



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

WORSHIP FOR JUNE 8, 2025
PENTECOST

“We will not find security for ourselves if we are estranged from the other people of this world and alienated from them and their cultures. We will not find peace for ourselves and our children by continuing to ignore other people and by arrogantly insisting that the rest of the world must learn from us what we are willing to teach and must speak to us only in our tongue.”

Sol M. Linowitz, Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1998

Ecclesiastes 4.9-12: Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have

another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.

PRELUDE “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” Gail Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Andrea Rauer, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Send Down the fire of your justice, send down the rains of your love. Come send down the Spirit, breathe life in your people...

AND we shall be the people of God!

Call us to be your compassion, teach us the song of your love. Come send down the Spirit, breath life in you people...

AND we shall be the people of God!

Call us to learn of your mercy, teach us the way of your peace. Come send down the Spirit, breath life in you people...

AND we shall be the people of God!

Call us to answer oppression, teach us the fire of your truth. Come send down the Spirit, breath life in you people...

AND we shall be the people of God!

Call us to witness your kingdom, give us the presence of Christ. Come send down the Spirit, breath life in you people...

AND we shall be the people of God!

[Unison]

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

***HYMN (insert) “Send Down the Fire”**

[REFRAIN] Send down the fire of your justice,

Send down the rains of your love;

Come, send down the Spirit,

breathe life in your people, and we shall be people of God.

Call us to be your compassion,

Teach us the song of your love;

Give us hearts that sing,

Give us deeds that ring,

Make us ring with the song of your love.

REFRAIN

Call us to learn of your mercy,

Teach us the way of your peace;

Give us hearts that feel,

**Give us hands that heal,
Make us walk in the way of your peace.**

REFRAIN

**Call us to answer oppression,
Teach us the fire of your truth;
Give us righteous souls,
'Til your justice rolls,
Make us burn with the fire of your love.**

REFRAIN

**Call us to witness your Kingdom,
Give us the presence of Christ;
May your holy light
Keep us shining bright,
Ever shine with the presence of Christ.**

REFRAIN

***OPENING PRAYER**

O Holy Sprit inspire us! Make us the people of God. Gather us in and empower us with your Spirit! Forgive us when we come to our won conclusions and remain fixed in our own impressions. Forgive us when we fail to recognize that it is in you –and our life together—that we are made whole. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#322)

**Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the Living God, Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God, Fall Afresh on Me.**

ANTHEM “Come Down, O Love Divine”

David Ashley White

TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

The Prayer of Our Savior

Oor 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 “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart/O Breath of Life” Cindy Berry

*Doxology

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 Jenga

SCRIPTURE LESSON Genesis 10.8-10; 11.1-9

PROVERBS 8. 1-11

Does not wisdom call,

and does not understanding raise her voice?

On the heights, beside the way,

at the crossroads she takes her stand;

beside the gates in front of the town,

at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

“To you, O people, I call,

and my cry is to all that live.

O simple ones, learn prudence;

acquire intelligence, you who lack it.

Hear, for I will speak noble things,

and from my lips will come what is right;

for my mouth will utter truth;

wickedness is an abomination to my lips.

All the words of my mouth are righteous;

there is nothing twisted or crooked in them.

They are all straight to one who understands

and right to those who find knowledge.

Take my instruction instead of silver,

and knowledge rather than choice gold;

for wisdom is better than jewels,

and all that you may desire cannot compare with her.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Acts 2.1-12

SERMON “From Babel to Polyglot”

*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 and CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Ev'ry Time I Feel the Spirit" John Carter

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Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Christian Education:	Hope Spragg
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Dr. Chris Nakielski
Children's Choir Director	Rachel Burchett
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

TODAY

❖ Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Worship Service	10:15 am
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship

NEXT SUNDAY

❖ Worship Service	10:15 am
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall	After Worship

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

WE WELCOME THE REV. ANN MOLSBERRY to our pulpit this morning. Ann is a retired UCC minister and a member of our congregation. The Rev. Craig Henderson will be preaching next Sunday. The Rev. Bill Lovin is on sabbatical during the month of June.

