



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

WORSHIP FOR AUGUST 20, 2023  
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“When I close my eyes and think about the university, I see people, not buildings—people crossing the campus, people in classrooms and laboratories, people at the Iowa Memorial Union, Kinnick Stadium, Carver-Hawkeye Arena, and Hancher Auditorium. I see people as individuals, not abstractions.”

Sandy Boyd

PRELUDE “Song” by Philippe Rogier or His Students (D. Kirk No. 61)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kathi Koegle, Liturgist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

In the middle of this summer of great beauty  
God calls us to appreciate this day and to embrace the days ahead.

**Let us sing a new song to the Lord.**

In the middle of this season of extreme weather  
God calls us to attend to this world and to take up the tasks of repairing it.

**Let us praise God with a new song.**

In whatever circumstances we find ourselves  
God comes to us and remains alongside us.

**Let us sing a new song to the Lord.**

\* HYMN 458 "Earth and All Stars"

**Earth and all stars, Loud rushing planets  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Hail, wind, and rain, Loud blowing snowstorm  
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

**God has done marvelous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!**

**Steel and machines, Loud pounding hammers  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Limestone and beams, Loud building workers  
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

**God has done marvelous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!**

**Classrooms and labs, Loud boiling test tubes  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Athlete and band, Loud cheering people  
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

**God has done marvelous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!**

**Knowledge and truth, Loud sounding wisdom  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Daughter and son, Loud praying members  
Sing to the Lord a new song!**

**God has done marvelous things.  
We will sing praises with a new song!**

\*OPENING PRAYER

**God of hope, we gather in this time of new beginnings. We thank you for new challenges and new possibilities. We ask for strength for old problems and old worries we carry with**

us still. In our excitement, fear, and joy may we be equipped for those tasks we are called to do in these days.

Renew our vision of the goodness in which our day-to-day lives are lived.

Open our eyes to see your presence in the simple glories of everyday things.

Remind us that we go through these days kept in your gracious care; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (475, vs. 2 & 3)

**O all you powers that God implanted, Arise, keep silence now no more;  
Put forth the strength that God has granted! Your noblest work is to adore!  
O soul and body, join to raise With heartfelt joy our Maker's praise!**

**You forest leaves so green and tender That dance for joy in summer air,  
You meadow grasses bright and slender, You flowers so fragrant and so fair,  
You live to show God's praise alone. Join me to make God's glory known!**

ANTHEM Two Short Renaissance Songs (composers unknown) (D. Kirk Nos. 80 & 81)  
The Prairie Piffari

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 "Fabordones by Francisco Guerrero, set in alternatim for Psalm 147"  
(D. Kirk pages 190-93)

\*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 Lamentations 3:21-24

PSALMS 133 & 134

Oh, how good and pleasant it is,

when the community lives together in unity!

**It is like fine oil upon the head  
that runs down upon the beard,**

upon the beard of Aaron,

and runs down upon the collar of his robe.

**It is like the dew of Hermon  
that falls upon the hills of Zion.**

For there the Lord has ordained the blessing:  
life forevermore.

**Behold now, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,  
you that stand by night in the house of the Lord.**

Lift up your hands in the holy place and bless the Lord;

**the Lord who made heaven and earth bless you out of Zion.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Acts 4:32-35

SERMON      “Starting Strong in Challenging Times”

\*HYMN 419      “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

**How clear is our vocation, Lord,  
When once we heed Your call:  
To live according to Your word,  
And daily learn, refreshed, restored,  
That You are Lord of all  
And will not let us fall.**

**But if, forgetful, we should find  
Your yoke is hard to bear,  
If worldly pressures fray the mind  
And love itself cannot unwind  
Its tangled skein of care:  
Our inward life repair.**

**We mark Your saints, how they became  
In hindrances more sure,  
Whose joyful virtues put to shame  
The casual way we wear Your name,  
And by our faults obscure  
Your power to cleanse and cure.**

**In what You give us, Lord, to do,  
Together or alone,  
In old routines or ventures new,  
May we not cease to look to You--  
The cross You hung upon--  
All You endeavored done.**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Beata Dei Genetrix” by Alonso Lobo (D. Kirk No. 84)

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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 a.m.
	Children’s Church	During Worship
	Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship
	Student Welcome Outside	After Worship

MONDAY

❖	Student Welcome	11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
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TUESDAY

❖	Church Council	7:00 p.m.
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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.

