

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IA 52245
319-337-4301

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 2, 2022
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today is a communion Sunday. If you are joining us online, before the worship service you are invited to assemble what you will eat and what you will drink. It can be bread and grape juice or wine or something as simple as a cracker or rice cake and water for use in our worship.

“World Communion Sunday reminds us that Christ calls us to a table where the welcome is wide. He offers us a space with bread and wine in abundance to give solace to our sorrow and to stir our joy. Even as Christ invites us to this table, he does not mean for us to linger here forever. He gives us sustenance in order to send us forth, carrying a space of welcome within us, called to offer it to those we meet: one more, and one more, and one more...”

Jan Richardson

PRELUDE “A Communion Meditation “

L. Dean Bye

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marsha Lowe, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

As we gather this morning,
we remember our sisters and brothers from north and south and east and west,
from every time zone around the globe.

As today's sunlight inches across land and sea

Christians gather to celebrate their place in God's family.

All are invited and all are welcome.

Let us worship God.

HYMN 465 "Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather" (Japan)

Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we link with hand;

looking toward our Savior's cross, joined in love we stand.

As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray:

Jesus, Savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.

Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands,

yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's demands.

E'en in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth:

Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for You are the Truth.

Nature's secrets open wide, changes never cease.

Where, O where, can weary souls find the source of peace?

Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife:

Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.

Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with deathless love;

help us as we work and pray, send us from above

truth and courage, faith and power, needed in our strife:

Jesus, Master, be our Way, be our Truth, our Life.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Healing God, we come before you

broken, yet seeking wholeness,

isolated, yet seeking community,

overwhelmed, yet seeking simplicity.

We ask for your grace to find these things.

God of Compassion, we come before you

selfish, yet seeking a generous heart,

arrogant, yet seeking humility,

responsible for injustices, yet seeking forgiveness.

We ask for your mercy to receive these things.

God of Peace, we come before you

afraid, yet seeking assurance,

agitated, yet seeking serenity,

angry, yet seeking a forgiving heart.

We ask for your acceptance to reach these things.

**Knowing that in Christ all things are made new
we come this day to be recreated and renewed. Amen.**

ANTHEM “Wild Forces” Jake Runestad

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory “Now to Your Table Spread” Charles Callahan

*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Christ, all creatures here below,
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

(At this time, children are dismissed to attend Children's Church.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Zephaniah 3:11-20

THE FIRST SONG OF ISAIAH (Isaiah 12:2-6)

Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust, and will not be afraid,

**for the Sovereign God is my stronghold and my song,
and has become my Savior.**

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And in that day you will say:

**Give thanks and call upon the name of the Sovereign God.
Make known among the nations what God has done;
proclaim that the name of our God is exalted.**

Sing praises, for God has done great things;

let this be known in all the earth.

**Shout, and sing for joy, O people of God,
for great in your midst is the Holy One.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 5:1-10

SERMON “Minor Prophets, Major Concerns: The Rejoicing of God”

THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN 514 “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” (Jamaica)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

THANKSGIVING FOR BREAD AND CUP

Let us join together in prayer:

**We thank you, O Christ,
that scattered though we are, with different needs and hopes
you call us together at this meal and unite us as one body.**

**We thank you for this bread and cup set before us,
food and drink to nourish us in body and in spirit,
signs of your life-giving love.**

**May they speak to us
of the everyday made holy,
of life made new,
of hope for your realm among us.**

We remember that on the night of his arrest...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

You have called us out of death, O God, we praise you!

Send us back with the bread of life, we pray you!

You have caused us to turn around, we praise you!

Keep us ever faithful to you, we pray you!

You have begun the work of grace, we praise you!

Complete your salvation in us, we pray you!

You have made us your people, we praise you!

Make us one with all people, we pray you! Amen.

