



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

WORSHIP FOR JUNE 18, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“God transcends gender. Theologically speaking, God is nonbinary. That means in English, God’s pronouns are they/them. God is trans. I’d love to say this thought was originally mine, but that would be another cis white man commandeering someone else’s thought, my friend’s thought: Kevin Garcia.” -Brandon Flanery

“If God is male, then male is God”. Mary Daly in *Beyond God the Father*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chuck Connerly, Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Adaptation of Psalm 8)

When we look at the heavens, the work of your fingers—the moon and the stars; we proclaim:

Holy, Holy, Holy God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

What are humans that you made them a little lower than angels and crowded them with glory?

Holy, Holy, Holy God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

How Merciful and mighty you are;

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

As the community of faith gathered in; and as the Body of Christ called out,

Come let us worship God and share the love of Christ with everyone!

Offertory

*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

(Children are dismissed to Children's Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:26-27

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mathew 28.16-20

SERMON "With Authority"

*HYMN 293 "This is My Father's World"

**This is my Father's world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
His hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world.
Oh, let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and heaven be one.**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

- ❖ Sunday Worship 10:15 am
- Children's Church During Worship
- Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall After Worship

MONDAY

- ❖ Church Office Closed in Observance of Juneteenth

TUESDAY

- ❖ Membership Board 5:30 p.m.
- ❖ Diaconate 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ Stewardship Board 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ Trustees 7:00 p.m.

NEXT SUNDAY

- ❖ Sunday Worship 10:15 am
- Children's Church During Worship
- Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall After Worship
- Church Picnic 4:00 p.m.

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.

WE WELCOME THE REV. ANN MOLSBERRY to our pulpit this morning. Ann is a UCC minister and our Director of Children's Programs. Bill Lovin is taking this weekend off and will be back when the church opens on Tuesday.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW, Monday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth Day.

JOHNSON COUNTY JUNETEENTH COMMEMORATION EVENTS are being held through June 20. For a full list of events, please visit: https://icjuneteenth.com/?page_id=20.

FOR PENTECOST, HOPE SPRAGG CREATED A SPECIAL INSTALLATION of the Holy Spirt using the Storyteller's Tree that was first presented to our congregation at our Christmas Pageant. The tree is now on display in Rockwood Hall.

OUR MISSION BOARD IS SPONSORING AN ALL-CHURCH FOOD DRIVE THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JUNE. The need for food at the CommUnity Food bank continues to increase. Members and friends may bring the needed items to the church and place them by the big peanut butter jar in Rockwood Hall. Items will be taken to the food bank during the week. Alternatively, you may take the food yourself to the back door of the CommUnity Food Bank in Pepperwood Mall. Monetary donations at CommUnity are also welcome. The most-needed items include:

- Financial Donations

- Canned Fruit in Juice
- Peanut Butter
- Canned Meat
- Baby Diapers
- Baby Formula
- Rice and Pasta
- Hearty Soups and Stews
- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Detergent

Our last food drive effort was wildly successful, so let's do our part once again to help meet this need.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC—NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 25: Summer is here and it's time for the Church Picnic. Bring your family, bring your friends and join us at SHELTER 12 IN LOWER CITY PARK from 4-7 p.m. Restrooms and parking are near the shelter. Our Membership Board will provide drinks and dessert. Please bring a dish to share and your own plates and tableware. You're welcome to bring games and play equipment, musical instruments, lawn chairs, and anything else that will make for a happy gathering. The Mission Board invites you to bring a contribution for the CommUnity food and diaper drive along with everything else. This will be the last chance to participate in June!

OUR SUMMER JAZZ WORSHIP SERVICE WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JULY 2, the final day of the Iowa City Jazz Festival. We'll mark this occasion with a jazz worship service at 10:15 a.m. Our good friends in the Dick Watson quartet will provide the music. Join us—and bring a friend!

HOPE LODGE: Our next Hope Lodge dinner will be Monday, July 17. If you want to participate, see the sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall. If you have questions see Sue Dayton or email cdayton7@mchsi.com

DO YOU HAVE A CHURCH KEY? 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. 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. 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.
information.