgives us of every foolish choice, word, action of our lives. Thanks be to God.**

## SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 14:13-21

**\*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** inside the back cover of the 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

Genesis 32:22-31

read from *NRSV*

## MESSAGE:

"Walking with a Limp"

Pastor Chris

## Communion Song:

"Break Now the Bread of Life"

#665

## 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

Because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have here been graced by your presence, God, we give you thanks, and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and the love of Christ.

## 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**

You meet all our needs, Source of Compassion. Bless these gifts, our lives, and our ministries, that in our living and our giving, your world may be fed and made whole again.

**\*Closing Song:** "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" #439

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

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

The Call to Worship (adapted) and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are by B.J. Beu from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2023* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Opening Prayer (adapted) is by Sandra E. Graham from *Flames of the Spirit-Resources for Worship Like Bread for the Journey* edited by Ruth C. Duck. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith is a version of our United Church of Christ Statement of Faith. The Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving by David Beebe from *Flames of the Spirit-Resources for Worship Like Bread for the Journey* edited by Ruth C. Duck

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Worship Leader:	Pastor Chris Burtnett
Lector:	David Burrow
Organist:	Vicki Merchlewitz
August Radio Sponsor:	Becky Bibler

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Birthdays: August: 5-Connie Parsons; 8-Chris Burtnett; 10-Todd TerHarak

Today, August 6: 10 am.- Worship with Communion  
Coffee  
Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 8: 9:30-11:30am: Pastor at Feed Mill

Wednesday, August 9: 5:30-7pm. – Mobile Mission at Party in the Park

Sunday, August 13: 10:00 am. – Worship  
Coffee

Algona Blood Drive: Monday, August 7 from 12:30 – 5:30pm and Tuesday, August 8 from 9am to 2pm. at the 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church, 101 N Main St., Algona. Notice the change of place.

Our Daily Bread June/July/August and special issue Unshakable- 10 Reflections on Resilience, devotionals are available on the cart in the entry way to the Education/Office/Fellowship Hall building.

If anyone has some time, the rooms in the lower half of fellowship hall need to be put back in order from painting.



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