



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 1, 2023  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

*Today is a communion Sunday. If you are joining us online, before the worship service you are invited to assemble what you will eat and what you will drink. It can be bread and grape juice or wine or something as simple as a cracker or rice cake and water for use in our worship.*

PRELUDE                    “Let Us Break Bread Together”                    arr. Cindy Berry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS                    Chuck Connerly, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

The world belongs to God,  
                  **the earth and all its people.**  
How good and how lovely it is  
                  **to live together in unity.**  
Let us worship God.

\*HYMN 465                    “Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather “(vs. 1-3)

**Here, O Lord, your servants gather, hand we link with hand;  
looking toward our Savior’s cross, joined in love we stand.  
As we seek the realm of God, we unite to pray:  
Jesus, Savior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.**

**Many are the tongues we speak, scattered are the lands,  
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love’s demands.  
E’en in darkness hope appears, calling age and youth:  
Jesus, teacher, dwell with us, for You are the Truth.**

**Nature’s secrets open wide, changes never cease.**

**Where, oh where, can weary souls find the source of peace?  
Unto all those sore distressed, torn by endless strife:  
Jesus, healer, bring your balm, for you are the Life.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER (Christian Conference of Asia/ Uniting Church of Australia)  
Merciful God, please show us ourselves as you see us. Give us insight into the fractured  
Church at the present time. Make us capable of genuine repentance and renewal.**

**Spirit of unity, reconcile your people. Give us the wisdom to hold to what we need to be  
your church. Give us the grace to lay down those things you can do without. Give us a  
vision of your breadth and length and height which will challenge our smallness of heart  
and bring us humbly together. Amen.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#465, vs. 4)  
Grant, O God, an age renewed, filled with deathless love;  
help us as we work and pray, send us from above  
truth and courage, faith and power, needed in our strife:  
Jesus, Master, be our Way, be our Truth, our Life.**

ANTHEM                    “Earth Song”                    Frank Ticheli

#### SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory “Now to Your Table Spread”                    Setting by Charles Callahan

\*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                    Isaiah 66:18b-23

PSALM HYMN 472                    “O Sing to the Lord”—Psalm 98 (Brazil)

<b>O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song,</b>	<i>Cantai ao Senhor um cântico novo,</i>
<b>O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song,</b>	<i>Cantai ao Senhor um cântico novo,</i>
<b>O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.</b>	<i>Cantai ao Senhor um cântico novo,,</i>
<b>O sing to our God, O sing to our God.</b>	<i>cantai ao Sehnor, cantai ao Senhor!</i>

**By marvelous power our God has done wonders.  
By marvelous power our God has done wonders.  
By marvelous power our God has done wonders.  
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.**

*Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas  
Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas,  
Porque ele fez, ele faz maravilhas  
cantai ao Sehnor, cantai ao Senhor!*

**So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.  
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets.  
So dance for our God and blow all the trumpets,  
and sing to our God, and sing to our God.**

*Cantai ao Senhor, bendizei o seu nome,  
Cantai ao Senhor, bendizei o seu nome,  
Cantai ao Senhor, bendizei o seu nome,  
cantai ao Senhor, cantai ao Senhor!*

SCRIPTURE LESSON      II Corinthians 1:1-6

SERMON      “What’s Happening on This Corner?”  
Part 4: Finding Companions Beyond Our Corner

THE LORD’S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN 514      “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” (vs. 1-2) (Jamaica)

**Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy.  
Bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

**Refrain:**

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**Christ is able to make us one.  
At the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express. [Refrain]**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Zaire)

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THANKSGIVING FOR BREAD AND CUP (Zaire)

Let us join together in prayer:

**God of grace and holiness,  
send upon us today your Holy Spirit  
so that our prayers and our deeds  
may bear witness to this desire which possesses us:  
We wish to be one Lord,  
so that the world may believe that we belong to you.  
Fill us now with your love.**

We remember that on the night of his arrest...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (India)

