



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 29, 2023
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
REFORMATION SUNDAY

“No verbal statement can be produced which relieves the Church of the responsibility continually to re-think and re-state its message. No appeal to creeds and confessions can alter the fact that the Church has to state in every new generation how it interprets the historic faith, and how it relates it to the new thought and experience of its time. . . . Nothing can remove from the Church the responsibility for stating now what is the faith. It belongs to the essence of a living church that it should be able and willing to do so.”

Lesslie Newbigin

PRELUDE “The Church’s One Foundation” Setting by Gerhard Krapf

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS John Fieselmann, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 47)**

God is our refuge and our strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.**

***HYMN 457 "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art"**

**I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
My only trust and Savior of my heart,
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.**

**Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.**

**Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
And all our substance and our strength receive;
Sustain us by Thy faith and by Thy power,
And give us strength in every trying hour.**

**Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,
No harshness hast Thou and no bitterness;
O grant to us the grace we find in Thee,
That we may dwell in perfect unity.**

**Our hope is in no other save in Thee;
Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,
That in Thy strength we evermore endure.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

Holy God, you have chosen us to serve you, and appointed us as agents of your love. We praise you for your Holy Spirit always reforming the church. Let us find what is required and invent what is necessary as we go forward through this unmarked time and space before us. Stir us in imagination to grapple with all that needs reworking, all that needs repairing, and all that needs restoring. Help us recall all the times and ways you have kept faith with us and brought us through other perilous places, generation to generation. Protect us in our being and becoming and keep us secure in all that you would have us do. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#457)**

**Not for ourselves, O Lord, not for ourselves,
would we claim glory, but for you alone,**

**because of your great love and faithfulness,
the steadfast care that makes your presence known.**

ANTHEM “The Church’s One Foundation” Dan Forrest

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 “The Church’s One Foundation” Setting by Paul Bunjes

*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

“We Shall Not Be Moved”

Children’s Choir—Majesty Constable, director

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 61:1-4

PSALM 122

I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the Lord."

**Now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Jerusalem is built as a city

that is at unity with itself;

**to which the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord,
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the name of the Lord.**

For there are the thrones of judgment,

the thrones of the house of David.

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May they prosper who love you.**

Peace be within your walls
and quietness within your towers.

**For the sake of my kindred and companions,
I pray for your prosperity.**

[Unison]

**Because of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek to do you good."**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 12:1-8

SERMON "Doing Church Differently"

*HYMN 420 "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**

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” arr. Mark Hayes and Marvin Gaspard
Rachel Burchett, piano and Bill Crouch, organ

Cover Graphic—designed by Congregational UCC member, Robyn Hepker, for this year’s
stewardship theme, “Living Generously.”

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE “Not for Ourselves, O Lord,” Carl P. Daw, Words - ©1996
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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
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
	Children’s Church	During Worship
	Choir Rehearsal	After Worship

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
	Choir Rehearsal	After Worship
	Confirmation Class	4:00 pm

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.

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted 95 Theses (propositions) on the door of the
Wittenberg Castle Church as an invitation to debate the sale of indulgences for forgiveness. That
was one event in a centuries-long movement that eventually became the Protestant Reformation.
Today we mark Reformation Sunday and pray for a church that is always open to reform and the
guidance of the Holy Spirit.

RETURN TO STANDARD TIME: Most of us can use a little extra sleep. Set your clock back an hour before bedtime next Saturday, November 4, get some rest, and join us for worship on Sunday, November 5, (All Saints Sunday) at 10:15 a.m.—CENTRAL STANDARD TIME.

PLEASE HELP WITH PARKING IN THE CHURCH LOT: A number of people currently have mobility issues and need to park in our small parking lot off of 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.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY—NOVEMBER 5: 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 Sandy Boyd, Lee Wood, Marge Hoppin, and Candace Noble.

WE WILL RECEIVE OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED (NIN) OFFERING ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5: NIN is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice.

OPEN HEARTLAND CHRISTMAS GIVING OPPORTUNITY: If you would like to sponsor a family of 4, 5, 6, or 7+ people, please contact Deb Dunkhase at Open Heartland by Monday, November 6 or directly email their special email account just for holiday giving: openheartlandholiday@gmail.com. Indicate how large a family is desired, and Open Heartland will respond with the list of items from the family, then the shopping can begin. Other options for the Alternative Giving period in our church is a monetary donation, payable to Open Heartland, PO Box 3357 Iowa City, IA 52244. Last year OH was able to give each family a gift of \$100 to spend on what the family determines is needed.

INSIDE OUT REENTRY COMMUNITY TRIVIA NIGHT: Thursday, November 9, 7-9 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Society, 2355 Oakdale Rd., Coralville. Tickets are \$20/individual, \$100/team of six. Book in advance at www.insideoutreentry.com. Tickets are \$25/person at the door.

OUR NEXT HOPE LODGE DINNER will be Monday, November 13. There is a signup sheet in Rockwood Hall.

NEW FURNACES AND AIR CONDITIONERS WERE INSTALLED IN THE SUMMER. 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.

DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH KEY? We have 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 kd Richards1958@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. 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.