



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

WORSHIP FOR MARCH 19, 2023  
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

“It is easy for the Galatians to fall away from the gracious nature of the gospel; it is easy for us.”  
Carol E. Holtz-Martin

PRELUDE                    “Be Thou My Vision”                    Dale Wood

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS                    Randee Fieselmann, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Lamentations 3:22-23)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,  
God’s mercies never come to an end;

**they are new every morning  
great is God’s faithfulness.**

**\*HYMN (insert)      “Now Quit Your Care  
Now quit your care and anxious fear and worry;  
For schemes are vain and fretting brings no gain;  
Lent calls to prayer, to trust and dedication;  
God brings new beauty nigh.  
Reply, reply, reply with love to Love most high.**

**To bow the head in sackcloth and in ashes,  
Or rend the soul--- such grief is not Lent's goal;  
But to be led to where God's glory flashes,  
His beauty to come near.  
Make clear, make clear, make clear where truth and light appear.**

**For is not this The fast that I have chosen?  
— The prophet spoke — To shatter every yoke  
Of wickedness The grievous bands to loosen  
Oppression put to flight,  
To fight, to fight, To fight ‘til every wrong’s set right.**

**For righteousness And peace will show their faces  
To those who feed The hungry in their need,  
And wrongs redress, Who build the old waste places,  
And in the darkness shine.  
Divine, divine, Divine it is when all combine!**

**Then shall your light Break forth as doth the morning;  
Your health shall spring, The friends you make shall bring  
God’s glory bright, Your way through life adorning;  
And love shall be the prize.  
Arise, arise, Arise! and make a paradise!**

**\*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.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#464)

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Source of grace and fount of blessing, all who live in joy are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.**

ANTHEM "Be Thou My Vision" Alice Parker

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 "Andante" Johann Kriege

\*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

(The children are dismissed to Children's Church.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Ecclesiastes 9:7-10

PSALM 90:1-12

Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

**Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or the land and the earth were born,  
from age to age you are God.**

You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Go back, O child of earth."

**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past  
and like a watch in the night.**

You sweep us away like a dream;  
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

**In the morning it is green and flourishes;**

**in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

For we are consumed away in your displeasure;  
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

**Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

When you are angry, all our days are gone;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**The span of our life is seventy years,  
perhaps in strength even eighty;**

yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,  
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.

**Who regards the power of your wrath?  
who rightly fears your indignation?**

[Unison]

**So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Galatians 6:7-10

SERMON                  “The Cure for Compassion Fatigue”

\* HYMN      “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”  
(The words and music can be found [here](#).)

**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                  “Toccatà in C Minor”                  Johann Gottfried Walther

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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
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

#### TODAY

- ❖ Fourth Sunday of Lent Worship 10:15 am
- Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
- Christian Education for All Ages 9:15 am
- Children's Church During Worship
- Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall After Worship
- Choir Rehearsal 11:15 am
- Youth Group 3:00-4:30 p.m.

#### THIS WEEK

- ❖ Tuesday
  - Membership Board 5:30 pm
  - Deacons 6:00 pm
  - Trustees 7:00 pm
  - Stewardship Board 7:00 pm
- ❖ Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 pm

#### NEXT SUNDAY

- ❖ Fifth Sunday of Lent Worship 10:15 am
- Choir Rehearsal 9:00 am
- Christian Education for All Ages 9:15 am
- Children's Church During Worship
- Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall After Worship
- Choir Rehearsal 11:15 am

**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 welcome. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

**WE WELCOME EMILY PRITCHARD** as our guest choir director this morning.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Jenn Hardin will be out of the office tomorrow, Monday, March 20. As usual, Bill will be at the church on Monday afternoon.

**JOIN US FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EVENTS FOR ALL AGES** each Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m.

## IMPORTANT DATES IN LENT AND EASTER

- April 2—Palm Sunday—Worship with Distribution of Palms; One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
- April 6 Maundy Thursday—Worship in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.; Communion and Service of Tenebrae
- April 7, Good Friday—Worship in the Sanctuary at Noon
- April 9, Easter Sunday—Festival Easter Service in the Sanctuary at 10:15 a.m.
- April 30—Spring Choir Music Sunday
- Study of Ecclesiastes, each Wednesday: March 15, 22, & 29

**FLOWERS FOR EASTER BRING COLOR TO THE SANCTUARY:** Each year on Easter Sunday members and friends of Congregational UCC provide flowers for the sanctuary in memory of loved ones or to honor someone. Because so many people enjoy the burst of color, our Diaconate invites you to bring any type of spring flower—lilies, yes, but also consider tulips, daffodils, crocuses, or any other spring flower. *If you would like to have the name(s) of those remembered in the Easter Sunday bulletin, please get that information to the church office (337-4301) by Tuesday, April 4.*

