



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

WORSHIP FOR JANUARY 16, 2022
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY

“Let us all hope that the dark clouds of racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear-drenched communities and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty.”

Martin Luther King, Jr. “Letter from Birmingham City Jail”

PRELUDE “Amazing Grace” Arranged by Fred Bock

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Ruth Duck)

From the midst of our real lives and real world,
filled with real problems, enmities, tragedies, and pain,
**we come to seek courage and strength from the presence of God,
the gift of faith, and the support of one another.**

As persons who love imperfectly and who are loved imperfectly,
we come to be renewed by the ever-present love of God,

Then let us worship with hearts open to the love of God,
**with hands outstretched to a hurting world,
and with our whole selves
willing to continue to learn the way of Jesus Christ.**

HYMN “Lift Every Voice and Sing” James Weldon Johnson, J. Rosamond Johnson

**Lift every voice and sing
'Til earth and heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun
Let us march on 'til victory is won**

**Stony the road we trod
Bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died
Yet with a steady beat
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered
Out from the gloomy past
'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast**

**God of our weary years
God of our silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee**

**Shadowed beneath Thy hand
May we forever stand
True to our God
True to our native land**

OPENING PRAYER (A prayer of Martin Luther King, Jr.)

God, we thank you for the inspiration of Jesus. Grant that we will love you with all our hearts, souls, and minds, and love our neighbors as we love ourselves, even our enemy neighbors. And we ask you, God, in these days of emotional tension, when the problems of the world are gigantic in extent and chaotic in detail, to be with us in our going out and our coming in, in our rising up and in our lying down, in our moments of joy and in our moments of sorrow, until the day when there shall be no sunset and no dawn. Amen.

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM “Amazin' Grace” arr. Wendell Whalum

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

FIRST LESSON Amos 9:11-15

RESPONSIVE READING (Psalm 36:5-10)

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens,
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

**Your righteousness is like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep;
you save humans and beasts alike, O Lord.**

How priceless is your love, O God!

your people take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

**They feast upon the abundance of your house;
you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the well of life,
and in your light we see light.

**Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you,
and your favor to those who are true of heart.**

SECOND LESSON John 2:1-11

SERMON “Water, Wine, and the Way of Love”

HYMN “Arise, Your Light Has Come!”

**Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit’s call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light has come!
Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive’s liberty,
good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light has come!
All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God’s power will make us strong.**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” Setting by John Carter

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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. Because of the surge in Covid cases in Johnson County, we are pausing in-person worship today. The Reopening Committee will meet this Thursday, January 20, to assess the current situation and chart our course forward.

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 will be 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.

BOB AND ANN MOLSBERRY INVITE EVERYONE TO JOIN THEIR CELEBRATION OF BOB'S RETIREMENT at a party on Sunday, January 23, at 4:00 PM. Because of the surge in Covid cases, this will be a Zoom party. Here's the information:

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85329272050?pwd=NFNoR2N0UUY2Ujh0YTA3YnFJUTA0UT09>

Meeting ID: 853 2927 2050

Passcode: 399272

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC OF IOWA CITY will be held following our worship on Sunday, January 30, 2022. We will receive reports of Boards and Committees, vote on the budget for 2022, and transact any other business that is fitting and necessary.

YOU CAN HELP WITH THE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM THIS MONTH. The Free Lunch Program is continuing to serve lunches. Members of Congregational UCC serve on the fifth Monday of any month. Our next serving date is January 31 and if there is anyone interested in helping in any way, please contact Vicki Thomae at vickithomae@gmail.com

THE MISSION BOARD IS CONTINUING TO WORK ON A RACIAL JUSTICE COURSE for the congregation and would like your input to assist with planning. We sent a similar, but longer questionnaire in November. Five people responded at that time, and if you responded then we hope you will respond again so your thoughts are included with the rest of the congregation. You may get this request multiple times, but you only need to reply once. We hope you can reply by January 22, but a response anytime will be helpful.

The questionnaire can be found at: <https://forms.gle/jZYngPCmDBpz6tss9>. Thank you for your input.

THE SHELTER HOUSE BOOK SALE is scheduled for March 26-27. Book donations and volunteer sorting will begin February 14, 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 and drop them off beginning February 14. 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.

Church Board Opportunities There are several opportunities to serve the church on one of our boards. There are openings on the Diaconate, Christian Education, Membership and Stewardship boards. Please contact Barb Sisley at (319) 430-2694 or sisleywebb@aol.com if you are interested in or want more information about any of these opportunities.



Want to give online? Scan the QR code for our giving app.



**WHATEVER
AFFECTS ONE
DIRECTLY,
AFFECTS ALL
INDIRECTLY.**

-Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

2022
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
Celebration of Human Rights Week

- 1/15** Youth Summit | Youth Skating Night
- 1/16** North Liberty Service Day
- 1/17** Day of Service | Donation Drive Begins
- 1/17** Unity March | Voting Advocacy Protest
- 1/18** Identifying and Responding to Microaggressions
- 1/19** Distinguished Lecture:
Dr. Feranmi Okanlami; Disabusing Disability
- 1/19** Black Business Expo
- 1/20** Mindful Movement with Mudgies Yoga
- 1/21** Donation Drive Ends

For all event details, visit MLK.UIOWA.EDU

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact Shalisa Gladney in advance at shalisa-gladney@uiowa.edu.

This event is in part of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration of Human Rights Week which is a collaborative effort between the City of Iowa City, the University of Iowa, numerous nonprofit agencies, and local organizations.

IOWA