



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 10, 2021  
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“You can’t conceive, my child, nor can I or anyone, the appalling strangeness of the mercy of God.”

Graham Greene

PRELUDE “Preamble” Op. 31 No. 1 Louis Vierne

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

## CALL TO WORSHIP

How good it is to sing praises to our God;  
for God is gracious and a song of praise is fitting.

**God builds up the city and gathers the outcasts.**

**God heals the brokenhearted and binds up our wounds.**

Hope in God's steadfast love  
Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving.

HYMN        "How Lovely, Lord"  
Words and music can be found [here](#).

**How lovely, Lord, how lovely  
is your abiding place;  
my soul is longing, fainting,  
to feast upon your grace.  
The sparrow finds a shelter,  
a place to build her nest,  
and so your temple calls us  
with in its walls to rest.**

**In your blest courts to worship,  
O God, a single day  
is better than a thousand  
if I from you should stray.  
I'd rather keep the entrance  
and claim you as my Lord  
than revel in the riches  
the ways of sin afford.**

**A sun and shield forever  
are you, O Lord Most High;  
you shower us with blessings;  
no good will you deny.  
The saints, your grace receiving,  
from strength to strength shall go,  
and from their life shall rivers  
of blessing overflow.**

## OPENING PRAYER

**O God, keep us from going about with our eyes cast down and consumed by all that worries us. Lift us out of our confinement to see the world revealing before us the splendor of your creation hidden in every leaf. Rouse us from our preoccupations so we can seek out and see the same splendor of your image hidden within everyone who accompanies us through our daily lives. Remind us to find within ourselves that same image of yourself we find in others even when it lies obscured by regret or failure or despair.**

**Holy Spirit, leaves fall and light falls; your people and our powers of discernment fail. Be that light that illumines our way. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Jeremiah 7:1-11

PSALM 69:1-2, 9-10, 13-16, 33-36

Save me, O God,

for the waters have risen up to my neck.

**I am sinking in deep mire,  
and there is no firm ground for my feet.**

I have come into deep waters,  
and the torrent washes over me.

**It is zeal for your house that has consumed me;  
the insults of those who insult you  
have fallen on me.**

When I humbled my soul with fasting,  
they insulted me for doing so.

**But as for me, this is my prayer to you,  
at the time you have set, O Lord:**

“In your great mercy, O God,  
answer me with your unfailing help.

**Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;  
let me be rescued from those who hate me  
and out of the deep waters.**

Let not the torrent of waters wash over me,  
neither let the deep swallow me up;  
do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

**Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind;  
in your great compassion, turn to me.”**

For the Lord listens to the needy  
and does not despise those who are in prison.

**Let the heavens and the earth give praise,  
the seas and all that moves in them;**

for God will save Zion and rebuild the cities of Judah;  
they shall live there and have it in possession.

**The servants of the Lord will inherit it,  
and those who love the name of God will dwell therein.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      John 2:13-22

SERMON      “Confrontation and Compassion”

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM      “*Ubi Caritas*”      Maurice Duruflé

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.  
Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur.  
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum, et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.  
Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Amen.*

Where charity and love are, God is there.  
The love of Christ has united us.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in him.  
Let us fear and love the living God and adore him from a sincere heart.  
Where charity and love are, God is there. Amen.

#### 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

HYMN        “God of Grace and God of Glory”

**God of grace and God of glory,  
on your people pour your power;  
crown your ancient church's story,  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to your control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**



**lest we miss your kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the gift of your salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving you whom we adore,  
serving you whom we adore**

#### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

#### CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “We All Believe in One God” Op. 28 No. 78                      Marcel Dupre

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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“God of Grace and God of Glory”—Public Domain

Artwork: Rembrandt—“Christ Driving the Money Changers from the Temple” Public Domain.

**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. The choir will sing, but there will be no congregational singing. There will be no coffee hour, although you are encouraged to talk with one another outside after worship.

**RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES** are posted on Sunday afternoon 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. We expect to be livestreaming the worship service in a few weeks.

**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.



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

**A NEW BIBLE STUDY OF THE LETTER OF JAMES has started.** Bill is leading this five session series on Zoom, looking at one chapter each week, on Wednesday evenings at 7:00.. If you would like to be a part of this study and to receive the Zoom invitation, please talk with Bill, call him at the church (337-4301), or send him an email at [uccicrev@uccic.org](mailto:uccicrev@uccic.org).

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE TO THE CHURCH WORLD SERVICE OFFERING LAST SUNDAY.** We received \$1760 from our congregation. This will be combined with \$900 from our Mission Board's discretionary funds. This money will be used by Church World Service, to assist with disaster relief (Hurricane Ida and the earthquake in Haiti) as well as refugee aid (Afghanistan). You can still give. Please make your check out to Congregational UCC and put CWS in the memo line. You can find out more about the work that CWS is doing in response to Hurricane Ida [here](#). Information about earthquake response is [here](#). And information about the work of CWS to support refugees from Afghanistan is [here](#).

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE TO THE TEE OFFERING IN SEPTEMBER.** We received over \$900 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.**

**GIVING UPDATES AVAILABLE:** If you have any questions about your giving to the church or if you would like an update on your giving, please call the church office (337-4301) or email our Office Manager, Jenn Harden at [uccicadmin@uccic.org](mailto:uccicadmin@uccic.org).

#### **RUN FOR THE SCHOOLS—SUNDAY OCTOBER 24**

As we return to in-person worship, we once again need to navigate the challenges presented by downtown events. The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Run for the Schools will be held on October 24. Some streets to the south and east of the church will be closed. College St. will be shut down from Linn St. to Muscatine Ave. Gilbert St. will be shut down from Burlington St. to Washington St. Dodge St. will be shut down and southbound traffic will be rerouted on to Washington St. Governor St. will be shut down and northbound traffic will be rerouted on to Burlington St. **The church and the parking lot will both be accessible.** It might take a few extra minutes to get to church that morning. Plan accordingly, but plan to worship with us. Race maps can be found [here](#).

**OCTOBER EVENTS CANCELED FOR 2021**

PLEASE NOTE: there will be no homecoming parade events (e.g. Brat Sale, Potluck, Viewing Area) at Congregational UCC this year. The Progressive Dinner will not be held in the fall. As the pandemic continues, the safety of our congregation and the community is a priority.

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE CRC WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION!**

The Consultation of Religious Communities' annual distribution of free warm clothing for community members is in need of volunteers. Because of COVID-19, the format for 2021 will be very similar to the protocol that was used a year ago.

Location: 340 Southgate Avenue, far east end of The GuideLink Center

Volunteers are needed for three days of sorting and organizing:

-5 volunteers needed for 3 hours on Sunday, October 17 (2 - 5 p.m.)

-5 volunteers needed per 3 hour shift on Monday, October 18, and Tuesday, October 19, at 9 - noon; noon - 3 p.m.; 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Volunteers are also needed for three-and-a-half days of clothing distribution; shopping begins Wednesday, October 20, and ends on Saturday, October 23:

-5 volunteers are needed for all shifts on Wednesday through Saturday at 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

W-F, 9 - Noon on Sat. (Clean up 12 - 3)

These volunteers will assist shoppers each day, serving as guides. They will also keep the space organized & restock the tables.

*You are invited to sign up for multiple volunteer shifts during this event using this SignUp Genius link:*

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-winter2>

**All donations should be brought to the GuideLink Center on Monday, October 18 between 9 and 6.** Limited street parking is available on Southgate.