



Charles Clegg—"Birds of the Aspe"

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

WORSHIP FOR JUNE 5, 2022
PENTECOST SUNDAY

"The gift of the Holy Spirit on that occasion is generally called the gift of tongues, but it might easily as well be called the gift of ears...As writers, readers, human beings, we cannot speak or understand each other unless we are first prepared to listen. Of all the gifts that the Holy Spirit is able to bestow, the one for which we should first and most earnestly pray is humility of ear."

W. H. Auden

PRELUDE "Come Down, O Love Divine" Wilbur Held

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kathi Koegle, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

* CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted, Trinity UCC, Chicago)

Beautiful are the works of God!

Beautiful also are the skins of God's people!

Beautiful is the mind of God!

Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!

Beautiful is the heart of God!

Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!

God made the heavens and the earth!

To God be the glory for the things God has done.

*HYMN (insert) "Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race"

Diverse in culture, nation, race,

We come together by your grace.

God, let us be a meeting ground

Where hope and healing love are found.

God, let us be a bridge of care

Connecting people everywhere.

Help us confront all fear and hate

And lust for power that separate.

When chasms widen, storms arise,

O Holy Spirit, make us wise.

Let our resolve, like steel, be strong

To stand with those who suffer wrong.

God, let us be a table spread

With gifts of love and broken bread,

Where all find welcome, grace attends,

And enemies arise as friends.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Spirit of joy, through you Christ lives in us, and we in Christ. Forgive us when we forget you and when we fail to live in your joy.

Spirit of love, you bind us in love to yourself and to those around us. Forgive us when we hurt those we love and when we turn away from the love of our friends.

Spirit of the Body of Christ, you make us one in the church with your life-giving grace and hope. Forgive our fragmenting of your church and our failure to carry your love into the world.

Spirit in the world, you comfort us and draw us into closer relationships with one another. Forgive our wars and our hatreds, and forgive our failure to recognize you, who live in us all.

Spirit of God, forgive us, and lead us to life in you. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ANTHEM “Come Down, O Love Divine” David Ashley White

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory “Be Thou My Vision” Philip Gehring

*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 Genesis 11:1-9

PSALM 87

On the holy mount stands the city God founded;
the Lord loves the gates of Zion
more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

**Glorious things are spoken of you,
O city of God.**

Among those who know me I mention Rahab and Babel;
Philistia, too, and Tyre, with Ethiopia.

“This one was born there,” they say.

And of Zion it shall be said:

“This one and that one were born there,”
for the Most high will establish it.

**The Lord records in the register of the peoples,
“This one was born there.”**

[Unison]

**Singers and dancers alike say,
“All my springs are in you.”**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 2:1-21

SERMON “Babel to Pentecost”

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THANKSGIVING FOR BREAD AND CUP

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, through this bread and cup you have made us one with you and with each other. May the unity we find at this table be a gift that we carry out into your suffering and divided world. Help us find strength in knowing that you, the God of peace, will always be with us. Amen.

* HYMN 418 “God Bless Your Church with Strength”

**God bless your church with strength!
Wherever we may be,
up build your servants as we work
in common ministry.
Urge us from fledgling faith
to venture and to soar
through open skies to sing the praise
of Christ whom we adore.**

**God bless your church with life!
May all our branches thrive,
un blemished, wholesome, bearing fruit,
abundantly alive.
From you, one holy vine,
in freedom may we grow;
sustain us in our mission, Lord,
your love and peace to show.**

**God bless your church with hope!
Despite chaotic days,
may we in darkness shine to light
a pathway through life's maze.
May justice be our aim,
and kindness ours to share;
in humbleness oh may we walk,
assured our God is there!**

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

Timothy Flynn

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

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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. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship. Masks are optional in Rockwood Hall during Coffee Hour.

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.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC—SUNDAY, JUNE 26: Summer is here and it’s time for the Church Picnic. Bring your family, bring your friends and join us at SHELTER 2 IN UPPER CITY PARK from 4-7 p.m. Our Membership Board will provide drinks and dessert. Please bring a dish to share and your own plates and tableware. (If you prefer because of Covid precautions, feel free to bring your own food.) You’re welcome to bring games and play equipment, musical instruments, lawn chairs, and anything else that will make for a happy gathering.

