



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

WORSHIP FOR JUNE 12, 2022
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“God finds people in a variety of ways.”
Robert Wall

PRELUDE “How Lovely, Lord “ Michael Burkhardt

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kevin Koepnick, Liturgist

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, you who are looking for God in the world and in your life
and you who tremble at what you see or who have given up the search.

**Whoever we are and wherever we are
we offer each other hope and receive the support of one another.**

Come, you who are listening for the Word of God
and you who are troubled by what you hear or despairing in the silence.

**With mind and soul, body and spirit
we will seek God while God may be found**

and call upon God, who is near.

Bring your songs and your sighs.

Peace, restoration, and new strength awaits.

We will worship the God who creates, redeems and sustains.

*HYMN 207

“How Lovely, Lord”

**How lovely, Lord, how lovely
is your abiding place;
my soul is longing, fainting,
to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a shelter,
a place to build her nest,
and so your temple calls us
with in its walls to rest.**

**In your blest courts to worship,
O God, a single day
is better than a thousand
if I from you should stray.
I'd rather keep the entrance
and claim you as my Lord
than revel in the riches
the ways of sin afford.**

**A sun and shield forever
are you, O Lord Most High;
you shower us with blessings;
no good will you deny.
The saints, your grace receiving,
from strength to strength shall go,
and from their life shall rivers
of blessing overflow.**

*OPENING PRAYER (A prayer from St. Anselm of Canterbury, 1033-1109, adapted)

**O God, teach our hearts where and how to seek you, and where and how to find you.
Though we have never seen you, you are the God of our lives. You have made us and
remade us, and you have bestowed on us all the good things we possess, but you are still the
unknown, for we have not yet reached that for which we were fully made. Teach us to seek
you, for we cannot seek unless you teach us or find you unless you reveal yourself to us. Let
us seek you in our desiring, let us desire you in our seeking. Let us find you in our loving,
and let us love you in our finding. Amen.**

SOLO

“How Can I Keep from Singing” arr. S. DeFord & J. Loynes
Rachel Burchett

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.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord" Charles Callahan

*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

(At this time, children are dismissed to attend Children's Church.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 35:1-7

PSALM 146

Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Put not your trust in rulers, nor in any child of earth,
for there is no help in them.**

When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.

**Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help!
whose hope is in the Lord their God;**

who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;

**who gives justice to those who are oppressed,
and food to those who hunger.**

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

**the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous
and cares for the stranger;**

the Lord sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the wicked.

**The Lord shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 9:1-19a

SERMON “With a Little Help from Our Friends”

* HYMN 419 “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”

**How clear is our vocation, Lord,
When once we heed Your call:
To live according to Your word,
And daily learn, refreshed, restored,
That You are Lord of all
And will not let us fall.**

**But if, forgetful, we should find
Your yoke is hard to bear,
If worldly pressures fray the mind
And love itself cannot unwind
Its tangled skein of care:
Our inward life repair.**

**We mark Your saints, how they became
In hindrances more sure,
Whose joyful virtues put to shame
The casual way we wear Your name,
And by our faults obscure
Your power to cleanse and cure.**

**In what You give us, Lord, to do,
Together or alone,
In old routines or ventures new,
May we not cease to look to You--
The cross You hung upon--
All You endeavored done.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “Fanfare” Arthur Bliss

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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The flowers this morning are given in celebration of Ethel Bloesch’s 90th birthday.

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. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship. Masks are optional in Rockwood Hall during Coffee Hour.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: As we continue to reopen, there are new 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.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC—SUNDAY, JUNE 26: Summer is here and it’s time for the Church Picnic. Bring your family, bring your friends and join us at SHELTER 2 IN UPPER CITY PARK from 4-7 p.m. Our Membership Board will provide drinks and dessert. Please bring a dish to share and your own plates and tableware. (If you prefer because of Covid precautions, feel free to bring your own food.) You’re welcome to bring games and play equipment, musical instruments, lawn chairs, and anything else that will make for a happy gathering.

LONGTIME MEMBER ETHEL BLOESCH WILL TURN 90 YEARS OLD ON JUNE 16. Her family invites you to join in celebrating the occasion at an open house at Oaknoll Retirement Residence, 1 Oaknoll Court, on Thursday, June 16, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Oak Dining Room. For directions, please contact Peter Bloesch at peterbloesch55@gmail.com. Parking will be allowed on George Street between Benton and Oakcrest. – Cards may be sent to Peter Bloesch at 55 Hummingbird Lane, Iowa City 52245.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GAVE TO THE STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFEREING LAST SUNDAY. We received over \$300 to support UCC new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership development. You can still give—put “Strengthen the Church” on your check or envelope or give online.

