



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

WORSHIP FOR AUGUST 7, 2022
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Today is a communion Sunday. If you are joining us online, before 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.

“Recounting what God has done reinforces our belief in what God can do.”
Debra Mumford

PRELUDE “Nocturne No. 5” John Field

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Kevin Richards, Liturgist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls to us with steadfast love.

**We will return to the One who heals and restores,
who revives and raises up.**

*HYMN 464 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!**

**All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.**

**Mortals, join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Love divine is reigning o’er us,
Joining all in heaven’s plan.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music leads us sunward
In the triumph song of life.**

*OPENING PRAYER

**O God, the source of our being and the goal of our longing:
the whole earth is full of your glory and all that has life is sustained by you.
We rejoice that you have made us to reflect your image and to care for creation.
Give us courage to face our failure and limitations, and to overcome our helplessness.
Take the things that we have destroyed.
Take the brokenness of our living.
Gather around us your goodness,
and renew us and the whole creation with your saving grace; through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SOLO “An Irish Blessing” Bill Chilcotte.
Sarah Fairfield

SERVICE OF GIVING

Invitation

Offertory “Consolation No. 1” Franz Liszt

*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

(At this time, children are dismissed to attend Children's Church.)

SCRIPTURE LESSON Hosea 14:1-9

PSALM 32

Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

**Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and did not conceal my guilt.

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

**You are my hiding-place;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

**Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."**

Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

**Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 9:9-13

SERMON "The Healing Love of God"

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

HYMN 515 "Now to Your Table Spread"

**Now to your table spread
We come, each one in faith
That You alone provide the words of life and death:
In wine and bread,
On promised food
We find Your loving heart, O God.**

**Hands of the world stretch out
Your mystery to touch
In longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,
To sing in joy,
To cry in grief,
To know Your meaning for our life.**

**Here is our common wealth
In sharing what is good,
As though all humankind around one table stood,
This bread to break,
This wine to taste:
One people in the name of Christ.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THANKSGIVING FOR BREAD AND CUP

Let us join together in prayer:

**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.**

**We thank you for this bread and cup set before us,
food and drink to nourish us in body and in spirit,
signs of your life-giving love.**

**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

O God, through this bread and cup you have made us one with you and with each other. May the unity we find at this table be a gift that we carry out into your suffering and divided world. Help us find strength in knowing that you, the God of peace, will always be with us. Amen.

*** HYMN 351 “Give to Me, Lord a Thankful Heart”**

**Give to me, Lord, a thankful heart
And a discerning mind;
Give, as I play the Christian’s part,
The strength to finish what I start
And act on what I find.**

**When, in the rush of days, my will
Is habit bound and slow,
Help me to keep in vision, still,
What love and power and peace can fill
A life that trusts in you.**

**By your divine and urgent claim,
And by your human face,
Kindle our sinking hearts to flame,
And as you teach the world your name
Let it become your place.**

**Jesus, with all your church I long
To see your kingdom come:
Show me your way of righting wrong
And turning sorrow into song
Until you bring me home.**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE “Psalm Nineteen” Benedetto Marcello

Minister:	The Rev. Bill Lovin
Director of Children’s Programs:	The Rev. Ann Molsberry
Organist:	Bill Crouch
Choir Director	Chris Nakielski
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

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WE’RE GLAD THAT YOU HAVE JOINED US FOR WORSHIP THIS MORNING. We are putting the safety of both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated in our congregation and the community first. Masks are required for all people in all parts of the building. We will keep social distance in the pews. Everyone is invited to Coffee Hour in Rockwood Hall after worship. Masks are optional in Rockwood Hall during Coffee Hour.

THANKS TO SARAH FAIRFIELD for singing this morning.

A NEW MEMBER CLASS will be held in the coming weeks. If you are interested in joining Congregational UCC or would like more information about us, we invite you to attend these sessions. For more information, please talk with Bill Lovin or call the church office, 337-4301.

NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS THIS WEEK: On Wednesday, August 10, Bill will begin leading a Zoom Bible study looking at Paul’s letter to the Romans. Together we will explore at least some of the theological depths of this books that is the longest, the weightiest, and the most substantial of all of Paul’s correspondence. Stronger fare than usual for the summer, to be sure! Please join us as we take eight Wednesday evening sessions to explore this 16 chapter book. The sessions are informal and no previous knowledge of the specific book or the Bible in general is needed. If you are interested, call Bill at 319-337-4301 or email him at uccicrev@uccic.org and he’ll send you the Zoom invitation. We will meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:00- 8:30 beginning Wednesday, August 10.

USHERS, GREETERS, AND HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES: As we continue to reopen, there are new 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.

FAITH IN ACTION: A JCIC FUND AND FRIEND RAISER

The Johnson County Interfaith Coalition (JCIC) invites you to join us at the Unitarian Universalist Society, 2355 Oakdale Rd, Coralville September 8, 2022 5:30-8PM Co-chairs are Bea Hicks and Donna Hirst.

The goals of Faith in Action are: 1) to raise money for a community organizer to develop grants, assist with community events and actions, and build the community by enlisting new member organizations, 2) to provide an opportunity for the community to share a meal and social opportunities, 3) to celebrate JCIC accomplishments and renew a common purpose, and 4) provide basic information about the current status of JCIC.

The event will include music, a catered meal featuring Mexican and Middle Eastern cuisine, and a silent auction. Attendees will have an opportunity to register their highest priority social justice concerns during “Issues on the Wall”.

Tickets are \$50 per adult. Discounted tickets are available; we want everyone who is interested to attend. The registration form includes instructions for requesting a discount.

REGISTER:

To register online go to <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/372529715407> by August 29, 2022.

SPONSOR:

Individual Sponsors are encouraged at 3 levels: 1) Supporter \$100 2) Change agent \$300 3) Transformational \$500.

About JCIC:

The Congregational UCC has been a member of JCIC since its inception in 2017. JCIC has ca. 20 member institutions: Protestant, Jewish, Catholic, Islamic, and secular. Our vision: To build a multi-cultural faith-based community organization that advocates for social justice. Our mission: To organize for social equity, first and foremost for persons of color.

SIGN UP FOR *CHANGE AGENT*: AN ONLINE UCC MISSION BOARD SOCIAL CHANGE BULLETIN BOARD: The Mission Board is responding to requests from the congregation and creating an Online Social Change Bulletin Board. This monthly email publication will be a system that will include notices of rallies, petitions, upcoming legislative or policy actions warranting letters or phone calls, protests, important meetings of the school board or city council, each of which has the potential to increase social justice. Highest priority alerts will be local actions, then state actions and national actions. Notices will not support political candidates or parties. We would be delighted if everyone in the congregation is interested in subscribing. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings send your contact information to Jenn Harden, uccicadmin@uccic.org.

TABLE TO TABLE IS IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS to help with maintaining their mission of connecting abundance with need in Johnson County. They are incredibly flexible: whatever your schedule is, they can probably work with it! They have volunteers that come in twice a week and volunteers that come in twice a month and both are valuable to the organization. Duties can include: harvesting produce at farms and orchards, driving or riding in T2T vans on routes to pick up and deliver food, helping prep vans for their routes in our shop (move empty boxes around while listening to some tunes!), offering free fresh produce in at-need neighborhoods, and more. If your interest is piqued, check out their website (table2table.org), contact them at volunteer@table2table.org or at 319-337-3400.



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.