



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

WORSHIP FOR AUGUST 16, 2020
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“When our days become dreary with low-hovering clouds of despair, and when our nights become darker than a thousand midnights, let us remember that there is a creative force in this universe, working to pull down the gigantic mountains of evil, a power that is able to make a way out of no way and transform dark yesterdays into bright tomorrows.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

PRELUDE “Trio in C Major,” Op. 189, No. 4 Josef Rheinberger

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 34)

O magnify the Lord with me,

and let us exalt God’s name together.

Look to God and be radiant;

so your faces shall never be ashamed.

Taste and see that God is good;

happy are those who take refuge in God.

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted,

and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

HYMN “Come to Me, O Weary Traveler” (vs. 1, 3, & 4)

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Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

Unison

1. Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to
 2. Do not fear, my yoke is eas - y; do not
 3. Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my
 4. Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - eler; rest in

me with your dis - tress; come to me, you hea - vy
 fear, my bur - den's light; do not fear the path be -
 yoke and come with me. Take my yoke, I am be -
 me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is

bur - dened; come to me and find your rest.
 fore you; do not run from me in fright.
 side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty.
 gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care.

WORDS: Sylvia Dunstan, 1990
 MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1992

AUSTIN
 87.87

OPENING PRAYER (attributed to St. Augustine)

God of life, there are many days when the burdens we carry are heavy on our shoulders and weigh us down, when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening, when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage. Flood the path with light; turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us a sense of community with the saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of those who journey with us on the road of life, to your honor and glory. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON Exodus 14:10-18

PSALM 114

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt,
from a foreign nation,

**Judah became God's sanctuary
and Israel God's dominion.**

The sea beheld it and fled;

Jordan turned and went back.

**The mountains skipped like rams,
and the little hills like young sheep.**

What ailed you, O sea, that you fled?

O Jordan, that you turned back?

**You mountains, that you skipped like rams?
you little hills like young sheep?**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord,

at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**who turned the hard rock into a pool of water
and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 40:3-5

SERMON "We Make the Way"

A TIME OF GRATITUDE

DUET "Hymn of Promise" arr. Lloyd Larson
Wen Chin Liu & Kristin Ramseyer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN "Lead On, O Cloud of Presence"

Lead on, O cloud of presence; the exodus is come,

in wilderness and desert our people make their home.

Our bondage left behind us, new hopes within us grow.

We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

**Lead on, O fiery pillar; we follow yet with fears,
but we shall come rejoicing though joy be born of tears.
We are not lost, though wandering, for by your light we come,
and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.**

**Lead on O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land
where justice dwells with mercy, and love is law's demand.**

POSTLUDE “Fantasia” John Stainer

Minister: The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs: The Rev. Ann Molsberry
Organist: Bill Crouch
Choir Director Kristin Ramseyer

Special thanks to Wen Chin Liu & Kristin Ramseyer for singing during our worship today.

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BILL LOVIN WILL BE ON VACATION FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 17 THROUGH SUNDAY, AUGUST 30. The Rev. Ann Molsberry, our Director of Children’s Programs, will be preaching on August 23 and 30. The Lamentations Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, September 2.

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.

DO YOU HAVE A HYMN THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SING IN THE COMING MONTHS? Let Bill Lovin know. This is no guarantee that we will sing it, as the hymn will need to be covered by our reprint license, fit with the rest of the worship service and work for the person who will be leading the singing—but we’d like to hear from you and sing a new song.

WE WANT TO SEE YOU! We would like to have members and friends be a part of the greeting time during our online worship. Please send us a brief—10-30 second—video of you or your family waving, saying “Hi,” singing, or whatever you would like. Or send a photo. We’ll start including a few of these in the worship service each week as a way to strengthen our connections with each other. Send your greeting videos to https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UcrZ4ya9xFir39cG_1x-SCO6dVPBbV0B?usp=sharing

DONATION STATEMENTS FOR JANUARY THROUGH JUNE 2020 ARE NOW AVAILABLE. If you would like a copy please let Nan Martin know by emailing her at uccicgiving@uccic.org or leaving a message on the office line (337-4301). She can email a copy or put a paper copy in the mail, if you would prefer.

FOOD BANK RETURNS TO ACCEPTING IN-KIND DONATIONS

Beginning Wednesday, July 22nd, the CommUnity Food Bank will be able to accept donations of food and household items by appointment. Appointments will be available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8am-4pm.

There are 3 ways to request an appointment to drop off an in-kind donation. You can:

- Call the Food Bank at 319-351-0128
- E-mail donations@builtbycommunity.org, or
- Set up an appointment at [this link](#)

More information about the types of items we are able to accept is available [on their website](#).

The Consultation of Religious Congregations (CRC) is forming a Racism Education Work Group to compile resources and provide assistance to faith communities as they begin to tackle the tasks spelled out in the CRC Statement on Racism & Current Events. If you are interested in serving in the work group or would like more information, please contact Mark Martin at pastormwm@gmail.com or 319-330-3030.

TEE OFFERING Will Be Received on September 13: Our annual offering to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South Africa (TEE Offering) will be received during worship on Sunday, September 13. This offering has been a tradition in our congregation for several decades. It was initially started when the brother of our then minister, the Rev. Ed Heininger, worked for TEE in South Africa. TEE is a private, nonprofit, distance learning institution serving five south African countries. The mission of the college is to equip men and women for Christian ministry. Students come from 28 denominations across southern Africa including the UCC of South Africa. For more information about this amazing program, please visit their website at www.tee.co.za. Please plan to give generously—our support makes a difference.

CONGREGATIONAL UCC WILL SERVE AT THE FREE LUNCH PROGRAM on Monday, August 31. If you are interested in helping, please contact Vicki Thomae at vickithomae@gmail.com.

TABLE TO TABLE CAN USE YOUR HELP:

Garden Recovery Program: Calling all Gardeners! Table to Table is looking for home gardeners with extra produce to donate. You grow and harvest it, and they will pick it up! Start donating now by contacting T2T at gardendonation@table2table.org, or by calling 319-337-3400.

Gleaning Program: Let's go glean! Help us glean (harvest) food from local farms to donate to our neighbors in need. Flexible schedule and social distancing outdoors. To volunteer, contact Table to Table at gleaning@table2table.org or call 319-337-3400.