



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

WORSHIP FOR AUGUST 13, 2023  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We pray for all who have authority in the world, for the leaders of our nation and of those who bear office in all the nations, that they may seek the peaceable fruits of justice; grant that they may know the limits of human wisdom in the perplexities of this day, and calling upon you in humility, and acknowledging your majesty, may learn the wisdom of restraint and the justice of charity. Amen.

Reinhold Niebuhr

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Andrea Rauer, Liturgist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

How precious is the steadfast love of God.

**All people may take refuge in the shadow of God's embrace.**

In Christ we behold the light of God.

Come, let us worship the God of mercy,

**That we might become the people God is calling us to be.**

\*HYMN 229                    “From All That Dwell Below the Skies

**From all that dwell below the skies  
Let the Creator’s praise arise:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung  
Through every land, by every tongue.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**In every land begin the song,  
To every land the strains belong:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
In cheerful sounds all voices raise  
And fill the world with joyful praise.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;  
Eternal truth attends Thy Word:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,  
Till suns rise and set no more.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

OPENING PRAYER

**We are a people entangled in many crises, O God. Help us to find our way out of this maze. Light the path that will guide us. Lead us by the wellsprings that will calm us. Let us walk humbly with you, speaking with courage, acting with compassion and using your gifts of reason and common sense to make our way forward. Guide us past mistaken turns and dead ends and bring us into an open and broad place where we can see beyond ourselves to our common humanity and the vision of well-being you have for your whole creation. Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#229)

**Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship God in humbleness:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
O praise the One who gives us birth,  
Redeeming, giving life its worth.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

TRIO “Here I Am, Lord”     Daniel L. Schutte  
Jo Benda, Charley Platz, Ray Muston

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

\*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 are dismissed to Children's Church)

SCRIPTURE LESSON      Jeremiah 31:27-34

PSALM 51:1-4, 10-12, 15-18

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.

**Against you only have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.**

And so you are justified when you speak  
and upright in your judgment.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.

**Give me the joy of your saving help again  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

Open my lips, O Lord,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

**Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.**

The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**Be favorable and gracious to Zion,  
and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON      I Timothy 2:1-7

SERMON “Three Things Needed for the Months Ahead”

\*HYMN 360 “Hope of the World”

**Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion,  
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent.  
Save us, thy people, from consuming passion,  
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.**

**Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,  
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,  
still let thy Spirit unto us be given  
to heal earth's wounds and end her bitter strife.**

**Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,  
showing to wandering souls the path of light;  
walk thou beside us, lest the tempting byways  
lure us away from thee to endless night.**

**Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us  
from death and dark despair, from sin and guilt;  
we render back the love thy mercy gave us;  
take thou our lives, and use them as thou wilt.**

**Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death victorious,  
Who by this sign did conquer grief and pain,  
We would be faithful to Thy gospel glorious;  
Thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!**

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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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

❖	Worship Service	10:15 am
	Children’s Church	During Worship

Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall      After Worship

MONDAY

❖      Mission Board                              7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

❖      Marge Hoppin Memorial Service      3:30 pm  
Stewardship Board                      7:00 pm  
Trustees                                      7:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

❖      Membership Board                      5:30 pm

NEXT SUNDAY

❖      Worship Service                      10:15 am  
Children's Church                      During Worship  
Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall      After Worship  
Student Welcome Outside              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. Masks are welcome.

**A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR MARGE HOPPIN** will be held in the sanctuary at 3:30 on Tuesday, August 15. A visitation time will begin at 2:30 and a reception in Rockwood Hall will follow the service. Marge died on Monday, July 17.

**FERN WEIR WILL TURN 99 ON AUGUST 15.** If you would like to send her a card, her address is 2137 Oakdale Ridge, Coralville, IA 52241.

**BE A PART OF WELCOMING STUDENTS:** When the UI Fall Semester begins later this month, Congregational UCC will once again welcome the new and returning students. On August 20, 21, & 22, we will have events designed to let students know who we are, what we value, and how they might find a spiritual home here while studying at the University. If you would like to help with this, please talk with Martha Ann Crawford, Allan Hogue, Ben Copeland or Bill Lovin.

**WE HAVE SEVERAL PARENTS TRYING TO DO IT ALL!** We also have several retired folks looking for a meaningful connection! How can you help?

**Sunday Morning Rush:** We need a few good chefs that would love to fix a very simple, lite breakfast for ONE (1) Sunday morning. You could have the use of the kitchen for a brief time to serve (not prepare) a warm breakfast from 9:00 to 9:15. Morning Glory Muffins? Breakfast Pizza? Egg casserole? Sausage rolls? Recipes provided. Fix it at home, bring it in hot!

**Drivers:** Are you available occasionally to give a child a ride to school, a lesson, or Sunday School?

**Tutors:** Do you have an afternoon to supervise reading, math, or homework?

**Mother's Helper:** Do you have an hour or two to watch a child (with the parent present) while

the parent catches up on tasks like paperwork or weeding/gardening.  
See: Rev. Ann Molsberry

**THE JOHNSON COUNTY INTERFAITH COALITION (JCIC) IS HAVING A FAITH IN ACTION FRIEND AND FUNDRAISER** on September 7, 5:30-8:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Society. Our church has purchased a table for 10 and we've already filled it! The Mission Board is discussing getting a 2<sup>nd</sup> table. Last year 20 Unitarians attended the event. **We can do better than 10.** If you are interested in supporting JCIC by attending the Sept. 7 event, send a note to [donna-hirst@uiowa.edu](mailto:donna-hirst@uiowa.edu) and/or Jenn at [uccicadmin@uccic.org](mailto:uccicadmin@uccic.org). If you can't attend, but would like to make a donation: Pay by check to: Johnson County Interfaith Coalition, Bea Hicks, Treasurer, PO Box 966, Iowa City, IA 52240. Put "2023 Faith in Action" in the Memo Line. Or for credit card or PayPal: <https://organizeiowa.com/donate/>.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.