

[The Lord] has told you,
O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require
of you but to *do justice*,
and to *love kindness*, and
to *walk humbly* with your God?
—Micah 6:8

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

WORSHIP FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2022
FORTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“The prophet refers to God, not as absolute, but always as related to the people.”
Abraham Joshua Heschel

PRELUDE “God of Grace” arr. Don Wyrzten

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Anna Mary Mueller, Liturgist

CHORAL INTROIT

* CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 27)

God is our light and our salvation;

Whom shall we fear?

**God is the stronghold of our lives;
of whom shall we be afraid?**

We shall see the goodness of our God
in the land of the living.

**Wait for the sovereign God;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for our God!**

***HYMN 264 “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”**

**When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried
alleluia!**

**How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound
alleluia!**

**So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in every tongue,
alleluia!**

**Let every instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always
alleluia!**

***OPENING PRAYER**

**Creating, sustaining, and redeeming God, you are the Ground of our being, the love in
which we live and move.**

May we be aware of your presence which is always with us.

May we be grateful for your goodness that surrounds us at all times.

May we find life in your grace that accepts us as we are but does not leave us as we are.

**In our time together, strengthen us with song and prayer, with scripture and proclamation,
so that in our time apart we might follow Jesus Christ, who is our Way, our Truth, and our
Life. Amen.**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (#495, vs. 1)**

We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.

Embraced by death he broke its fearful hold;

And our despair He turned to blazing joy.

Alleluia! Amen.

ANTHEM “With What Shall I Come Before the Lord” Tim Blickhan

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 “Cantabile” Jacques Lemmens

*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

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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Micah 6:1-8

PSALM 15

Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?
who may abide upon your holy hill?

**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,
who speak the truth from their heart.**

There is no guile upon their tongue;
they do no evil to their friend;
they do not heap contempt upon their neighbor.

**In their sight the wicked are rejected,
but they honor those who fear the Lord.**

They have sworn to do no wrong
and do not take back their word.

**They do not give their money in hope of gain,
nor do they take a bribe against the innocent.**

[Unison]

**Those who do these things
shall never be overthrown.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 1:16-20

SERMON “Minor Prophets, Major Concerns: The Requirements of God”

* HYMN 264 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

**God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
crown your ancient church's story,**

**bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE “God of Grace” Setting by David Cherwien

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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
Office Manager	Jenn Harden

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.

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.

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.

TIME TO JOIN THE CHOIR—The choir meets each Sunday morning at 9 a.m. sharp for a one-hour rehearsal before worship. Whether you're a long-time member or the new kid on the block, **WE WANT YOU!** The UCC choir is a wonderful group of people who work hard at making great music; you'll be sure to enjoy this experience. Questions? Please get in touch with choral director Chris Nakielski after worship or at cnakielski@cornellcollege.edu.

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH (3-5PM) YOUTH GROUP GATHERING! On September 18th at 3pm-5pm our Congregational UCC youth (6th, 7th, and 8th Graders) will join First Presbyterian Church youth for the first time at Mercer Park for a "Getting to Know You" picnic. They will plan joint social and mission gatherings supervised by parents and Anna Sheets of First Presbyterian Church for the third Sunday of every month.

CHILDCARE FOR THE CHURCH NURSERY. We are hiring caregivers for the church Nursery from 9-11:30 every Sunday morning. This is a paid position. If you know of a college-age or older adult looking for a little extra income this is a no-brainer! Please send all inquiries to Ann Molsberry, Director of Children's Programming.

GAME NIGHT! Tuesday, Sep 13 - 7:00 PM: Our Membership Board is sponsoring an all-church game night on Tuesday, September 13, from 7-9 p.m. We'll gather in Rockwood Hall for an evening of board games and conversation—another chance to catch up with people, make new friends, and spend some time with each other.

TEE OFFERING Will Be Received on September 18. Our annual offering to support the Theological Education by Extension College in South Africa (TEE Offering) will be received during worship on Sunday, September 18. 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.

OUR NEXT HOPE LODGE DINNER will be Monday, September 19. There is a sign-up sheet in Rockwood Hall. Our congregation provides an evening meal for the residents of Hope Lodge once a month. The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge houses cancer patients (and their caregivers) who are receiving treatment at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Food will be delivered to Hope Lodge by 4:30 that day and should be in containers (aluminum pans) that do not need to be returned. The address of Hope Lodge is 750 Hawkins Drive (near the Ronald McDonald House). If you have questions about this project, contact Sue Dayton, cdayton7@mchsi.com or 351-5886.

UNDERSTANDING THE PROPOSED “RIGHT TO FIREARMS” AMENDMENT TO IOWA’S CONSTITUTION. Monday, September 19, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

The Congregational UCC Mission Board is hosting a Zoom presentation by Liz O'Hara, a local gun violence prevention advocate working in Johnson County. The presentation highlights what's at stake and why the official description of the amendment is misleading. The presentation provides historical data on gun violence in Iowa, a reading of the actual amendment and its legal ramifications for sensible gun safety measures, and information on the consequences of similar amendments passed in other states. The effects of this constitutional amendment would be far-reaching and long-lasting. This presentation, which lasts approximately 20 minutes, is designed to provide voters with the information they need to cast an informed vote in November. The Mission Board is providing this information to the congregation because we believe this is an important topic.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/95531177718>

ICCSA Community Cares: The Iowa City School District has launched a Community Cares program to support students in the district, especially to address racial discord. Volunteers have been assisting during the beginning and end of school at Northwest and South East Junior Highs. They are hoping for enough volunteers to expand the program to all 27 schools. If you are interested, they need morning greeters (8:35-9:15) and reading buddies at the Elementary schools. A three-hour racial justice training is required to participate; **the next training is September 19th, 1p to 4p.** Contact Donna Hirst donna-hirst@uiowa.edu to facilitate your registration. A background check at <https://iowacityschools.quickleasepro.com/d/apply/64179> is required. This is an excellent opportunity to support our students and schools.

TOM MONTGOMERY FATE AT PRAIRIE LIGHTS: Tom Montgomery Fate, the son of former Congregational UCC members Russ and Dee Fate, will be at Prairie Lights Bookstore for a reading and conversation celebration of the release of his book [*The Long Way Home: Detours and Discoveries*](#) (Ice Cube Press, 2022) on Tuesday September 20, 2022 at 7:00pm. *The Long Way Home*, is a travel memoir that ventures from his small-town upbringing to vastly different cultures around the globe. Tom comes to define “home” not as a physical location, but as a way of belonging.



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.