



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 3, 2021
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“Can we think about our focal symbol, the cross of Jesus, and try to rescue it from its frequent fate as the banner of our wounded righteousness? If Jesus is indeed what God communicates to us, God’s language for us, his cross is always both our and not ours; not a magnified sign of our own suffering, but the mark of God’s work in and through the deepest vulnerability; not a martyr’s triumphant achievement, but something that is there for all human sufferers because it belongs to no human cause.”

Rowan Williams

PRELUDE “Andante con moto” Christopher Tambling

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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”
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, oh 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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON I Kings 19: 9b-15a

PSALM 34:1-8

At all times I will bless the Lord,
whose praise shall ever be in my mouth.

**I will glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and rejoice.**

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt the name of the Lord together.

**I sought the Lord, who answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.**

Look upon the Lord and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.

**I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.**

The angel of the Lord encompasses the God-fearing,
and the Lord will deliver them.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in the Lord!**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 10:35-52

SERMON "Healing Questions"

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM "For the Beauty of the Earth" John Rutter

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Choral Response

HYMN "O Sing to the Lord"

**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 Sehnor, 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.**

*Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas
Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas,
Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas*

O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

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

POSTLUDE “Exultation” Richard Lloyd

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“O Sing to the Lord/ Cantai ao Senhor”—Brazilian (Portuguese) folk hymn based on Psalm 98; English translation Gerhard M. Cartford. Music: Brazilian folk hymn, arr. Joel Navarro ©2012 Faith Alive Christian Resources. Reprinted by Permission under ONE LICENSE #A-715458. All rights reserved.

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.

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 required for all people in all parts of the building. We will keep social distance in the pews. The choir will sing, but there will be no congregational singing. There will be no coffee hour, although you are encouraged to talk with one another outside after worship.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted on Sunday afternoon 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. We expect to be livestreaming the worship service in a few weeks.

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES—If you would like to contribute flowers for the worship services on upcoming Sundays please call the office to let Jenn know or sign up on the sheet in Rockwood Hall.



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.

THIS MORNING WE ARE RECEIVING A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR CHURCH WORLD SERVICE. Our Mission Board approved sending \$500 of Mission Board discretionary funds to Church World Service. This offering will supplement those funds and be used by Church World Service to assist with disaster relief (Hurricane Ida and the earthquake in Haiti) as well as refugee aid (Afghanistan). Please give generously.

A NEW BIBLE STUDY OF THE LETTER OF JAMES will start this Wednesday evening, October 6, at 7:00. Bill will be leading this five session series on Zoom, looking at one chapter each week. If you would like to be a part of this study and to receive the Zoom invitation, please talk with Bill, call him at the church (337-4301), or send him an email at uccicrev@uccic.org.

Thanks to everyone who gave to the TEE OFFERING. We received \$1058 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.**

The Johnson County Interfaith Coalition (JCIC) is hosting an October candidate forum at the Kingdom Center on Oct. 16 for City Council. We are planning to have translators and sack lunches for attendees to take when they leave. Various JCIC congregations have been hit hard by COVID, so we are requesting special donations from individuals within our JCIC churches to assist with the forum expenses. We are hoping you can assist us in making these October events a success by contributing \$50 or \$25. More would be wonderful, and any amount would be helpful. If you are able to assist, send a check to:

Johnson County Interfaith Coalition
Bea Hicks, Treasurer
PO Box 966
Iowa City, IA 52240

Put “2021 Candidate Forums” in the Memo Line.

The Consultation of Religious Communities is delighted to announce that they are able to once again host the warm winterwear distribution.

They are looking for donations of new or gently used outerwear for children and adults. You can begin collecting clean items and keep them at home until further notice. Their highest priority is: winter coats & jackets of all sizes, and other outerwear (snow pants, hats, gloves / mittens, winter scarves, warm socks & winter boots). They will also gladly accept sweaters, sweatshirts & sweatpants. PLEASE carefully presort donated items, to remove items not listed here. Also, consider donating a box or two of large, strong trash bags (e.g., 33 gallon, with ties) that will hold several coats for the shoppers.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR OUR WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION!

Location: 340 Southgate Avenue, far east end of The GuideLink Center

Volunteers are needed for three days of sorting and organizing:

-5 volunteers needed for 3 hours on Sunday, October 17 (2 - 5 p.m.)

-5 volunteers needed per 3 hour shift on Monday, October 18, and Tuesday, October 19,
at 9 - noon; noon - 3 p.m.; 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Volunteers are also needed for three-and-a-half days of clothing distribution; shopping begins
Wednesday, October 20, and ends on Saturday, October 23:

-5 volunteers are needed for all shifts on Wednesday through Saturday

at 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. W-F, 9 - Noon on Sat. (Clean up 12 - 3)

These volunteers will assist shoppers each day, serving as guides. They will also keep the space
organized & restock the tables.

*You are invited to sign up for multiple volunteer shifts during this event using this SignUp
Genius link:*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-winter2>

Shoppers must have an appointment, with one adult per family allowed to select items for the
family. Five shoppers will be admitted each 1/2 hour. They will also sign up via SignUp
Genius.

Following health guidelines, we plan to keep the number of people in our space distanced and
safe. Shoppers and staff are all required to wear masks.

**All donations should be brought to the GuideLink Center on Monday, October 18 between
9 and 6.** Limited street parking is available on Southgate.