DRAINAGE PROJECT UPDATE: The disturbed areas around our church are part of a once in a generation drainage project, designed to upgrade our capacity to handle precipitation and prevent damage to our foundation. We have replaced all gutters and downspouts and are taking advantage of the University's utility tunnel replacement project, to allow us to more effectively move water away from our building and into storm sewers. Excavation for underground tiling will continue on our east and south sides. All areas will be repaved as needed. We expect the work to be completed early this month. Parking at the church will be limited during this work. Your patience is appreciated.

WE HAVE A COUPLE OF OPENINGS FOR lower elementary and high school Sunday school teachers in the fall. If you feel called to work with children or youth, please reach out to Hope Spragg for more details!

WEAR RED ON PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 8. Pentecost marks God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church and our morning will be a spirited time together. The traditional color for Pentecost is red. We invite everyone to please consider wearing "flame colors"—red, orange, yellow—to worship on Sunday, June 8.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING WILL BE RECEIVED THIS MORNING. Each year we receive a special offering that helps the church's love to grow and thrive. The "Strengthen the Church" offering grows the United Church of Christ's future by supporting new and renewing churches, youth and young adult ministries, and lay and pastoral leadership development—especially among women and people of color. It also funds the "Stillspeaking" Ministry, spreading the message of God's extravagant welcome, reaching out especially to those who have felt there is no room for them within Christianity and the church. On Sunday, June 8—Pentecost Sunday—we will receive this offering. Your generous gift will help the UCC create vibrant church communities of extravagant welcome.

THE WOMEN'S READING GROUP will gather again on June 14 @10:00 in Rockwood Hall to discuss chapter 4 of *In the Sanctuary of Women* by Jan Richardson: "Say What You See: The Book of Hildegard of Bingen." All women are invited and welcome to join the group at any time.

IOWA CITY NO KINGS PROTEST—JUNE 14: NO KINGS is a national day of action and mass mobilization in response to increasing authoritarian excesses and corruption: crackdowns on free speech, detaining people for their political views, the threatened deportation of American citizens, and defiance of the courts. On Saturday, June 14, people will show up across the United States to say no thrones, no crowns, no kings. The flag belongs to us. **Join your neighbors at the corner of Iowa and Clinton from 11 am-2pm.**

A core principle behind all No Kings events is a commitment to nonviolent action. We expect all participants to seek to de-escalate any potential confrontation with those who disagree.

IOWA CITY PRIDE FESTIVAL IS SATURDAY, JUNE 21, and the Mission Board members invite you to participate in the parade and/or the booth. Last year more than 40 members of the congregation including friends and family enjoyed the celebration. In 2025 we welcome everyone to join us as we proudly show love and support for the LGBTQ+ community and celebrate the historic inclusive commitment of our denomination and congregation where all are welcome. For more information or to share your willingness to help contact any member of the subcommittee: Dianne Atkins, Martha Ann Crawford, Linda Muston, Hope Spragg, Rebecca Weatherford or Julie Wittig.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC—SUNDAY, JUNE 22: Bring your family, bring your friends, and join us on Sunday, June 22, 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL on August 18-20, Mon-Wed, 8AM-11AM. All children pre-k-high school are encouraged to attend as campers or helpers! Silver cord hours are available for high school volunteers. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend! Sign-up in Rockwood Hall!

SUMMER IS HERE AND THE AGAPE CAFE NEEDS YOUR HELP! They are looking for folks to volunteer at the Cafe Wednesday mornings until the end of August. Once or twice a month would help out greatly. Pick what is calling to you: serving, cooking, dish washing, cleanup! You can sign up directly using [Signup Genius](#) or reach out with questions to agapebreakfast@gmail.com.

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.

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/1547852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.