



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

WORSHIP FOR MARCH 20, 2022
THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

PRELUDE Prelude in A Minor, Op. 48 No. 14 - Josef Renner

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (Lamentations 3:22-23)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning
great is God's faithfulness.

HYMN (insert) "Now Quit Your Care"
Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry;
For schemes are vain and fretting brings no gain;
Lent calls to prayer, to trust and dedication;
God brings new beauty nigh.
Reply, reply, reply with love to Love most high.

To bow the head in sackcloth and in ashes,
Or rend the soul--- such grief is not Lent's goal;
But to be led to where God's glory flashes,
His beauty to come near.
Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light appear.

For is not this The fast that I have chosen?
— The prophet spoke — To shatter every yoke
Of wickedness The grievous bands to loosen
Oppression put to flight,
To fight, to fight, To fight 'til every wrong's set right.

For righteousness And peace will show their faces T
o those who feed The hungry in their need,
And wrongs redress, Who build the old waste places,
And in the darkness shine.
Divine, divine, Divine it is when all combine!

Then shall your light Break forth as doth the morning;
Your health shall spring, The friends you make shall bring
God's glory bright, Your way through life adorning;
And love shall be the prize.
Arise, arise, Arise! and make a paradise!

OPENING PRAYER

As a new day and a new week begin, O God, help us to see the new things you are doing in our lives and in the world.

When we are worn out by what is immediately in front of us, lift our eyes toward the horizon, that we might see opportunity and possibility.

When we are held back by what we have done or failed to do, remind us of your forgiveness and put a new spirit within us.

When we are unsure of where we are going, give us strength to follow in the ways of Jesus Christ, known and to be made known to us.

Accept our prayers and our worship as you have accepted each of us and all of us. Amen.

ANTHEM "O Taste and See" Ralph Vaughn Williams

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

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory Interlude - Starling Goodwin

*Response

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, you heavenly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Lamentations 3:22-33

PSALM 30

I will exalt you, O Lord,
because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

**O Lord my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

**Sing to the Lord, you faithful servants;
give thanks for the remembrance of God's holiness.**

For God's wrath lasts but the twinkling of an eye,
God's favor endures for a lifetime.

**Weeping may spend the night,
but joy comes in the morning.**

While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed.

You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."

Then you hid your face,

and I was filled with fear.

I cried to you, O Lord;

I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

**"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"**

Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;

O Lord, be my helper."

**You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.**

[Unison]

**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 4:4-7

SERMON "The Call to Prayer"

*HYMN 286 "Give to the Wind Thy Fears"

**Give to the winds thy fears;
Hope and be undismayed:
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears,
God shall lift up thy head.**

**Through waves and clouds and storms
God gently clears thy way;
Wait patiently; so shall this night
Soon end in joyous day.**

**Leave to God's sovereign sway
To choose and to command;
So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
How wise, how strong God's hand!**

**On God the Lord rely,
And safe shalt thou go on;
Fix on God's work thy steadfast eye,
So shall thy work be done.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Toccata (E Minor) - Johann Pachelbel

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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 required for all people in all parts of the building. We will keep social distance in the pews. While there is no coffee hour, worshippers may talk with each other in Rockwood Hall as they leave.

IMPORTANT DATES IN LENT AND EASTER

(As with all things as the pandemic continues, these dates, times, and places are subject to change.)

- April 3—Fifth Sunday in Lent: Communion Sunday
- April 10—Palm Sunday: Worship with Distribution of Palms, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
- April 14 Maundy Thursday: Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.; Communion and Service of Tenebrae
- April 15, Good Friday: Worship in the Sanctuary at Noon
- April 17, Easter Sunday: Easter Breakfast; Festival Easter Service in the Sanctuary at 10:15 a.m.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE TO THE SPECIAL OFFERING TO SUPPORT THE UKRAINIAN CRISIS RESPONSE FUND OF CHURCH WORLD SERVICE last Sunday. Our Mission Board called for this offering to help provide humanitarian assistance to people displaced as a result of the violence and bolster partners in Europe to serve the most vulnerable. More information can be found at www.cwsglobal.org/appeals/ukraine-crisis-response-fund/. You can still give—please put “Church World Service” on the memo line of your check.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL IS FORMING A SAFETY COMMITTEE to review building security and related issues. If you would like to be a part of this important work, please talk with Tom Mittman or call the church office at 319-337-4301.

LENT BIBLE STUDY LOOKS AT LUKE: A new Bible study is looking at the ministry of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke. Together we watch what Jesus does, listen to what he says, and go where he goes. All of this will lead to an exploration of the last week of his life near the end of the Gospel. We meet together by Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings through April 6.

Since the summer of 2020 we have studied several books of the Bible through free-flowing and honest discussions. Please consider being a part of this study as we move together through Lent. If you are interested or have questions, please call Bill Lovin at the church (319-337-4301) or email him at uccicrev@uccic.org.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: On Palm Sunday, April 10, we will dedicate our One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) offering. This offering has long been an important part of the life of our congregation. For many years now, we have been on the list of Top 100 giving churches.

This year's theme, "Love Remains," comes from Paul's well-known words: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." (1 Cor. 13:13) In a world where communities are being displaced by the catastrophes of war, famine, and natural disaster, our congregation joins with many others in standing in faith, hope, and love with those who seek to move beyond the trauma of displacement toward the promise of healing and peace. Your generous gift will support the relief work of not only the UCC but also many other denominations united in caring for refugees, in providing medical care, and in disaster recovery efforts. You can watch videos about the work that OGHS makes possible [by clicking here:](#)

Let us join in this great tradition and give generously, not because we have to, but because we can.

THE SHELTER HOUSE BOOK SALE will be held March 26-27. Book donations and volunteer sorting have begun at the Old Antique Car Museum – 860 Quarry Road, Coralville. Our church has historically been a strong supporter of this sale. At the last sale we earned \$21,000 for Shelter House, working side by side with many other community volunteers. Please begin to get your book donations ready! If you need someone to pick up your donations, someone from the volunteer team can come to your home. Donations can be dropped off at Rockwood Hall and a volunteer can take them to the sale site. John Fieselmann and Donna Hirst are members of the Planning Committee and can answer any questions you have.

THE FOREST VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD has been around for the past 40 years and is a diverse community with people from all walks of life. For the past six years, Forest View Tenants have spent countless hours having meetings with one another, developers, and community members to create an innovative plan to protect their neighborhood. While also learning about the zoning process, organizing their ideas and working with City staff to work on their relocation plan.

Forest view residents are reaching a critical stage in their struggle to defend the families of our community. Join the residents for a procession and discussion, to get an update, understand their goals, and find out how you can show support.

Sunday, March 20, at 2pm the Forest View tenants invite you to their neighborhood to see what the conditions are like, hear their story and sit down for a meal all together.

If you plan on being there, please park close to the entrance. There will be signs on where to park on the day of the event. We hope to see you there! **Where: 1205 Laura Drive, Iowa City**



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.
Your giving makes a world of difference.

WE ARE NOW LIVE STREAMING 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.

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.