Jazz for All the Saints

The Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

30 N Clinton St.
Iowa City, IA 52245
319-337-4301

CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
30 N. CLINTON ST.
IOWA CITY, IA 52245
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WORSHIP FOR NOVEMBER 1, 2026
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Today is a communion Sunday. If you are joining us online, before the worship service you are invited to assemble what you will eat and what you will drink. It can be bread and grape juice or wine or something as simple as a cracker or rice cake and water for use in our worship.

Welcome to Congregational UCC.
We ask that you silence your cell phone as you enter the sanctuary.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE. PLEASE ASK AN USHER.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Nadia Spragg, Liturgist

PRELUDE "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

*CALL TO WORSHIP
Let us come before God,
just as we are,
unfinished and imperfect,
searching and seeking,
trying and sometimes failing.
May we see one another as God sees us,
not as problems to be solved
or as numbers to be counted,
but as people loved by God.
[Unison]
Let us worship God.

*HYMN 147 "Blessing and Honor and Glory and Power"
Blessing and honor and glory and power,
Wisdom and riches and strength evermore,
Give we to Christ who our battle has won,
Whose are the kingdom, the crown, and the throne.

Hear through the heavens the sound of the Name,
While rings the earth with Christ's glory and fame;
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest, and flower
Echo these praises and tell of God's power.

Ever ascending the song and the prayer;
Ever descending the love that we share;
Blessing and honor and glory and praise--
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign.

*OPENING PRAYER
Eternal God, you hold all times and places in your care. We look to you as autumn tells us of bounty and beauty, of endings and of harvest. Into the greatness of your presence, we bring our unsettled lives. Grant us your peace and calm as we struggle in our daily journeys. Give us strength as we pray, as we study, as we work, as we dare to risk, and as we take steps forward each new day. Be with us in our sorrow and in our joy. Surround us with the sense of all those who came before us who found the courage to continue and to persevere. Refresh our faith, restore our confidence, and lead us in your ways. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#516, vs. 1)
Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted as friends:
yours is the strength that sustains our vocation,
ours a commitment we know never ends.

ANTHEM "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

SERVICE OF GIVING
Invitation
Offertory "Pennies from Heaven"
*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

(The children are dismissed to Children's Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 25:6-9
On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

PSALM 34:1-10, 22
At all times I will bless the Lord,
whose praise shall ever be in my mouth.
I will glory in the Lord;
let the humble hear and rejoice.
Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;
let us exalt the name of the Lord together.
I sought the Lord, who answered me
and delivered me out of all my terror.
Look upon the Lord and be radiant,
and let not your faces be ashamed.
I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me
and saved me from all my troubles.
The angel of the Lord encompasses the God-fearing,
and the Lord will deliver them.
Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are they who trust in the Lord!
Fear the Lord, you holy ones,
for those who are God-fearing lack nothing.
The young lions lack and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.
[Unison]
The Lord ransoms the life of those chosen to serve,
and none will be punished who trust in the Lord.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Romans 14:7-9
We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

SERMON "Where Hope Leads Us"

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN 508 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

For the bread, which You have broken;
For the wine, which You have poured;
For the words, which You have spoken—
Now we give You thanks, O Lord.
By this promise that You love us,
By Your gift of peace restored,
By Your call to Heaven above us,
Hallow all our lives, O Lord.

With the saints who now adore You
Seated at the heavenly board,
May the Church still waiting for You
Keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.
In Your service, Lord, defend us,
In our hearts keep watch and ward;
In the world to which You send us
Let Your kingdom come, O Lord.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

REMEMBRANCE

Because this is the table of Christ, there are no strangers.
We remember as we eat this bread
we become the body of Christ together
and as we drink this cup
we become branches on Christ's life-giving vine.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND SHARING OF ELEMENTS

