

***HYMN 553 “For the Fruit of All Creation**

**For the fruit of his creation,
thanks be to God.**

**For his gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.**

**For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth’s safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor,
God’s will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God’s will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God’s will be done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

**God of the ages, be with us in these days and on this day. We worship you with gladness
and give you thanks for all your good gifts.**

May we wisely use the resources you have given us.

Equip us to welcome the stranger and love our neighbors.

Strengthen us for the challenges we face so our future may be bright with hope. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#422, vs. 1)**

**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.**

ANTHEM

"He Watching Over Israel"

Felix Mendelssohn

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

"Sonata III"

Felix Mendelssohn

Andante tranquillo

*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 CHOIR

"All Things Bright & Beautiful"

[The children are dismissed to Children's Church]

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

PSALM 145:13-21

O LORD, you are faithful in all your words
and merciful in all your deeds.

**The LORD upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.**

The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.

**You open wide your hand
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.**

O LORD, you are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.

**O LORD, you are near to those who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.**

You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and help them.

**O LORD, you preserve all those who love you,
but you destroy all the wicked.**

[Unison]

**My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless your holy name forever and ever.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON II Thessalonians 2:13-17

SERMON “The Return of Pumpkin Spice”

*HYMN 369 “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Sonata IV – Felix Mendelssohn
Andante religioso

Cover graphic by Congregational UCC member Robyn Hepker.

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Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Christian Education:	Hope Spragg
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Dr. Chris Nakielski
Children’s Choir Director	Rachel Burchett
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

TODAY

❖ Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Christian Education for all ages	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:15 am
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship

Choir Rehearsal	11:30 am
AWE	11:30 am
Confirmation Class	4:00 pm
TUESDAY	
❖ Gentle Yoga	Noon
Membership Board	5:30 pm
Diaconate	7:00 pm
Trustees	7:00 pm
THURSDAY	
❖ UI Student Gathering	6:30 pm
Prairie Piffari Rehearsal	6:30 pm
NEXT SUNDAY	
❖ Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Christian Education for all ages	9:15 am
Worship Service	10:15 am
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship
Choir Rehearsal	After Worship
AWE	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.

AFTER WORSHIP ENCOUNTER (AWE) meets today and on the Sundays that the choir meets after worship to rehearse for the Christmas Music Sunday on December 7. We will be using Living the Questions-The Wisdom of Progressive Christianity. In this study we will be meeting progressive theologians such as: Borg, Crossen, Spong, Pagels. This is a beginning class that will introduce you to Progressive Christianity. Rev. Ann Molsberry will be leading the discussions. See you after worship in the library.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 2: Each year on the First Sunday in November, Congregational UCC observes “All Saints Sunday.” This is a time for us to remember and give thanks to God for the lives of those members of Congregational UCC who have died in the past year—and for all the saints. Our worship service on this day is both solemn and joyful, befitting a congregation of people who live in the light of the resurrection. As is our custom, we will have a jazz band leading our worship on this Sunday in order to help us look toward that day when the saints go marchin’ in. The well-known local jazz pianist Dick Watson will again lead the music in what promises to be an inspiring event. Please plan to join us for this special time of worship as we give thanks for the lives of Deb Cobb and two friends of our congregation, Tom Kinney and Richard Wells.

THE NEXT YOUTH GROUP MEETING IS SUNDAY, NOV.2 from 4-6:30! All youth grades 3rd-12th are invited to attend. We will discuss the significance of cultural and spiritual traditions of the season and play games. Students may wear costumes and dinner is provided.

COME ENJOY AN EVENING OF GREAT MUSIC AND YOUTHFUL ENERGY in this unique opportunity to see both Ella Lewis (sophomore at North Liberty) and Nadia Spragg (junior at City High), as they perform with their show choirs at the district's "Works in Progress" showcase. Monday, October 27 at Arganbright Auditorium, West High at 7:30 PM. Tickets are \$5 at the door and the order of performances is City, Liberty, and West.

READING GENESIS: A group is forming to read and discuss together Marilynne Robinson's *Reading Genesis*. We'll meet at Oaknoll from 10:00-11:30 on four Tuesday mornings, October 28, November 4, 11 & 18. If you would like to be a part of this group, talk with Bill Lovin or Chuck Dayton or sign up on the sheet in Rockwood Hall. If you are interested in *Reading Genesis* but would like to meet at a different time, please talk with Bill or Chuck as well.

INCOME FROM SHARE THE HARVEST HAS TOPPED \$1000! Thanks to Kathy Fait and John Fuller for leading this effort and to all who shared their harvest this summer and fall. All proceeds will go to the CommUnity Food Pantry in Iowa City,

THE MISSION BOARD IS SPONSORING A DIAPER AND TP DRIVE during October. Items received will go to the CommUnity Crisis Center or the North Liberty Food Pantry. Please drop off diapers and training pullups, as well as toilet paper in the box in Rockwood Hall. Large boxes are acceptable, as the pantries will divide them into smaller packets. If you want to contribute cash to this effort, the Mission Board will do the shopping—just put "Diaper Drive" on your envelope or check. Let's all get "behind" the effort and delight others with our generosity!

