



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC LEADER
GATHERED TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE



NOVEMBER 26TH, 2017
REIGN OF CHRIST

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

Sunday School is on break this week.

Sunday Brunch

The Son Cafe is on break this week.

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.

Cover Art

The Good Shepherd by Julien Dupre 1851-1910

Today from the life of the church

The call of Jesus has been a call to ministry: "I will make you fishers of men" (Mt. 4:19). The Beatitudes picture the disciple both as receiving from God in pure passivity and as caught up into the motion of the God who acts and the Messiah who gives. The beggar can only receive, but he does receive; and the mercy which he receives makes him merciful. The peace which God gives him makes him a peacemaker. Men molded by the Messiah act in the world, so vigorously and so decisively that the world persecutes them for it.

In the metaphor of salt and light Jesus makes plain to his disciples how inseparable discipleship and activity are, how impossible any thought of a quietistic and contemplative discipleship is (5:13-16).

The disciples are salt and light by virtue of what the call of Jesus has given them and what the word of Jesus is giving them. They need not trouble themselves about how they may become salt or light, any more than a city set on a hilltop need concern itself about becoming conspicuous. Where they are and what they are, the fact that they are with Jesus and in communion with the Messiah, gives them inevitability a function which is as universal as the authority of the Messiah; they are the salt of the whole earth and the light of the whole world.

*Follow Me:
Discipleship According to St. Matthew*
by Martin H. Franzmaan (1907-1976)

Gathering of God's People

PRELUDE

*Out of high heaven have I come,
by Marcel Dupré*

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**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Worship God with gladness.

Come into God's presence with singing.

We are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

Give thanks to the Lord; bless God's holy name,

for God's steadfast love is present now and endures forever

***OPENING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **God of the lost and lonely, God of the secure and confident,
gather us into your fold that we may be healed and transformed.**

**Guide us in your world that we may be part of ministries of healing
and hope, for we ask these things in Jesus' Name. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

#559 We Gather Together

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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!

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, open your Word. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that our eyes may be enlightened and we may know the hope to which we have been called; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Proclaiming the Good News

SCRIPTURE

EZEKIEL 34:11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.

Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong;

we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture;

Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;

give thanks and bless God's holy name.

Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting,

whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

SCRIPTURE

EPHESIANS 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Autumn Carol
arr. Russell Schulz-Widmar

***GOSPEL**

MATTHEW 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Tyler Spellious, guest preacher

***HYMN**

#436 *We Are Your People*

Responding to the Good News

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

In gratitude for the immeasurable gift of Jesus Christ, let us bring our tithes and offerings to God.

OFFERTORY

Light of the World (Here I Am To Worship)

***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

Holy God, use us, and these gifts, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and honor your presence in all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Sending in Mission

***HYMN OF SENDING**

#122 *Thine Is the Glory*

***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**

Just A Closer Walk With Thee



*Altar flowers given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of our parents and Janet Renaud Liston
Given by: Marcia and Paul Renaud*

SERVING TODAY

Head Usher

Jim Moorhusen

Ushers

Charles Curry

Mary Curry

Gary Hammond

Michelle Hammond

Dieter Harle

Sound Tech

Jeff Newcomb

Lector

Mary Lou Carlson

Liturgist

Tom Woodburn

North Door Greeters

Gary Hammond

Michelle Hammond

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Craig Jan-McMahon, Senior Pastor

Rev. Michael Swartz, Associate Pastor

Maureen Holmes, Chancel Choir Director

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