



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

WORSHIP FOR OCTOBER 31, 2021  
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
REFORMATION SUNDAY

From Witches, Warlocks and Wurricoes,  
From Ghoulies, Ghosties, and Long-leggit Beasties,  
From all Things that go bump in the night—  
Good Lord, deliver us!

*Traditional Cornish prayer*

PRELUDE “A Mighty Fortress” Gerhard Krapf

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 thank you for prophets who recall us to your ways. We are grateful for every impulse to confess and correct wrongs, to keep faith lively and purposes faithful. We praise you for your Holy Spirit always reforming the church. Inspire our worship and our work. Give us courage to follow your word, and power to renew your world, so that we may live in the Spirit, sharing faith with Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” arr. Carl F. Mueller

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Isaiah 55:1-2

PSALM 4

Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;  
you set me free when I am hard-pressed;  
have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

**"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;  
how long will you worship dumb idols  
and run after false gods?"**

Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;  
when I cry out, the Lord will hear me.

**Tremble, then, and do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

Offer the appointed sacrifices  
and put your trust in the Lord.

**Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times!"**

**Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord**

You have put gladness in my heart,  
more than when grain and wine and oil increase.

**I lie down in peace; at once I fall asleep;  
for only you, Lord, make me dwell in safety.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      II Corinthians 9:6-15

SERMON                  "Giving as Protest"

HYMN 263      "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above  
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;  
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE “Ketty-Valse” from *Dolly Suite* Gabriel Fauré  
Tim Strang & Bill Crouch, piano

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 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.

**WE ARE NOW LIVE STREAMING 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 will be the same each week.

**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.

**The flowers this morning are in celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Chuck Connerly and Martha Ann Crawford.** On October 30 they were married in Washington, DC at Dumbarton United Methodist Church in Georgetown.

**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.

**We will receive our Neighbors in Need (NIN) offering on Sunday, November 7.** 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. This year offering is focused on supporting organizations and projects that are serving homeless and immigrant neighbors or communities.

**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).

**A new Bible Study will start in November.** We’ll look at the scripture lessons—primarily from the Old Testament—that are used in the Christmas section of Handel’s *Messiah*. If you are interested or want more information, please talk with Bill Lovin.

**CommUnity Crisis Services and Food Bank Top Ten Needed Donations:** please take donations to the food bank at 1045 Highway 6 East, Iowa City. Financial donations can be made via the website [www.builtbycommunity.org](http://www.builtbycommunity.org), or mailed to the office at 1121 S. Gilbert Court Iowa City, IA 52245

1. Financial donations
2. Hygiene products
3. Toilet paper
4. Canned meat
5. Baby Diapers and Wipes
6. Baby formula

7. Rice and pasta
8. Hearty Soups and Stews
9. Peanut butter
10. Laundry detergent