TODAY IS PENTECOST—This day completes the long arc from Ash Wednesday through Easter resurrection to the coming of the Holy Spirit to the followers of Christ—a journey “from ashes to fire.” The traditional color for Pentecost is red.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE RECOGNITION: This morning we recognize the high school graduates in our congregation. Last weekend Mitike Schumm graduated from City High and Cormac Warren graduated from West High. The Diaconate has books available in Rockwood Hall in which you can share your thoughts and good wishes with Mitike and Cormac.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED THIS MORNING:

The “Strengthen the Church” offering grows the United Church of Christ’s future by supporting new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership development—especially among women and people of color. It also funds the “Stillspeaking” Ministry, spreading the message of God’s extravagant welcome, reaching out especially to those who have felt there is no room for them within Christianity and the church. Your generous gift will help the UCC create vibrant church communities of extravagant welcome.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH IS SPONSORING A TABLE at the Table to Table 25th Anniversary Dinner on June 8. The event takes place on **Wednesday, June 8** at the **Celebration Farm** in the Double Round Barn. Weather permitting the event will utilize both indoor and outdoor space. Funds raised from this event will help us rescue more than 130,000 pounds of good food and deliver it throughout the Johnson County hunger relief network. Learn more here: [Table to Table’s 25th Anniversary Dinner presented by Hills Bank](#)
Want to join with others at our table? Please contact the church office at 337-4301.

LONGTIME MEMBER ETHEL BLOESCH WILL TURN 90 YEARS OLD ON JUNE 16. Her family invites you to join in celebrating the occasion at an open house at Oaknoll Retirement Residence, 1 Oaknoll Court, on Thursday, June 16, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Oak Dining Room. For directions, please contact Peter Bloesch at peterbloesch55@gmail.com. Parking will be allowed on George Street between Benton and Oakcrest. – Cards may be sent to Peter Bloesch at 55 Hummingbird Lane, Iowa City 52245.

OPEN HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CENTER DIAPER AND WIPES DRIVE FOR JUNE: The Mission Board is sponsoring a diaper and wipes drive for Open Heartland, a community center for Spanish speaking families here in Iowa City. You are invited to create a clever name for our drive and collection box, but most of all, please drop off diapers in sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5 and training pullups, as well as wipes in the box in Rockwood Hall. They are particularly in need of the larger sizes. Let's delight them with our generosity! Let's all "get behind" the effort.

HELP PREPARE THE JUNE 27 MEAL FOR HOPE LODGE: The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge houses cancer patients (and their caregivers) who are receiving treatment at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Hope Lodge is now back to housing residents but they are not yet allowing volunteers in the building. However, they are welcoming groups to provide an evening meal, enough for 30 people, leaving food off at the door. Our church will be responsible for a meal on June 27. There is a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall. Food will be delivered to Hope Lodge by 4:30 that day and should be in containers (aluminum pans) that do not need to be returned. The address of Hope Lodge is 750 Hawkins Drive (near the Ronald McDonald House). If you have questions about this project, contact Sue Dayton, cdayton7@mchsi.com or 351-5886.

SIGN UP FOR CHANGE AGENT: AN ONLINE UCC MISSION BOARD SOCIAL CHANGE BULLETIN BOARD: The Mission Board is responding to requests from the congregation and creating an Online Social Change Bulletin Board. This monthly email publication will be a system that will include notices of rallies, petitions, upcoming legislative or

policy actions warranting letters or phone calls, protests, important meetings of the school board or city council, each of which has the potential to increase social justice. Highest priority alerts will be local actions, then state actions and national actions. Notices will not support political candidates or parties. We would be delighted if everyone in the congregation is interested in subscribing. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings send your contact information to Jenn Harden, uccicadmin@uccic.org.

VISITING THE DIVERSITY MARKET, Saturdays, 1:00-7:00, June-July 30, is an excellent way to support our South District neighbors. International food, crafts, art, jewelry. Pepperwood Plaza 1067, Hwy 6

TABLE TO TABLE IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS to help with maintaining their mission of connecting abundance with need in Johnson County. They are incredibly flexible: whatever your schedule is, they can probably work with it! They have volunteers that come in twice a week and volunteers that come in twice a month and both are valuable to the organization. Duties can include: harvesting produce at farms and orchards, driving or riding in T2T vans on routes to pick up and deliver food, helping prep vans for their routes in our shop (move empty boxes around while listening to some tunes!), offering free fresh produce in at-need neighborhoods, and more. If your interest is piqued, check out their website (table2table.org), contact them at volunteer@table2table.org or at 319-337-3400.



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.