

So don't be afraid;
— — — — —
you are worth more
than many sparrows.

MATTHEW 10:31



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

WORSHIP FOR JULY 16, 2023
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“We need not fear humans or what they can do to us, but rather, we need fear only God. This we do by acknowledging God’s righteousness, trusting in God’s providence, and anticipating God’s present help and future judgment.”

Susan Garrett

PRELUDE “How Firm a Foundation” Kevin J. Sadowski

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kevin Richards, Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The Spirit of the living God breathes upon us,
and on all that is finite and fragile.

God is our refuge and our strength,

a help in times of trouble.

God's continual presence makes new possibilities break through.
Be strong and let your heart take courage.

**In the company of God
and joined with the company of God's people,
let us worship together.**

*HYMN 474 "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

**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 (a prayer of Henri Capieu)

God, we sing to you and give you thanks. For despite our pains and faults, in the midst of our pains and faults, we know that you are a God who calls forth our praise and love.

For the world, so beautiful and so fragile; for life, so lovely and so threatened; for this immense universe in which your realm will spread, we praise you.

For this day which speaks to us again of the resurrection, for your Spirit which unites us in all our separate places, we praise you.

And because we can love you and love each other on the earth, in the name of the love of Christ, in peace and with joy, God we praise you. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#554, vs. 1)

**Let all things now living
A song of thanksgiving
To God our Creator triumphantly raise;
Who fashioned and made us,
Protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.**

**God's banners are o'er us,
Pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
Till shadows have vanished
And darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into Light.**

DUET "Shepherd Me, O God" Marty Haugen, Mark Hayes
 Marie Von Behren, Rebecca Weatherford

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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory "Andante" John Stainer

*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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(Children are dismissed to Children's Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Deuteronomy 10:12-15

PSALM 111

Hallelujah!

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**Great are the deeds of the Lord!
they are studied by all who delight in them.**

Full of majesty and splendor is the work of the Lord,
whose righteousness endures forever.

**Gracious and full of compassion is the Lord,
whose marvelous works are to be remembered.**

The Lord gives food to the God-fearing,
ever mindful of the covenant.

**The Lord has shown the chosen people works of power
in giving them the lands of the nations.**

The hands of the Lord work faithfulness and justice;
all the commandments of the Lord are sure.

**They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.**

The Lord sent redemption to the chosen people,
commanding the covenant forever;
holy and awesome is the name of the Lord.

**The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
those who act accordingly have a good understanding;
the praise of the Lord endures forever.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 10:24-31

SERMON “Fear/No Fear—and a Brief History of Hell”

*HYMN 361 “How Firm a Foundation”

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!
What more can be said than to you God hath said,
To you, who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “How Firm a Foundation” Wilbur Held

Opening prayer by Henri Capiou, from *A Book of Reformed Prayers*, ©1998 Westminster John Knox Press. Capiou was a French Reformed Pastor, ordained in 1933, who served at Clairac and at Les Salies de Béarn (1946-47). He pastored the church in Algiers (1947-61) where he befriended Albert Camus, and worked against torture during the Algerian war. He then became pastor in central Paris at the Luxemburg Temple (1961-78). He was a hymnwriter and a talented poet, with a sensitivity to suffering and a calm repose.

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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
Children’s Choir Director	Majesty Constable
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

TODAY

❖	Worship Service	10:15 am
	Children’s Church	During Worship
	Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship

MONDAY

❖ Serving at Hope Lodge

TUESDAY

❖ Stewardship Board Meeting (Zoom) 7:00 pm

THURSDAY

❖ Women’s Lunch Noon.

NEXT SUNDAY

❖	Worship Service	10:15 am
	Children’s Church	During Worship
	Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship

WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING.

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

HOPE LODGE: Our next Hope Lodge dinner will be tomorrow, Monday, July 17. If you want to participate, see the sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall. If you have questions see Sue Dayton or email cdayton7@mchsi.com

THE JULY 20TH WOMEN'S LUNCH will meet at Basta, in downtown IC on Iowa Ave. Please call or Text Martha Ann Crawford at 319-855-8340 to reserve a seat at the table.

THE FAMILY OF RUTH KUNTZ INVITES FRIENDS FROM THE CUCC TO JOIN THEM IN CELEBRATING RUTH'S 90TH birthday on Saturday, July 22 in the Heiden Community Room (5th floor) in Oaknoll's Spring building at 735 George Street. The main Oaknoll parking lot is off of West Benton Street in front of the main Oaknoll building. Permission has been granted for cars to park on the east side of George Street for this event.

The birthday party will be from 2 to 4 p.m. (with comments at 3:00). Ruth asks that no cards or gifts be given. As an alternative please consider bringing one item for the CommUnity Food Bank. The most needed items include: canned fruit in juice, peanut butter, canned meat, baby diapers, baby formula, rice and pasta, hearty soups and stews, toilet paper, and detergent.

BE A PART OF WELCOMING STUDENTS IN AUGUST: When the UI Fall Semester begins in late August, Congregational UCC will once again welcome the new and returning students. The exact dates and details are still in the works, but this will be a new and reimagined event designed to let students know who we are, what we value, and how they might find a spiritual home here while studying at the University. More information will be available in late July and early August. In the meantime, if you have suggestions or would like to help with the planning, please talk with Martha Ann Crawford, Allan Hogue, or Bill Lovin.

THE JOHNSON COUNTY INTERFAITH COALITION (JCIC) IS HAVING A FAITH IN ACTION FRIEND AND FUNDRAISER on September 7, 5:30-8:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Society. Bea Hicks and Donna Hirst are co-chairs of the event. Our church is purchasing a table for 10. If you'd like to attend, please call the church office at 337-4301 or send a note to Jenn Harden at uccicadmin@uccic.org and copy Donna at donna-hirst@uiowa.edu

DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH KEY? We have recently made new keys and are working at getting a better list of people who have keys. If you have a key to the church, please contact Trustee Chairperson, Kevin Richards, at (608) 807-7195 or at kdrichards1958@gmail.com. Thanks.

SEE SOMETHING—SAY SOMETHING: If you notice something in the building that needs attention—a leaky faucet, a loose railing, etc.—please let the church office or Trustee Chairperson, Kevin Richards, know right away. You can reach Kevin at (608) 807-7195 or at kdrichards1958@gmail.com. Thanks.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: There are still some 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.



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/154m7852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.
information.