



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 16, 2022  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

For you who pray, for you who study, for you who work and serve others,  
for you who dare to risk, for you who dare to wait, keep it up.  
God is good. Life is truly wonderful. Love is enough.  
On this spinning planet, the light is always dawning.  
Allen Happe

PRELUDE                    “Prelude”            William H. Harris

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS                    Megan Carnes, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 98)

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for God has done marvelous things.

**God has shown steadfast love and faithfulness.**

**The ends of the earth have seen the victory of God.**

Make a joyful noise to God all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

**God will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the people with equity.**

\*HYMN 288 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

**I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,**

**that spread the flowing seas abroad  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day;  
the moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.**

**I sing the goodness of the Lord  
that filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how your wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eyes,  
if I survey the ground I tread  
or gaze upon the skies.**

**There's not a plant or flower below  
but makes Thy glories known,  
and clouds arise and tempests blow  
by order from Thy throne;  
while all that borrows life from Thee  
is ever in your care,  
and everywhere that we can be,  
Thou, God, art present there.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

**O God, distant yet near, be among us this day. Hear again the confessions and longings of our hearts. Help us change the narrowness of our vision and the pettiness of our living. Make us new again with your grace.**

**Grant us the maturity to accept your many gifts in humility and to use them with faithfulness. Grant to us your Spirit that our worship may have integrity and energy, that each day we might live before you in faith, hope, and love.**

**We praise and give thanks to you, Eternal Presence; through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#288)**

**Behold, God's ever-watchful eye sees through our great despair;  
the arms of Grace encircle us with strong, yet tender care;  
the hope of all the ages past, that sets at peace our fears,  
God's mercy and God's steadfast love shall follow all our years.**

**ANTHEM "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes"**

**Leo Sowerby**

**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

#### SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory "Lento" Flor Peeters

\*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

(At this time, children are dismissed to attend Children's Church.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 43:16-21

#### PSALM 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,  
then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations,  
"The Lord has done great things for them."

**The Lord has done great things for us,  
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,  
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears  
will reap with songs of joy.**

[Unison]

**Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON II Corinthians 5:17-20

SERMON "Beginning with Generosity"

\*HYMN 422 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

**God, whose giving knows no ending,  
from your rich and endless store**

**nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
costly cross, grave's shattered door  
gifted by you, we turn to you,  
offering up ourselves in praise;  
thankful song shall rise forever,  
gracious donor of our days.**

**Skills and time are ours for serving  
that your will on earth be done  
all at peace in health and freedom,  
peoples joined, the Church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
lest we spend our time in vain.  
Use our talents, guide our service  
that our work your love proclaim.**

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “A Fanfare for Organ” L. Dean Bye

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

**CHILDCARE IN THE CHURCH NURSERY** is provided for infants through children 4 years old from 9:15-11:30. Come enjoy adult education classes, adult choir rehearsal, and even teaching Sunday School!

**USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES:** As we continue to reopen, there are new 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.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HOSTED OUR SUCCESSFUL PROGRESSIVE DINNER:** Pam and Derek Willard, Dianne Atkins and Andy Bertolatus, Donna Hirst, Linda and Ray Muston, Bill Dickinson, Jane Murphy, Vernetta and Chris Knapp, and Chuck and Sue Dayton. There were 46 attendees and it was a wonderful evening of good food and time together with friends.

**THE WOMEN'S LUNCH WILL BE HELD** on Thursday, October 20th at Mexico Lindo Grill--1857 Lower Muscatine Rd. Call or text Martha Ann Crawford—319-855-8340—to reserve a seat.

**"TREASURES" FROM THE ASHMANS** are available in Rockwood Hall. Please take what you might want to remember Bob and Claire. Martha Ann Crawford will take anything left to Crowded Closet this coming week.

### **RUN FOR THE SCHOOLS—SUNDAY OCTOBER 23**

One of the joys of in-person worship is navigating the challenges presented by downtown events. The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Run for the Schools will be held on October 23. 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](#).

**THINKING ABOUT THE HOMECOMING PARADE YET?** We are! Be a part of the Homecoming action on October 28 and join the UCC as this annual tradition returns. Bring friends. The parade starts at 5:45 but it's best to come about 5:00 -5:30 pm, as there's lots of traffic. You can decide on any or all of the following activities. Here's what's happening: Chairs and standing room are here, street side, for a vibrant view of parade as it turns the corner. As a fundraiser, the Men's Fellowship grills and sells hot dogs, brats and hamburgers. The Mission Board sells beverages.