(Communion will be served in the pews today. Please receive the bread or cup as they are offered to you by a deacon. Hold it until all have been served, and we will eat and drink together at the pastor's guidance. We serve grape juice, not wine. Gluten-free wafers are on the trays with the bread. In the Congregational United Church of Christ, we celebrate the Lord's Supper with openness and welcome. Everyone is invited to the table, regardless of church membership or denominational affiliation.)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God,
in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people,
we offer our energy, intelligence, and love.
Ask much of us; expect much from us; encourage many through us.
So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and as citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

*HYMN 526 "For All the Saints" (vs. 1-3)

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O blest communion, fellowship divine,
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

And when the task is hard, the labor long,
Steals on the ear the distant harvest song,
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE "When the Saints Go Marching In"

CALL TO WORSHIP: Rev Dr Conor Fegan, Minister of Edinburgh New Town Church, Scotland, Church of Scotland. Adapted.

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Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Christian Education:	Hope Spragg
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director:	David Puderbaugh
Children's Choir Director:	Rachel Burchett
Office Manager:	Nancy LeaVesseur

WE'RE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING.
Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

TODAY

❖ CE for Children and Adults	9:15 am
❖ All Saints Jazz Worship Service	10:15 am
❖ Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship
❖ AWE	After Worship

- ❖ Choir Rehearsal — After Worship
- ❖ Youth Group — 2;00 pm

TUESDAY

- ❖ Gentle Yoga — 11:00 am
- ❖ Board of Christian Education — 6:00 pm
- ❖ Mission Board — 7:00 pm
- ❖ Stewardship Board (Zoom) — 7:00 pm

THURSDAY

- ❖ Prairie Piffari Rehearsal — 6:30 pm

NEXT SUNDAY

- ❖ CE for Children and Adults — 9:15 am
- ❖ Worship Service — 10:15 am
- ❖ Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall — After Worship
- ❖ AWE — After Worship
- ❖ Choir Rehearsal — After Worship
- ❖ Youth Group — 5:00 pm

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: 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 Bob Ashman, Richard Bloesch, Del Brown, Ann Romanowski, Bob Stein, and a friend of our congregation, Larry Koepnick. 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 have a jazz band leading our worship on this Sunday to help us look toward that day when the saints go marchin' in. With great pleasure, we welcome back well-known local jazz pianist Dick Watson along with Gary Palmer, bass, Paul Cunliffe, drums, and Jennifer Krogmeier, saxophone.

WE WILL RECEIVE OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED (NIN) OFFERING THIS MORNING: 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.

AWE 3—YES! AFTER WORSHIP ENCOUNTER (AWE 3) WILL MEET AFTER WORSHIP TODAY. We are using *Living the Questions-The Wisdom of Progressive*

Christianity. We are reading the third section: Transformation. Grab your coffee and meet us in the library!

ALL SAINTS DAY: CIDER & CYCLING THIS AFTERNOON, 2-3:30 All ages are welcome to join our youth at the Ashton House 820 Park Rd. for hot cider and trishaw rides! We will have cider & cookies (not dinner). Please sign up in Rockwood Hall for a ride slot. There will be two bikes running, one or two passengers per ride.

ICE CHECK IN SUPPORT—NOVEMBER 3: On the first Tuesday morning of each month, area families and individuals who are required to do so report at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement facility in Cedar Rapids. During these check-ins we gather outside the ICE facility. We pray, sing, and offer support, and ensure that when they check in, that they are also able to leave. Prayers are offered in English and Spanish. Our gatherings are co-sponsored by Esucha Mi Voz of Iowa, the Iowa City Catholic Worker House, and other organizations. Please consider joining us. We leave Iowa City around 7:30 a.m., returning by 10:30 a.m. If you are interested, please contact David McCartney at dfmcc@yahoo.com or text 319-383-8056.

HOPE LODGE: Our next Hope Lodge dinner will be Monday November 9 at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to provide food for the dinner see the signup sheet in Rockwood Hall.