**LOOK FOR THIS YEAR'S LENTEN DEVOTIONAL** arriving daily in your In Box. The Season of Lent is a time for reflecting as we seek to grow in knowledge of ourselves and in the knowledge of God. Each day there will be a new reflection from a member on the texts primarily from the “Wisdom Literature” of the Old Testament (Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes) and the Gospels and Epistles of the New Testament. Thanks to Patte Henderson and Bryan Clemons for coordinating this project of the Diaconate. If you are not receiving these, please contact Bill Lovin or the church office to be put on the list.

**OUR STUDY OF ECCLESIASTES CONTINUES THIS MONTH:** During the season of Lent, Bill Lovin is leading a Bible study looking at the book of Ecclesiastes. As with our other studies in recent years, this is held on Zoom (to allow for interstate and international participation) and meets on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30. We will explore two chapters of Ecclesiastes each week through the five Wednesdays of March. Please talk with Bill, call him at church (319-337-4301) or email him at [uccicrev@uccic.org](mailto:uccicrev@uccic.org) for more information or to let him know you are interested and he will send you the Zoom invitation.

**HOPE LODGE:** Our next two Hope Lodge dinners will be March 20 and May 22. If you would like to participate see the sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall for the March dinner. If you have questions, contact Sue Dayton, [cdayton7@mchsi.com](mailto:cdayton7@mchsi.com)

**AGAPE CAFÉ ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER, APRIL 1:** Every Wednesday, the [Agape Café](#) serves a free, hot, breakfast dine-in or to-go for our neighbors in the Iowa City area experiencing homelessness and/or food insecurity. In celebration of their 30th anniversary, you can experience the Cafe for yourself by attending their in-person fundraiser at Old Brick, on Saturday, April 1, from 7:30 -11:30.

**SACRED CONVERSTIONS TO END RACISM:** 1.5 day Intensive Workshop on Zoom, March 24-25. The Congregational UCC Mission Board is sponsoring a 2-day workshop on Zoom

for members of the congregation. Our instructor will be Rev. Dr. Velda Love, national UCC Lead for Join the Movement Toward Racial Justice and Minister for Racial Justice. Details can be found in the March Newsletter. If you are interested in registering send an email to: [donna-hirst@uiowa.edu](mailto:donna-hirst@uiowa.edu).

**SHELTER HOUSE BOOK SALE:** Saturday, March 25 and Sunday, March 26 from 10:30am-4:00pm, both days, at 860 Quarry Road, Coralville.

If you have gently used books, CDs, and DVDs, vinyl records, and puzzles, they can be dropped off at 860 Quarry Rd, Coralville until March 22. Donation times will be Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays from 10:00am-2:00pm, and Sundays from 2:00pm-4:00pm. You can also drop off books in Rockwood Hall **by Sunday, March 19**, and John Fieselmann or Donna Hirst can take them for you. The book sale could not be done without the help of volunteers. Sign up today at: [bit.ly/booksale2023](http://bit.ly/booksale2023) or just show up.

Community sponsors are one of the many reasons Shelter House's Book Sale is such a fun and engaging event. Become a sponsor and make your contribution at [www.shelterhouseiowa.org/donate](http://www.shelterhouseiowa.org/donate), or email T'Shailyn Harrington at [tshailyn.harrington@shelterhouseiowa.org](mailto:tshailyn.harrington@shelterhouseiowa.org) for more information.

**A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF SANDY BOYD** will be held on Friday, April 7 at 2:00 p.m. at Hancher Auditorium. ALL ARE WELCOME. A reception will follow and parking will be available.

**CPR AND AED TRAINING:** We will be offering free CPR and AED training to the congregation over the next few months. The training will consist of watching two 2-minute videos, watching demonstrations of CPR and AED use and getting the chance to practice. Trainings will be offered at various times. Sign up on the sheets in Rockwood Hall (Under the Upcoming Events Bulletin) and Dianne Atkins will set up the schedule to make sure everyone gets a chance. Weekday and evening sessions will be in March and April, Sundays after worship will start in May. You can learn to save a life in just a few minutes.

**DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH KEY?** (We know, it's an old joke, but it never gets tired, does it?) We have recently 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 [kdrichards1958@gmail.com](mailto:kdrichards1958@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 [kdrichards1958@gmail.com](mailto:kdrichards1958@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.