**OUR NEXT HOPE LODGE DINNER** will be Wednesday, Nov. 9. There is a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall.

**URGENT PLEA FROM THE JOHNSON COUNTY COMMUNITY FOOD BANK AND A WAY TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF CLAIRE ASHMAN.** Our church received an urgent plea for assistance with food donations, as well as monetary donations to purchase food in bulk. The number of households served during these difficult times has steadily increased, as the government assistance shrinks and inflation is on the upswing. Also, HACAP's supply of bulk foods to order has decreased. Monetary gifts stretch much further, however clients are very pleased by the random food donated which helps provide variety. Every donated food item must display a nutrition label to be offered. The Mission Board will have an ongoing donation box in Rockwood Hall, with a list of suggested items. Please consider canned protein sources, pastas, cereals, rice in small bags, boxed meal items, and personal care items. The needs change weekly. Monetary donations can be contributed on the website [Donate \(builtbycommunity.org\)](https://www.builtbycommunity.org) which also includes a printable form and address to mail a check. Needs change frequently, and Jane Kinney or Paula Forest can provide suggestions if needed.

Claire Ashman was devoted many volunteer hours to the food bank, so this will be a soulful way to honor her legacy.

**UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSED “RIGHT TO FIREARMS” AMENDMENT TO IOWA’S CONSTITUTION.** As a follow-up to her presentation to the church on September 19, Liz O'Hara, of Moms Demand Action, encourages church members to read a short statement put out by Moms Demand Action and Everytown for Gun Safety on Public Measure 1. Public Measure 1 will appear on this November's ballot in Iowa. To obtain a copy, please see Chuck Connerly after church or email him at [charles-connerly@uiowa.edu](mailto:charles-connerly@uiowa.edu).

**THE CONSULTATION OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES WILL HOST ITS ANNUAL WARM WINTER WEAR DISTRIBUTION (WWWD)** on October 16-22.

There is a big need for help with this event. It is a great opportunity to work with others and turn your concern into positive action. Like last year, volunteers are required to sign up via Sign-up Genius. **For more detailed instructions and to access the Sign-up Genius for Volunteers click on:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B49A9AE2FA20-warm1>

This event will be held in the new winter shelter at the far east end of the Guide Link Center, 340 Southgate Ave, Iowa City. CRC is also looking for donations of new or gently used outerwear for children and adults. These items can be brought to the Guide Link Center starting on Monday (see below). Their highest priority is: winter coats & jackets of all sizes, and other outerwear (snow pants, hats, gloves / mittens, winter scarves, warm socks & winter boots / shoes). They will also gladly accept sweaters, sweatshirts & sweatpants. **Carefully presort donated items, removing anything not listed above.**

**And save the week of October 16 - 22 for volunteer opportunities as follows:**

October 16 – set up & begin receiving donations (Sunday, noon - 4 p.m.)

October 17 & 18 – continue to receive donations, sort items & set up (Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.)

October 19–21 – distribution of clothing (Wednesday - Friday: 9 a.m. - 6:p.m.).

October 22 – distribution of clothing (Saturday, 9 a.m. – noon); Clean-up, noon to 4 p.m.

For further questions, contact John Barr at [BarrJohnO@sau.edu](mailto:BarrJohnO@sau.edu).

The Unitarian Universalist Society is sponsoring a Ukrainian family and is looking for help with miscellaneous tasks. The father, Ahmad Alhroob, came here last July to start a Jordanian Fellowship at UI Hospital's Neonatal unit. His home country, Jordan, is paying him to be here, but the salary is limited. Ahmad's wife is Ukrainian and had to flee to Germany with their two daughters, 8 and 10. It was too expensive there and there was no school, so the mother and daughters went to Jordan. They will be arriving in Iowa City soon.

The following help is needed:

1. Volunteers to take them to the food bank and grocery store for items the bank doesn't have, such as milk
2. Find winter clothing and boots for the family
3. Find furniture through Houses into Homes, etc.
4. Locate kitchen items, including plates, glasses, pots and pans
5. Help them find an apartment
6. Provide transportation to appointments
7. Tutor English
8. Money to pay first month's rent and a security deposit, estimated at \$2000

If you are able to assist with any of these tasks contact Sally Hartman, [sallyahartman@hotmail.com](mailto:sallyahartman@hotmail.com), 319-621-3618. The Mission Board will be getting updates about this effort.



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.