



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

WORSHIP FOR JUNE 9, 2024
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(now the ears of my ears awake and
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)
e. e. cummings

PRELUDE “Song” Flor Peeters

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Marsh Lowe, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Creator who made us,

we celebrate the goodness of our lives.

In the name of the Christ who came to set us free,

we rejoice in our diversity of love and life.

In the name of the Spirit who sustains us,

we challenge ourselves to grow and to dream.
God, in your presence we gather,
be among us now!

* HYMN (insert) “God of Change and Glory”
(You can view and download a copy of the words and music of this hymn [here](#).)
God of change and glory, God of time and space,
When we fear the future, give to us your grace.
In the midst of changing ways give us still the grace to praise.

Refrain:
Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
One Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word
Known in many ways, hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!

God of many colors, God of many signs,
You have made us different, blessing many kinds.
As the old ways disappear, let your love cast out our fear.

Freshness of the morning, newness of each night,
You are still creating endless love and light.
This we see, as shadows part, many gifts from one great heart.

* OPENING PRAYER
God of Love, we come together to meet in your name.
We come as a church family.
We aren't alike.

We don't look alike.
We don't think alike.
We don't act alike
and we don't all like the same things.
Despite all our diversity
and our faults
we are all made in your image.
May we never forget whose image we reflect.

We pray for an inclusive church
and yet we don't always like each other.
It is hard to accept
that other good people can hold views that differ from ours.

Not all of us can walk a straight and narrow path.
Not all of us would want to.

**We know there are many worthy paths to travel
and you can be found on them all.**

**Provision us with hope and joy.
Enable us to walk tall
and move forward valuing otherness.
Help us to seek good in everyone
and in that seeking there find you. Amen.**

* CONGREGATIONAL REPOSE

**Many gifts, one Spirit, one love known in many ways.
In our difference is blessing, from diversity we praise
One Giver, one Lord, one Spirit, one Word
Known in many ways, hallowing our days.
For the Giver, for the gifts, praise, praise, praise!**

ANTHEM “A Gaelic Blessing” John Rutter

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 “Intermezzo” Flor Peeters

*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 Genesis 21:8-21

PSALM 86

Bow down your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and in misery.

**Keep watch over my life, for I am faithful;
save your servant, for I put my trust in you.**

Be merciful to me, O Lord, for you are my God;
I call upon you all the day long.

**Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
and great is your love toward all who call upon you.

**Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer,
and attend to the voice of my supplications.**

In the time of my trouble I will call upon you,
for you will answer me.

**Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord,
nor anything like your works.**

All nations you have made will come and worship you, O Lord,
and glorify your name.

**For you are great;
you do wondrous things;
and you alone are God.**

Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant;
and save the child of your handmaid.

**Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped me and comforted me.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON II Corinthians 4:13-18

SERMON “

*HYMN 343 “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service”

**Called as partners in Christ’s service,
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfill God’s chosen end.**

**Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring,
Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering,
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
All God’s people, young and old,**

**Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.**

**Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens,
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
Words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action,
Make us colleagues, free and fair.**

**So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.**

*BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE "Maestoso" Colin Mawby

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Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Dr. Chris Nakielski
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

TODAY

❖ Choir Rehearsal	9:00 am
Worship Service	10:15 am

NEXT SUNDAY

❖ Worship Service

10:15 am

WE'RE GLAD THAT YOU ARE WORSHIPPING WITH US THIS MORNING. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship.

PLEASE NOTE: STREETS CLOSED DURING IOWA ARTS FESTIVAL—SUNDAY, JUNE 9. Spring and summer bring great festivals to Iowa City—and close off some of the streets! Sunday, June 9, is the final day of the Iowa Arts Festival. Clinton Street will be closed between Burlington and Jefferson Streets. Access to the church will be available from Jefferson Street coming from the west and from Clinton Street coming from the north. Join us for worship at 10:15 a.m., but plan on a slightly longer walk. You can find more information here; <https://www.icgov.org/Home/Components/News/News/1313/>

WITH SADNESS AND IN THE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION, we want to let everyone know that David Schoonover died on Sunday, June 2. David was a long-time member of our church and often served as liturgist during worship. While unable to attend worship in recent years, she regularly joined us online. A memorial service will be held at the church on Saturday, June 29, at 1:00 p.m.

NAME TAGS: As a welcoming gesture, church members are encouraged to wear their name tag for church services. This helps new members learn names. It also serves as a greeting to visitors. If your name tag is missing or you just can't find it, please contact the church office and ask Jenn to make a new one for you

JUNETEENTH CONCERT AND CELEBRATION, Friday, June 14, 4:00-9:30, Downtown Iowa City. Royceann's Soul Food, Spoken Word, Fashion Show, Shining Star (Earth Wind and Fire cover band). More information about this event can be found in the June newsletter. Learn more about the event at icjuneteenth.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR JUNETEENTH EVENT IN DOWNTOWN IOWA CITY: The Johnson County Juneteenth Celebration in Downtown Iowa City is in need of volunteers! The event, held in the Iowa City Ped Mall from 4 to 9:30 p.m. Friday, June 14, needs volunteers to help set up, serve food, collect trash, tear down, and more. [Those interested can check the event's SignUp Genius page.](#)

MISSION BOARD MEMBERS ARE INVITING YOU TO PARTICIPATE WITH THEM AND OTHER CHURCH MEMBERS AT THE IOWA CITY PRIDE FESTIVAL EVENTS ON SATURDAY, JUNE 15. There are sign-up sheets posted in Rockwood Hall with opportunities to be in the *parade* and work at the *booth*. Please join us as we celebrate diversity and support the LGBTQ+ community. If you have ideas, interest or concerns, visit with any of the LGBTQ+ subcommittee members: Hope Spragg, Linda Muston, Julie Wittig, Dianne Atkins, Rebecca Weatherford, Martha Ann Crawford or Carson Fixmer.

PLAN NOW FOR THE CHURCH PICNIC, SUNDAY, JUNE 23. Bring your family, bring your friends, and join us on Sunday, June 23, 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 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD IS ACTIVELY SEARCHING FOR A NEW DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. A complete job description is posted on the church website. Advertising will commence by the end of March. Members of the congregation are encouraged to spread the word and have interested persons contact Rev. William Lovin uccicrev@uccic.org and Sally Strang sallystrang@mchsi.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.

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP THE HOMELESS: Trinity United Methodist Church of Riverside Iowa has purchased a loom and is using clean, plastic bags to construct Sleeping Mats for the homeless. These are lightweight, waterproof, and easy to pack and carry. By contributing our clean, plastic bags, we can help them help others. Bring your clean, unneeded, plastic grocery bags, or trash bags, any color, any size, here, to Rockwood Hall. We will see to it that they are delivered.

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/154m7852>. The recordings remain up permanently, so you can watch past worship services at your convenience or recommend them to a friend.