



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC LEADER
GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

Journey to Generosity

The Way of Jesus

Matthew 9:35-10:23

NOVEMBER 5TH, 2017
ALL SAINTS DAY



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
God is still speaking.

Welcome

Please turn off cell phones in the sanctuary.

Children in Worship

Infants and children bring life to our worship and are always welcome. Worship Activity Bags for children are located at the back of the church: teal bags for 2-5 years, navy blue for 6-10 years. We offer childcare in our professionally staffed nursery in our downstairs nursery for children ages infancy through 6 years old.

Sunday School

Join us for weekly Sunday School in the Christian Education wing located on the lower level.

Sunday Brunch

Pancakes, sausage patties, toaster items and fruit

Interested in Membership?

Contact Pastor Craig, call (309)-762-0787 or email craig@fccmoline.org.

Wi-Fi Password

Welcome!

Resources

Ushers can provide large print bulletins and hearing amplifiers.

Getting connected

Please fill our pew pads to offer us a record of your attendance.

Today
from the life
of the church



The Day of the Lord's Supper is an occasion of joy for the Christian community. Reconciled in their hearts with God and the brothers and sisters, the congregation receives the gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, and receiving that, it receives forgiveness, new life, and salvation. It is given new fellowship with God and humankind. The fellowship of the Lord's Supper is the superlative fulfillment of Christian fellowship. As the members of the congregation are united in body and blood at the table of the Lord so will they be together in eternity. Here joy in Christ and his community is complete. The life of Christians together under the Word has reached its perfection in the sacrament.

Life Together

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

GREETING AND WELCOME

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

For all those who have paved the way for our freedom of worship,

we give thanks, O Lord.

For those who have taught us about witness

and the power of love, we give thanks, O Lord.

For those who work in our church that we may come to know

what it means to serve, we give thanks, O Lord.

For all the saints, those who rest from their labors,

and those who labor still, we give thanks, O Lord.

Praise be to God, who continually inspires and guides workers and witnesses.

Open our hearts and spirits, O Lord,

and help us to become good workers for you. Amen.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **Faithful redeemer, you are the beginning and ending of all things. You promise to wipe away every tear, that death and mourning will be no more. You make your home among us, and abide in us. Teach us to live as the saints you call us to be, that we may truly be your people, living and doing your will, in the name of Jesus, who is the Christ. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

#364 I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us pray. **O God, our merciful redeemer, we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor's face. We turn our ears from the voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake, God forgives all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE *Gloria*



Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in a single system. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: 'Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: 'Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first staff has a 3-measure rest before the first note. The second staff has a 3-measure rest before the first note and a 4-measure rest before the second note.

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

In your Word, O God, show us heaven. By your Spirit, show us truth; through Christ, the Living Word, in whom we see your face. Amen.

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

REVELATION 7:9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!” And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:1-10,22

I will bless the Lord at all times;

the praise of God shall ever be in my mouth.

I will Glory in the Lord;

let the lowly hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord;

let us exalt God's name together.

I sought the Lord, who answered me

and delivered me from all my terrors.

Look upon the Lord and be radiant,

and let not your faces be ashamed.

I called in my affliction, and the Lord heard me

and saved me from all my troubles.

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear the Lord

and delivers them.

Taste and see that the Lord is good;

happy are they who take refuge in God!

Fear the Lord, you saints of the Lord,

for those who fear the Lord lack nothing.

The lions are in want and suffer hunger,

but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is good.

SCRIPTURE

1 JOHN 3:1-3

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

You Walk With Me by David Yazbek, arr. Huff

***GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Pr. Craig Jan-McMahon

***HYMN**

#386 *O for a World*

Responding to the Good News

MEMORIAL PRAYER

Rev. Michael Swartz

All Saints Remembrance

Patricia Arp

Dean Beyhl

David Evans

Bill Gibbons

Gail Gibbons

Mildred Griffith

Ruth Gustafson

Susie King

Pat Martin

Cynthia Meers

David Miller

Maynard Neighbors

Sylvia Belha

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

How can we withhold our gifts of gratitude in the face of such wondrous love?
With glad and generous hearts, let us bring our offerings to God.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God From whom all blessings flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, use these gifts to do your will in the world and prepare us for your coming kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION

COMMUNION PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself. We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care.

We rejoice in Jesus Christ, the only one eternally begotten by you, who was born of your servant Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of life as we know it.

We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history.

We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit that gathers us together as your Church. With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company in heaven, we glorify you. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Consecrate, therefore, by your Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, and bless us that as we receive them at this table, we may offer you our faith and praise, we may be united with Christ and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.

Let us pray as Christ our Savior has taught us.

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.

BREAKING BREAD AND POURING WINE

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ.

Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

The bread is eaten when served; the wine is held to be taken together.

Grape juice is clear; wine is red.

***UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Let us pray, **We affirm the goodness of life and the openness of the future because our God is a God of life and love. As God comes to us in this act of communion with one another, let us go out to others in Jesus' name. May our every prayer be an action that brings healing, reconciliation and hope to a broken and hurting world. Amen**

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

#526 *For All the Saints*

***BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen**

***POSTLUDE**



*Altar flowers given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Donald E. Engstrom
Given by: June Engstrom and family*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher

Jim Moorhusen

Lector

Ben Churchill (Confirmand)

Ushers / Communion Servers

Dennis Rucker

Kathy Harris

Shirley Morton

Ron Smith

Carole Smith

Mike Bealer

Vicki Bealer

Liturgist

Audra Bailey

North Door Greeters

Bill Keller

Nancy Keller

Communion Preparers

Tom Woodburn

Michael Dyer

Sound Tech

Jeff Newcomb

Van Driver

Pat Oberg

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon, Senior Pastor

Rev. Michael Swartz, Associate Pastor

Maureen Holmes, Chancel Choir Director

Linda Allebach, Substitute Organist

Gail Glockhoff-Long, Campanella Ringers Director

Jennifer Dailing, Office Assistant

Taylor Anderson, Director of Marketing and Communications

Becca Peterson, Director of Family Ministry

Sara Otta, Finance Manager

Wes Llewellyn, Fellowship Coordinator

Harleigh Jones, Nursery Coordinator

Amanda Peterson, Red Wagon Preschool Director

Mike DeToye and Ron Mahar, Custodians



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Gathered to Share God's Love

Journey to Generosity The Way of Jesus

Matthew 9:35-10:23

This year's stewardship theme, "Journey to Generosity: The Way of Jesus," takes shape from this passage in Matthew 9:35-10:23, when Jesus said to his disciples:

"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." (Matthew 9:37-38)

If we relate this passage to our lives as Christians in a faith community, it's easy to see that the plentiful harvest is God's blessings and we are the laborers. God expects us to give our time, talent, and treasure to help gather the bounty and share it with our church, community, and the world. God expects us to be generous because God is generous. This is the very essence of making a stewardship commitment.

The scripture goes on to tell how Jesus assembled his disciples and told them to go "to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near. . . . You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food.'"

This is a tall order, even for the disciples, and yet it's not so different from some of the things we are called to do as Christian disciples today: go to the "lost sheep," proclaim the good news, give without payment.

And it is certainly no different from what we do when we make a stewardship commitment. This year, as you consider making a pledge, be reminded of the generosity God has bestowed on you, and let it inspire you to be generous in return.

For indeed, the journey to generosity is the way of Jesus.