Please plan to visit Rockwood Hall after worship on November 22, and December 13th for our **ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIVING FAIR!** There will be Heifer Project gift cards bearing Ginny Clemons' graceful calligraphy and Church World Service "ornaments". Proceeds from cards, jewelry, and gift baskets donated by artists and craftspeople in our congregation will go to local community agencies. You can trim the Mitten Tree with your new or gently used mittens, scarves, and hats for the Joan Buxton School project. And the Angel Tree will have toy request cards from the Salvation Army and envelopes for a holiday meal donation to be distributed by CommUnity. Contact John Reitz at 319-333-9588, john-reitz@uiowa.edu for information. Come have a cup of coffee and browse!

HELP AT THE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM THIS MONTH—NOVEMBER 30: When there is a fifth Monday in the month, our congregation serves at the Free Lunch Program, one of the "quiet services" in the Iowa City area that strives to do one thing well: provide a **free**, **filling** and **healthy lunch** to **anyone** who comes to us. Volunteers bring a spirit of caring and compassion to our program as the people we serve are treated as guests. We come together knowing that we're all deeply connected and dependent on one another, no matter our current circumstances.

We will serve on Monday, November 30. You can help by providing food or by serving at the site at 1105 Gilbert Court. Please sign up in Rockwood Hall. If you would like to begin to receive the signup sheet sent by email, please contact Vicki Thomae at vickithomae@gmail.com

PLEASE RETURN YOUR 2027 PLEDGE CARD: Pledge/estimate of giving cards for 2027 were sent out in early October. If you misplaced yours or did not receive one, please contact the church office—319-337-4301. If you have received a card, please prayerfully fill it out and

return it to the church as soon as possible. Your deeply considered, prayerful support will help us to continue our Church's ministry and mission in the Iowa City area and around the world.

WE HAVE A PEW CUSHION that needs a couple of buttons sewn onto it. If you can help with this, please talk with Shirley Woolums.

GIVE THANKS, GIVE FOOD: Youth Group Soup Drive for CommUnity. Please bring cans of soup or other shelf stable items to our collection table in Rockwood Hall through Sunday, November 22. Collected items will be delivered to CommUnity Monday, November 23.

ADULT EDUCATION SESSION RECORDINGS NOW AVAILABLE: If you were unable to attend a Sunday morning adult education gathering, you can now watch the event at your convenience. Please contact Nancy LeaVesseur in the church office (319-337-4301) and she will send you a link to the recording. Please note, the recordings are only available for four weeks after the session.

GENTLE YOGA every Tuesday at 11 AM! 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 entirely to the Immigrant Welcome Network. If you'd like to join us, call the office to register.

SHARE THE HARVEST: Members and friends are invited to bring produce and flowers from their gardens to sell after worship each Sunday. And members and friends are invited to buy the abundant harvest. All proceeds go to the Food Pantry and CommUnity Crisis Center. So far this summer we have "harvested" over $800. Our goal for this year is $1000. Eat your vegetables (they're good for you), pick up some flowers (they're good for you, too), and contribute to a great cause. Thanks!

MINDS MATTER: MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCE FAIR: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturday, November 7, at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. Over 25 organizations who work with people in Johnson County in regards to Mental Health will be present. Keynote speaker, podcaster Foster Huggins, will speak at 10am and an author panel will be held at 1pm with Venise Berry, Tammy Nyden, and Renee Zukin. This is a free event.

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBOR—Nametags help newer members and friends trying to put names and faces together. And—admit it—they help long-timers know who the new people are as well. They are available on the board outside of the sanctuary. Please wear them. And if you'd like one, please contact the church office.

SENDING USED MEDICINE BOTTLES TO AFRICA FOR REUSE IN CLINICS—IMPORTANT REQUEST:

1. Please donate only **orange** bottles; other colors should be recycled. Caps can be any color.
2. Bottles must have labels and all adhesive removed. Sticky bottles or bottles with residue should be recycled. I can't use them. If this is difficult for you, consider finding a partner who can help you prep the bottles.

3. Bottles should be washed in warm, soapy water. We don't want to inflict harm on individuals who could come into contact with foreign medicine.

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 our congregation. For more information contact donna-hirst@uiowa.edu. She will pick up bottles on Sundays. Thank you for your assistance.

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.