HYMN 472 "O Sing to the Lord" (Brazil)

**O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song,
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song,
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.**

*Cantai ao Senhor um cântico novo,
Cantai ao Senhor um cântico novo,
Cantai ao Senhor um cântico novo,
cantai ao Senhor, cantai ao Senhor!*

**By marvelous power our God has done wonders.
By marvelous power our God has done wonders.
By marvelous power our God has done wonders.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.**

*Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas
Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas,
Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas
cantai ao Senhor, cantai ao Senhor!*

**So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.**

*Cantai ao Senhor, bendizei o seu nome,
Cantai ao Senhor, bendizei o seu nome,.*

**So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets,
and sing to our God, and sing to our God.**

*Cantai ao Senhor, bendizei o seu nome,
cantai ao Senhor, cantai ao Senhor!*

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Fanfare in C” L. Dean Bye

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The opening prayer, “Healing God, we come before you...” was written by Ana and Tod Gobledale, who served UCC Global Ministries as local ministers in both South Africa and Zimbabwe, and in Australia at Churches of Christ Theological College near Melbourne. Adapted.

Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs:	The Rev. Ann Molsberry
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Chris Nakielski
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING. We are putting the safety of both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated in our congregation and the community first. Masks are highly recommended. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

CHILDCARE IN THE CHURCH NURSERY is provided for infants through children 4 years old from 9:15-11:30. Come enjoy adult education classes, adult choir rehearsal, and even teaching Sunday School!

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: As we continue to reopen, there are new opportunities to greet people coming to worship, to usher, and to provide hospitality during coffee hour after worship. Please sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall or call the church office--319-337-4031.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGIST ON SUNDAY MORNING? This is a great opportunity to welcome people and to lead them in worship. Bill Lovin provides the material. You provide the spirit. Contact Bill if you are interested or would like more information.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE TO THE TEE OFFERING LAST MONTH. We received over \$600 to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South Africa. TEE is a private, nonprofit, distance learning institution serving five south African countries. The mission of the college is to equip men and women for Christian ministry. Students come from 28 denominations across southern Africa including the UCC of South Africa. For more information about this amazing program, please visit their website at www.tee.co.za. **You can still give—please put “TEE” on your check or envelope.**

THINKING ABOUT THE HOMECOMING PARADE YET? We are! Be a part of the Homecoming action on October 28 and join the UCC as this annual tradition returns. Bring friends. The parade starts at 5:45 but it's best to come about 5:00 -5:30 pm, as there's lots of traffic. You can decide on any or all of the following activities. Here's what's happening: Chairs and standing room are here, street side, for a vibrant view of parade as it turns the corner. As a fundraiser, the Men's Fellowship grills and sells hot dogs, brats and hamburgers. The Mission Board sells beverages. **There are lots of ways that you can be involved.**

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE FOOD TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER FOOD PANTRY. 181 pounds of food and supplies were delivered this past week. Donations are still being accepted.

TOM MONTGOMERY FATE JOINS US FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND WORSHIP ON OCTOBER 8: Tom Montgomery Fate will lead the 9:15 Adult Education session on Sunday, October 8, sharing his new book [*The Long Way Home: Detours and Discoveries*](#) (Ice Cube Press, 2022). *The Long Way Home*, is a travel memoir that ventures from his small-town upbringing to vastly different cultures around the globe. Tom comes to define “home” not as a physical location, but as a way of belonging. Tom, the son of former Congregational UCC members, the late Russ and Dee Fate, is a graduate of the Non-Fiction Writing Program at UI. During worship that morning, Tom will read “Detours of Intention” as the sermon. Join us—and bring a friend.

A DISCUSSION ON WHO OR WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT? will be held during our Adult Education time on October 16, 23 and 30. Lead by the Rev. Patte Henderson, we will review Biblical texts, theological “definitions,” and our own life experiences. Please join Patte by the fireplace in Rockwood Hall at 9:15 a.m. on these Sundays.

URGENT PLEA FROM THE JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK AND A WAY TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF CLAIRE ASHMAN. Our church received an urgent plea from Julia Winter, Director of Development at CommUnity for assistance with food donations, as well as monetary donations to purchase food in bulk. As you can imagine, the number of households served during these difficult times has steadily increased, as the government assistance shrinks and inflation is on the upswing. Also, HACAP's supply of bulk foods to order has decreased. Monetary gifts stretch much farther, however clients are very pleased by the random food donated which helps provide variety. Every donated food item must display a nutrition label to be offered. The Mission Board will have an ongoing donation box in Rockwood Hall, with a list of suggested items. Please consider canned protein sources, pastas,

cereals, rice in small bags, boxed meal items, and personal care items. The needs change weekly. Monetary donations can be contributed on the website [Donate \(builtbycommunity.org\)](#) which also includes a printable form and address to mail a check. Needs change frequently, and Jane Kinney or Paula Forest can provide suggestions if needed.

