



CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IA 52245
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WORSHIP FOR FEBRUARY 14, 2021

Tuesday, **February 16, 7:00** is the UCC Racial Justice and Education Discussion. To register and get a zoom link, send a note to kyle-flippo@uiowa.edu. More information about the series is at the bottom of the bulletin.

“God’s glory and magnificence and power and majesty are unsurpassable, we say; but we must also declare that God’s glory and magnificence and power and majesty are surpassed by God’s willingness to shed them all in order that we might finally recognize God’s love and gentleness. The measureless power that made the heavens and the earth concentrates in a hand reaching out to us.”

Patrick Willson

PRELUDE “Poco allegretto” Cesar Franck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

God gives us the morning sun and the evening star.

Let us give God our thanks.

In God we move and breathe and have our being.

Let us give God our praise.

God brings us the quiet beauty of winter.

Let us celebrate.

Let us thank, praise, and celebrate God Most High.

Alleluia! Amen!

HYMN “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”

(The music and lyrics can be viewed [here.](#))

**O splendor of God’s glory bright,
From light eternal bringing light;
Thou light of life, light’s living spring,
True day, all days illumining.**

**Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love,
Shower down Thy radiance from above,
And to our inward hearts convey
The Holy Spirit’s cloudless ray.**

**O joyful be the passing day
With thoughts as clear as morning’s ray,
With faith like noontide shining bright,
Our souls unshadowed by the night.**

**O Lord, with each returning morn
Thine image to our hearts is born;
O may we ever clearly see
Our Savior and our God in Thee!**

OPENING PRAYER

From our hearts, O God, we thank you for the day newly begun: for sleep behind us, light upon us, love around us; for the needs and hopes that we have in common with all people and for all that we hold in common with followers of Christ throughout the earth. God of darkness and dawn, shine into our lives at this hour. Awaken us with wonder; renew our hope and lift us above our despair. May we worship you now in spirit and in truth and serve you this day with gladness. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON II Corinthians 4:1-12

PSALM 50:1-6

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken
and has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

**Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,
God shines forth in glory.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;
before God there is a consuming flame,
and round about a raging storm.

**God calls the heavens and the earth from above
to witness the judgment of the chosen people.**

"Gather before me my loyal followers,
those who have made a covenant with me
and sealed it with sacrifice."

**Let the heavens declare the rightness of God's cause;
for it is God who is judge.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 9:2-10

SERMON "Rising from the Dead"

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM "O God Beyond All Praising" (arr. Forrest)
Avery Nabholz, Wen Chin Liu, Colin Wilson, Josh Ramseyer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"
(The music and lyrics can be viewed [here.](#))

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.**

**Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.**

**Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.**

**Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Quasi allegro” Cesar Franck

Graphic at Top: JESUS MAFA. Transfiguration, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48307> [retrieved February 12, 2021]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>) Reprinted under the Creative Commons Attribution Noncommercial ShareAlike 3.0 License. JESUS MAFA is a response to the New Testament readings from the Lectionary by a Christian community in Cameroon, Africa. Each of the readings was selected and adapted to dramatic interpretation by the community members. Photographs of their interpretations were made, and these were then transcribed to paintings.

Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs:	The Rev. Ann Molsberry
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Kristin Ramseyer

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted by early Sunday morning each week 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.

LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17. We will have a “live” Service for the Beginning of Lent on Zoom starting at 7:00 p.m. Please plan now to be a part of this as we begin preparing for the celebration of Easter. The Zoom invitation will be sent out on Monday.

RACIAL JUSTICE–SOCIAL ACTION DISCUSSIONS: AN INVITATION

The Mission Board invites you to participate in any or all of five discussion groups to be held via Zoom during February, March, and April of this year.

We will come together with the hope of understanding and combating racism—within ourselves and in the world around us. Through the questions we ask and the answers we propose, we will seek specific projects and goals that can lift the burden of racism that our sisters and brothers of color—indeed, all of us—carry in our daily life.

Each session will highlight a different area for social action. Each will open with brief introductory remarks, and guided discussion will follow; we encourage *all* participants to voice their own thoughts! (If attendance warrants, Zoom will help us arrange smaller discussion groups.) The sessions are scheduled as shown below.

Registration instructions: please read carefully!

Registration will be handled through **Kyle Flippo, kyle-flippo@uiowa.edu**. Please email Kyle indicating the discussion(s) you'd like to join. Approximately a week before each session, registrants will receive a welcome letter with a Zoom link. Be sure to save space on your calendar for each session!

Education	Feb. 16, Tuesday, 7:00–8:30
Affordable Housing	Feb. 25, Thursday, 7:00–8:30
Health Care	Mar. 9, Tuesday, 7:00–8:30
Immigration	Mar. 25, Thursday, 7:00–8:30
Environmental Justice	Apr. 27, Tuesday, 7:00–8:30

After you register, you'll also be offered a *few* pages of suggested reading for each session. After each discussion, you'll receive a list of proposed actions and activities.

We welcome you, and encourage you to pass our invitation on to others who may wish to join us. **If you have questions, please email Kyle Flippo, kyle-flippo@uiowa.edu.**

We need *you* for this project; please join us if you can. Few of us live without the benefits or harms of racial injustice. This is a chance for you to connect to the community and learn how you might help “to form a more perfect Union.”

UI Lecture Committee announces the Cassandra S. Foens M.D. 2021 Lecture to be held on Tuesday Feb 16 at 7:00 pm. The title will be: "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks": A Discussion on Race and Medical Ethics

Henrietta Lacks was a young Black woman who was treated at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in the early 1950's for an aggressive case of cancer. At the time of surgery, a Hopkins physician/scientist used cells from her tumor to create an immortalized cell line (designated as HeLa cells) which has been widely used in research over the years. This use of her tissue was

done without her consent. The case received wide attention in recent years due to the publication of the book "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks", written by Rebecca Skloot.

The lecture committee has invited two members of the Lacks family to come and serve as a panel. Congregational UCC member, Dr. Andy Bertolatus, will serve as moderator. This will be a virtual lecture - it will be livestreamed at <https://lectures.uiowa.edu/live/>. It will also be recorded and made available after the livestream.

DO YOU HAVE A HYMN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SING IN THE COMING MONTHS? Let Bill Lovin know. This is no guarantee that we will sing it, as the hymn will need to be covered by our reprint license, fit with the rest of the worship service and work for the person who will be leading the singing—but we'd like to hear from you and sing a new song.

WE WANT TO SEE YOU! We would like to have members and friends be a part of the greeting time during our online worship. Please send us a brief—10-30 second—video of you or your family waving, saying “Hi,” singing, or whatever you would like. Or send a photo. We'll start including a few of these in the worship service each week as a way to strengthen our connections with each other. Send your greeting videos to https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UcrZ4ya9xFir39cG_1x-SCO6dVPBbV0B?usp=sharing