



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

WORSHIP FOR JULY 11, 2021  
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Whoever you are, no matter how lonely,  
the world offers itself to your imagination,  
calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting—  
over and over announcing your place  
in the family of things.

Mary Oliver

*Today is a communion Sunday. Before joining the worship service, you are invited to assemble what you will eat and what you will drink. It can be bread and grape juice or wine or something as simple as a cracker or rice cake and water for use in our worship.*

PRELUDE    Here I Am, Lord - Setting by John Carter

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Who is this God whom we have come to worship?

**God is the creator of all.**

The creator of birds and trees, wind and sea.

**God is the creator of all things seen and unseen.**

Then let us worship the God of creation

**The God of the great whale and of tiny the sparrow.**

HYMN "The Lone, Wild Bird"

**The lone, wild bird in lofty flight**

**Is still with Thee, nor leaves Thy sight.**

**And I am Thine! I rest in Thee.**

**Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.**

**The ends of earth are in Thy hand,**

**The sea's dark deep and far-off land.**

**And I am Thine! I rest in Thee.**

**Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.**

OPENING PRAYER

**As a bird comes to find rest in the branches of a tree let us find rest  
in you, O God. Come rest in us and let us find rest in you.**

**Let us see you, Great Spirit, resting in all that is around us.**

**Over, under, and through all we have constructed, your wild world remains.**

**Even within the latticework of our cities let us see we share these**

**Places with living things of all kinds and varieties. Let us appreciate their purposes  
alongside ours.**

**Around corners and across streets we see the sky and clouds,**

**we receive the wind and rain, we breathe the air and know each day we are  
enfolded within your creating hands. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Jeremiah 23:23-29

PSALM 139:1-12, 17-18, 23

Lord, you have searched me out and known me;

you know my sitting down and my rising up;

you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You trace my journeys and my resting-places  
and are acquainted with all my ways**

Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,

but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

**You press upon me behind and before  
and lay your hand upon me.**

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

**Where can I go then from your Spirit?  
where can I flee from your presence?**

If I climb up to heaven, you are there;  
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

**If I take the wings of the morning  
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

even there your hand will lead me  
and your right hand hold me fast.

**If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,  
and the light around me turn to night,"**

darkness is not dark to you;  
the night is as bright as the day;  
darkness and light to you are both alike.

**How deep I find your thoughts, O God!  
how great is the sum of them!**

If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;  
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.

**Search me out, O God, and know my heart;  
try me and know my restless thoughts.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Matthew 10:29-31

SERMON      "Resting in the Deep Peace of God"

TIME OF GRATITUDE

ANTHEM      "Here I Am Lord"  
                 Kristin and Josh Ramseyer

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN      "Many and Great, O God Are Thy Things"  
(The words and music can be found [here.](#))

**Many and great, O God, are Thy things,  
Maker of earth and sky;  
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars,  
Thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at Thy word the waters were formed;  
Deep seas obey Thy voice.**

**Grant unto us communion with Thee,  
Thou star-abiding One;  
Come unto us and dwell with us:  
With Thee are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end,  
Eternal life with Thee.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THANKSGIVING OVER THE ELEMENTS

**We thank you, O Christ,  
that scattered though we are, with different needs and hopes  
you call us together at this meal and unite us as one body.**

**Let us rejoice in the things of this world.  
We receive with joy the elements of life—  
sprouting grain and flowing water—  
you give us to nourish our bodies and our spirits.**

**We thank you for this bread and cup set before us.  
May they speak to us  
of the everyday made holy,  
of life made new,  
of hope for your realm among us.**

We remember that on the night of his arrest...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We give you thanks for the table you have set for us within your wide world  
and for this food and drink you provide.  
We are mindful you have made a place for us and ask for wisdom to make space  
for all those who share it with us.  
Lead us on the path where we will find communion with you, each other and all of creation.  
Amen.**

HYMN        "God of the Sparrow"

**God of the sparrow  
God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise**

**God of the earthquake**  
**God of the storm**  
**God of the trumpet blast**  
**How does the creature cry Woe**  
**How does the creature cry Save**

**God of the rainbow**  
**God of the cross**  
**God of the empty grave**  
**How does the creature say Grace**  
**How does the creature say Thanks**

**God of the hungry**  
**God of the sick**  
**God of the prodigal**  
**How does the creature say Care**  
**How does the creature say Life**

**God of the neighbor**  
**God of the foe**  
**God of the pruning hook**  
**How does the creature say Love**  
**How does the creature say Peace**

**God of the ages**  
**God near at hand**  
**God of the loving heart**  
**How do your children say Joy**  
**How do your children say Home**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Praise to the Lord - Timothy Flynn

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Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs:	The Rev. Ann Molsberry

Organist:  
Choir Director

Bill Crouch  
Kristin Ramseyer

**Thanks to Kristin and Josh Ramseyer** for singing this morning.

**RECORDINGS OF THE WORSHIP SERVICES** are posted by early Sunday morning each week 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.

**ALL CHURCH WORK DAY, SATURDAY, JULY 24, STARTING AT NOON.** Join with your Congregational UCC friends to help us get our building ready so that we can reopen and resume in-person worship services. We'll start around noon and work as long as we can through the afternoon.

**A Memorial Service for Judy Doorenbos** will be held on Friday, July 30, at 10:30 a.m. at Lensing Funeral Home.

**WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SING A SOLO, DUET, ETC. DURING WORSHIP THIS SUMMER.** If you are interested, you can sign up [here](#). High school instrumentalists and others who are interested in sharing a solo and accompanying a couple of hymns are also welcome to participate. For more information, please contact Kristin Ramseyer.

**REOPENING NEWS:** The Reopening Committee is making progress as we plan for a safe return to in-person worship services. We are increasing our internet capability so that we can livestream our worship when we return to Sunday morning services. We are making sure that our filters and air intake provide for high air quality in the sanctuary. Our current plans look toward restarting in-person worship in early August. Some church boards have started meeting at the church.

**JOHNSON COUNTY INTERFAITH COALITION VOTER REGISTRATION EFFORT**  
The Johnson County Interfaith Coalition has received a substantial grant to do voter registration and canvassing in Johnson County. We will be able to hire a canvassing coordinator and pay folks to do canvassing in lower income and neighborhoods of people of color.

We will be using an online database to do data entry, searching, creating contact lists for neighborhoods, etc.

We need folks with computer experience to work with the Voter Action Network (VAN) database. If you have computer skills and are willing to donate some time to assist with this project over the next 1.5 years, please let me know. As with most computer tasks, the scheduling of work is flexible, and you would get training in the use of the database.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Donna Hirst.

## **Table to Table Seeks Volunteers**

Volunteers interact with food donor organizations, box up and load food donations into a Table to Table van, and transport and unload the food at recipient organizations such as community pantries, shelters, preschools, etc. Route shifts typically take place between 8am-Noon Monday-Friday and last about 2-3 hours. Number of shifts each week depends on the need and the volunteer's availability. We also have a limited number of routes on Saturday mornings. During the summer we also have opportunities related to gleaning fresh fruits and vegetables.

If you think you might be interested and have a bit of time on your hands (even just a few hours during the week) and would like to volunteer, **please email [volunteer@table2table.org](mailto:volunteer@table2table.org) or call 319-337-3400 to chat about volunteer opportunities.** More information is available at our website: <https://table2table.org/volunteers/>. Masks are required and we have implemented additional safety precautions in accordance with CDC guidelines.