**Merciful God of all creation, who united all things in the fullness of Christ, we join your whole creation in exultant praise of your bountiful goodness. You have now touched us with new life and filled us with new hope that your realm will come, that the hungry will be fed, that the oppressed will be set free from evil, that our reconciling work will be done, and the earth filled with your glory. Having shared this feast of your love, may we go into the world to share your love in our lives; through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

\*HYMN 514 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (vs. 3)

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share.  
God (Emmanuel) everywhere! [Refrain]**

**Refrain:**

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again;  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Maestoso” Colin Mawby

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“O Sing to the Lord/ Cantai ao Senhor”—Brazilian (Portuguese) folk hymn based on Psalm 98; English translation Gerhard M. Cartford. Music: Brazilian folk hymn, arr. Joel Navarro ©2012 Faith Alive Christian Resources. Reprinted by Permission under ONE LICENSE #A-715458. All rights reserved.

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” (Linstead) Type: Words and Music; Contributors: Fred Kaan/Doreen Potter Tune: © 1975 Hope Publishing Company Text: © 1975 Hope Publishing Company . Reprinted by Permission under ONE LICENSE #A-715458. All rights reserved.

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

❖ Church School Breakfast	9:00 am
Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Christian Education	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:15 am
World Communion Sunday	
Children's Church	During Worship

TUESDAY

❖ Board of Christian Education	6:30 pm
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NEXT SUNDAY

❖ Church School Breakfast	9:00 am
Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Christian Education	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:15 am
Children's Church	During Worship
Confirmation	4:00

**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.

**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.

**THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN THE CHOIR**—Do you enjoy singing? Our volunteer choir rehearses each Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. sings during the 10:15 worship service. Whether you're a long-time member or the new kid on the block, **YOU'RE WELCOME TO JOIN!** 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).

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE TO THE TEE OFFERING.** We received over \$300 to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South 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). **You can still give—please put “TEE” on your check or envelope.**

**FUN UI HOMECOMING VOLUNTEER/BAKING OPPORTUNITY!** The Mission Board will sell cookies and warm drinks during the U of I Homecoming Parade Friday, October 6. We are asking for donations of one dozen homemade cookies or bars that are \$1 (larger) size. Items do not need to be individually wrapped but please bring a display card labeling what type and if they contain peanuts or tree nuts. Baked goods may be dropped off in the kitchen between 9-1 or 5-5:45 the day of Homecoming. We also need volunteers to sell the cookies and drinks. There will be a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall or you can sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0944ACA82FA7FDC16-cookies#/>

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 2023 WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION:**

The Consultation of Religious Communities (CRC) will be distributing free warm winter clothing for community members in need of assistance. Location: 340 Southgate Avenue Far East end of the building (The Winter Shelter). Volunteers are needed from October 8-14. *You are invited to sign up for multiple shifts during the distribution period.* Link for the Volunteers - Sign up today!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-warm4>

**FAITH & DEMOCRACY: CHALLENGING CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM FORUM:**

Friday, October 6, 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 1340 3rd Ave SE, CEDAR RAPIDS *in-person and virtual options*. Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush, President and CEO of Interfaith Alliance, will lead a forum on the rise and impact of Christian Nationalism in our nation and communities. Join the Interfaith Alliance of Iowa to learn about Christian Nationalism and its far-reaching impact as well as a conversation on actively addressing it at the national, state, and local levels. *Reservation details to follow. The Interfaith Alliance says: [Watch our website](#) for updated information.*

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

**BOB ASHMAN WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR FROM FRIENDS AT CONGREGATIONAL UCC.** You can write to him at 51 S. Main St., Mansfield, MA 02048. You can call him at 319-512-6401 (although he generally does not check for voice mail messages).

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** Outerwear coat distribution is October 8-15. Volunteers are needed each day for preparation and distribution. You are invited to sign up for multiple shifts during the distribution period. Here's the link—sign up today! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-warm4>

**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 [kd Richards1958@gmail.com](mailto:kd Richards1958@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.