



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 24, 2021
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“Giving thanks to God can come in any form. You don’t have to get on your knees and give thanks. When I’m truly grateful for something I pray, and I pray when I don’t have anything.”
Wynton Marsalis

PRELUDE “Largo” John Marsh

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP

In these days of change and challenge, God speaks through the prophet:
“Behold, I am doing a new thing.”

God makes a way through the wildness of our lives

God brings abundance out of scarcity, a way out of no way.

Let us worship with open eyes, open minds, and open hearts
that we might know and live in the goodness of God.

**We will join with all creation
and cry “Alleluia!”**

HYMN 264 "When in Our Music God Is Glorified"

**When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried
alleluia!**

**How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
alleluia!**

**So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue,
alleluia!**

**Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always
alleluia!**

OPENING PRAYER

As a new day and a new week begin, O God, help us to see the new things you are doing in our lives and in the world.

When we are worn out by what is immediately in front of us, lift our eyes toward the horizon, that we might see opportunity and possibility.

When we are held back by what we have done or failed to do, remind us of your forgiveness and put a new spirit within us.

When we are unsure of where we are going, give us strength to follow in the ways of Jesus Christ, known and to be made known to us.

Accept our prayers and our worship as you have accepted each of us and all of us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON I Kings 17:8-16

PSALM 30

I will exalt you, O Lord,
because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

**O Lord my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**

You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

**Sing to the Lord, you faithful servants;
give thanks for the remembrance of God's holiness.**

For God's wrath lasts but the twinkling of an eye,

God's favor endures for a lifetime.

**Weeping may spend the night,
but joy comes in the morning.**

While I felt secure, I said,

"I shall never be disturbed.

You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."

**Then you hid your face,
and I was filled with fear.**

I cried to you, O Lord;

I pleaded with the Lord, saying,

**"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?**

Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;

O Lord, be my helper."

**You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.**

[Unison]

**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 4:4-9

SERMON "Surrounded by Abundance"

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether" Harold W. Friedell

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 360 "Hope of the World"

**Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion,
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.**

**Save us, thy people, from consuming passion,
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.**

**Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,**

**still let thy Spirit unto us be given
to heal earth's wounds and end her bitter strife.**

**Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
showing to wandering souls the path of light;
walk thou beside us, lest the tempting byways
lure us away from thee to endless night.**

**Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us
from death and dark despair, from sin and guilt;
we render back the love thy mercy gave us;
take thou our lives, and use them as thou wilt.**

**Hope of the world, O Christ o'er death victorious,
who by this sign didst conquer grief and pain,
we would be faithful to thy gospel glorious:
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Finale" Alan Ridout

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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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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 7: 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. This year we will remember Margaret Loughry, David Carew, Bill Williams, and Mary Heininger. 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 to help us look toward that day when the saints go marchin’ in. Our friend, the well-known local jazz pianist Dick Watson, will lead the music in what promises to be an inspiring event. Please join us next Sunday, November 7, for this special time of worship.

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. This coming Wednesday we will focus on chapter 4 & 5. 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.

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.

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 46th 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](#).