HELPING OTHER MEMBERS: There are times when a helping hand is needed by a member to get groceries, run an errand, get a ride to an appointment, etc. If you would like to occasionally help out in this way, please see the signup sheet in Rockwood Hall.

CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY: Our Membership Board is pursuing plans to create an "in house" photo directory to help everyone put names and faces together. If you have a photo that you would like us to use, please email it to Jenn Harden at uccicadmin@uccic.org. This fall we will have opportunities for photos to be taken at the church if you would prefer that option. Please watch for more information.

ABOUT OUR WATER: A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: this afternoon, October 19, 2-4 PM. St. Thomas More Church, 3000 12th Ave, Coralville

1. What's in it? With Marty St. Clair, UI Center for Health Effects of Environmental Contamination. The overall quality of our water.
 2. Where does it come from? With Jennifer Breon, Iowa Food & Water Watch. Sources & effects of rising contamination.
 3. What can we do about it? With Amy Foster, City of Coralville Stormwater Coordinator; Mike Stein, I Run for Water; & Matt McAndrew, science educator, soil & water activist.
- What can we ordinary citizens do in our town & state?

DR. JAMES ZOGBY JOINS VETERANS FOR PEACE ARMISTICE DAY

OBSERVANCE: On Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025, beginning at 11 a.m., the local chapter of Veterans For Peace will hold three public events in Iowa City to re-dedicate ourselves to the work of peace. Members of the public are encouraged to attend.

1) Beginning at 10:45 a.m., we will assemble at the Iowa City Ped Mall. Bells will ring at the 11th hour, 11th day, 11th month, as is tradition. Dr. James Zogby will make brief remarks.

In 1985, Zogby co-founded the Arab American Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based organization which serves as the political and policy research arm of the Arab American community. He continues to serve as its president. Zogby is also Director of Zogby Research Services, a firm that has conducted groundbreaking surveys across the Middle East.

2) Immediately following the outdoor observance, Veterans For Peace will host a free luncheon at the Iowa City Public Library. Dr. Zogby will address the group in a longer format. His topic is "The war that didn't end all wars and instead launched a century of conflict."

3) At 6:30 p.m., Veterans For Peace will sponsor a screening of the film "Earth's Greatest Enemy," a film by Abby Martin at Film Scene, 404 East College Street, Iowa City. This is a documentary exposé of the world's biggest—and most unaccountable—polluter: the US military. Learn the environmental cost of having a military Empire. Co-director/co-author of the film, Mike Prysner, will attend and offer brief remarks before the screening. He will host a question-and-answer period immediately afterward. Film Scene requests a free will donation to attend. This is the sole Armistice Day observance in the State of Iowa.

SING OUT!—JOIN THE CHOIR: Do you enjoy singing? Our volunteer choir rehearses at 9:00 a.m. and sings during the 10:15 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.

GENTLE YOGA every Tuesday at noon! This 45-minute class is appropriate for beginners, experienced or anyone wishing to focus on body awareness, increased mobility, and relaxation. The \$10 suggested donation goes directly to the Immigrant Welcome Network. More information and sign-up are available in Rockwood Hall.

CYCLING WITHOUT AGE AT THE BIKE LIBRARY offers free e-assisted bike rides originating from the Ashton House and looping through City Park. If you or someone you know would benefit from this "ride through the park" as a passenger, see the sign-up in Rockwood Hall or talk to Hope Spragg to arrange a ride. More info available at: <https://icbikelibrary.org/cycling-without-age>!

CARBON OFFSET HELPS HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: Have you ever wanted to compensate for CO2 emissions from a flight or other carbon intensive activity? Carbon offsets are a recognized way to make an activity carbon neutral. Carbon offsets are also often viewed with skepticism due to concerns about whether the money given is truly decreasing carbon emissions and whether the action would have happened without the donation.

Those concerns can be assuaged with a donation to put solar arrays on Habitat for Humanity homes. The homeowners do not have the resources to make an upfront investment in a solar

array and once installed the system is likely to stay in place for the lifetime of the panels. In addition to reducing CO2 emissions the donor would be helping a low income Iowa family with their energy bills.

To estimate your flight emissions and send an offset to Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity go to www.habitatsolar.org/. Please contact Jamie McCoy or see the bulletin board in Rockwood Hall for more information.

USED MEDICINE BOTTLES NEEDED FOR REUSE IN CLINICS: 100 Grannies, a local environmental activist group, is sending used plastic medicine bottles to Africa to assist clinics in distributing medication. Donna Hirst is in charge of this project and would be pleased to have participation from members of the congregation. If you are interested, Donna can provide a very brief orientation to bottle preparation (donna-hirst@uiowa.edu). Donna will pick up bottles on Sundays.

PLEASE HELP WITH PARKING IN THE CHURCH LOT: Several people currently have mobility issues and need to park in our small parking lot on Jefferson St. If you are able, please park elsewhere so that the marked and unmarked spaces can be used by those who need them. 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 (319-337-4301) know right away. 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/1547852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.