OPEN HEARTLAND COMMUNITY CENTER DIAPER AND WIPES DRIVE THIS SUMMER: The Mission Board is sponsoring a diaper and wipes drive for Open Heartland, a community center for Spanish speaking families here in Iowa City. You are invited to create a clever name for our drive and collection box, but most of all, please drop off diapers in sizes 2, 3, 4, and 5 and training pullups, as well as wipes in the box in Rockwood Hall. They are

particularly in need of the larger sizes. If you want to contribute cash to this effort, the Mission Board will do the shopping—just put “Diaper Drive” on your envelope or check. Let's delight them with our generosity! Let's all "get behind" the effort.

THE WOMEN'S LUNCH WILL BE HELD on Thursday, June 23rd, at 11:45AM at Monica's. Call or text Martha Ann Crawford—319-855-8340—to reserve a seat.

THE MEN'S BREAKFAST IN JUNE will be held on Saturday, June 18. We'll gather at the Waterfront Hy-Vee at 8:00 a.m. Good food, great people. Join us! (No reservation needed.)

HELP PREPARE THE JUNE 27 MEAL FOR HOPE LODGE: The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge houses cancer patients (and their caregivers) who are receiving treatment at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Hope Lodge is now back to housing residents but they are not yet allowing volunteers in the building. However, they are welcoming groups to provide an evening meal, enough for 30 people, leaving food off at the door. Our church will be responsible for a meal on June 27. There is a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall. Food will be delivered to Hope Lodge by 4:30 that day and should be in containers (aluminum pans) that do not need to be returned. The address of Hope Lodge is 750 Hawkins Drive (near the Ronald McDonald House). If you have questions about this project, contact Sue Dayton, cdayton7@mchsi.com or 351-5886.

SIGN UP FOR CHANGE AGENT: AN ONLINE UCC MISSION BOARD SOCIAL CHANGE BULLETIN BOARD: The Mission Board is responding to requests from the congregation and creating an Online Social Change Bulletin Board. This monthly email publication will be a system that will include notices of rallies, petitions, upcoming legislative or policy actions warranting letters or phone calls, protests, important meetings of the school board or city council, each of which has the potential to increase social justice. Highest priority alerts will be local actions, then state actions and national actions. Notices will not support political candidates or parties. We would be delighted if everyone in the congregation is interested in subscribing. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings send your contact information to Jenn Harden, uccicadmin@uccic.org.

SHELTER HOUSE IS EXCITED TO CELEBRATE THE OPENING OF 501, their newest development offering 36 one-bedroom apartments for individuals in our community experiencing chronic homelessness. 501 offers on-site case management as well as an exam room for partnering physical and behavioral health practitioners. Housing opportunities at 501 are made through the Housing First approach: a permanent housing intervention proven to save both money and lives. Join them at **1:00 pm on June 14, 2022, at 501 Southgate Avenue, Iowa City** as they celebrate the opening of this life-saving development. Light refreshments will be served and parking is limited.

VISITING THE DIVERSITY MARKET, Saturdays, 1:00-7:00, June-July 30, is an excellent way to support our South District neighbors. International food, crafts, art, jewelry. Pepperwood Plaza 1067, Hwy 6

TABLE TO TABLE IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS to help with maintaining their mission of connecting abundance with need in Johnson County. They are incredibly flexible: whatever your schedule is, they can probably work with it! They have volunteers that come in twice a

week and volunteers that come in twice a month and both are valuable to the organization. Duties can include: harvesting produce at farms and orchards, driving or riding in T2T vans on routes to pick up and deliver food, helping prep vans for their routes in our shop (move empty boxes around while listening to some tunes!), offering free fresh produce in at-need neighborhoods, and more. If your interest is piqued, check out their website (table2table.org), contact them at volunteer@table2table.org or at 319-337-3400.



WANT TO GIVE ONLINE? SCAN THE QR CODE FOR OUR GIVING APP. Your giving makes a world of difference.

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 is the same each week.

RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES are posted after worship on Sunday 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.