**OUR MUSICIANS THIS MORNING INCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE PRAIRIE**

**PIFFARI**, a Renaissance Wind Band: John Reitz and Dennis Pedde, cornetti; Russ Lenth, tenor cornetto; Ben Copeland and Mark Rheaume, alto sackbuts; Charles Koster, bass curtal (dulcian).

The music is all six-part wind music from the sixteenth century for services in the Church of San Pedro in the village of Lerma, Spain. (Source: "Music for the Duke of Lerma," transcribed and edited by Douglas Kirk, 4<sup>th</sup> edition, 2012). They offer this music in this service as a partial thanks for allowing them to practice regularly in the Sanctuary. They would also like to thank Professor Edward Kottick for coaching them on stylistics.

**THE DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER** is Tuesday, August 22.

**THE NEW FURNACES AND AIR CONDITIONERS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED.**

**HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP.** We received a major gift from a family in the congregation to help pay for the new units. Many other members would like to be a part of funding this project. Your gifts to the HVAC Fund will mean that we will need to use less of our reserves for this project. Thanks for your generous giving.

**A NEW MEMBER CLASS** will be held in the coming weeks. If you are interested in joining Congregational UCC or would like more information about us, we invite you to attend these sessions. For more information, please talk with Bill Lovin or call the church office, 337-4301.

**TIME TO JOIN THE CHOIR**—Do you enjoy singing? Our volunteer choir begins its season on Sunday, September 10, with a rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. and we will sing during the 10:15 worship service. This year's "Choir Round-up" will take place after worship that morning. From there we meet each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. sharp for a one-hour rehearsal before the worship service. Whether you're a long-time member or the new kid on the block, **WE WANT YOU!** The Congregational UCC choir is a wonderful group of people who work hard at making great music; you'll be sure to enjoy this experience. Questions? Please get in touch with our choir director Dr. Chris Nakielski at [cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu](mailto:cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu).

**TEE OFFERING Will Be Received on September 24:** Our annual offering to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South Africa (TEE Offering) will be received during worship on Sunday, September 24. This offering has been a tradition in our congregation for several decades. It was initially started when the brother of our then minister, the Rev. Ed Heininger, worked for TEE 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](http://www.tee.co.za). Please plan to give generously—our support makes a difference.

**WE HAVE SEVERAL PARENTS TRYING TO DO IT ALL!** We also have several retired folks looking for a meaningful connection! How can you help?

**Sunday Morning Rush:** We need a few good chefs that would love to fix a very simple, lite breakfast for ONE (1) Sunday morning. You could have the use of the kitchen for a brief time to serve (not prepare) a warm breakfast from 9:00 to 9:15. Morning Glory Muffins? Breakfast Pizza? Egg casserole? Sausage rolls? Recipes provided. Fix it at home, bring it in hot!

**Drivers:** Are you available occasionally to give a child a ride to school, a lesson, or Sunday School?

Tutors: Do you have an afternoon to supervise reading, math, or homework?

Mother's Helper: Do you have an hour or two to watch a child (with the parent present) while the parent catches up on tasks like paperwork or weeding/gardening.

See: Rev. Ann Molsberry

**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. Our church has purchased a table for 10 and we've already filled it! The Mission Board is discussing getting a 2<sup>nd</sup> table. Last year 20 Unitarians attended the event. **There are currently 19 CUCC members planning to attend and more seats are available.** If you are interested in supporting JCIC by attending the Sept. 7 event, send a note to donna-hirst@uiowa.edu and/or Jenn at [uccicadmin@uccic.org](mailto:uccicadmin@uccic.org). If you can't attend, but would like to make a donation: Pay by check to: Johnson County Interfaith Coalition, Bea Hicks, Treasurer, PO Box 966, Iowa City, IA 52240. Put "2023 Faith in Action" in the Memo Line. Or for credit card or PayPal: <https://organizeiowa.com/donate/>.

**OUR NEXT HOPE LODGE DINNER WILL BE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.** Please see the sign-up sheet posted in Rockwood Hall. Contact Sue Dayton [cdayton7@mchsi.com](mailto:cdayton7@mchsi.com) with questions.

**THE SAFETY COMMITTEE HAS PLACED A NEW FIRST AID BOX IN THE KITCHEN.** It is on the counter on the far east wall.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.