Claire Ashman was devoted many volunteer hours to the food bank, so this will be a soulful way to honor her legacy.

UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSED “RIGHT TO FIREARMS” AMENDMENT TO IOWA’S CONSTITUTION. As a followup to her presentation to the church on September 19, Liz O'Hara, of Moms Demand Action, encourages church members to read a short statement put out by Moms Demand Action and Everytown for Gun Safety on Public Measure 1. Public Measure 1 will appear on this November's ballot in Iowa. To obtain a copy, please see Chuck Connerly after church or email him at charles-connerly@uiowa.edu.

JCIC CANDIDATE FORUM, SAT. OCT. 15, 2:00-4:00, PURPOSE PLACE (FORMERLY THE KINGDOM CENTER) 611 Southgate Ave, Iowa City

Why Attend? 9 candidates will address current hot button issues, especially issues of concern to local low income and people of color. All 4 County Supervisor candidates, Elinor Levin/Jacob Onken for Ia House District 89, Janice Weiner for Ia Senate District 45, and Christina Bohannon for US House District 1 will attend and speak. Miller Meeks declined to attend.

Each candidate will offer prepared comments during the first hour, and from 3:00-4:00 attendees can have one-on-one discussions with the candidates. By attending you will learn about the candidates, but also support our communities of color in identifying candidates who will work to address their concerns.

Why Volunteer? Because Donna Hirst, Bea Hicks, Sally Strang, and Jane Kinney need assistance with this important event. Because it's a great way to work side by side with other members of JCIC congregations. It's a way to demonstrate solidarity with our South District and low-income communities. We're looking for folks to:

Set up 10:30-12:00 (Jane Kinney in charge)

Welcome 1:45-2:30 (then stay and listen to the candidates)

Children's activities (Bea Hicks is in charge)

Door prize table (sign people up, assist with announcing winners, listen to the candidates)

Parking assistance

Food: we're serving take home bags (after the candidates speak)

Sally Strang is enlisting volunteers to bake cookies.

Contact Donna Hirst, donna-hirst@uiowa.edu about volunteering, and contact Sally about cookies, sallystrang@mchsi.com.

THE CONSULTATION OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES WILL HOST ITS ANNUAL WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION (WWWD) on October 16-22. This event will be held in the new winter shelter at the far east end of the Guide Link Center, 340 Southgate Ave, Iowa City. We are looking for donations of new or gently used outerwear for children and adults. Please begin collecting clean items and keep them at their homes until further notice. Our highest

priority is: winter coats & jackets of all sizes, and other outerwear (snow pants, hats, gloves / mittens, winter scarves, warm socks & winter boots / shoes). We will also gladly accept sweaters, sweatshirts & sweatpants. Please begin collecting needed items. **Carefully presort donated items, removing anything not listed here.**

We'd appreciate donations of a box or two of large, strong lawn and leaf bags that can hold several coats for the shoppers. **We also need to borrow a dozen sturdy coat racks.**

And save the week of October 16 - 22 for volunteer opportunities as follows:

October 16 – set up & begin receiving donations (Sunday, noon - 4 p.m.)

October 17 & 18 – continue to receive donations, sort items & set up (Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.)

October 19–21 – distribution of clothing (Wednesday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 6:p.m.).

October 22 – distribution of clothing (Saturday, 9 a.m. – noon); Clean-up, noon to 4 p.m.

Like last year, we will be requiring both volunteers and shoppers to sign up via Sign-up Genius. **For more detailed instructions and to access the Sign-up Genius for Volunteers click on:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-warm1> For further questions, contact John Barr at BarrJohnO@sau.edu.



WANT TO GIVE ONLINE? SCAN THE QR CODE FOR OUR GIVING APP. Your giving makes a world of difference.

WE LIVE STREAM OUR WORSHIP SERVICES AT 10:15 ON SUNDAY MORNING.

You can join us online in real time at <https://vimeo.com/event/1424751>. This streaming address is the same each week.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted after worship on Sunday at <https://vimeo.com/channels/1547852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.