



# First Congregational

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

608 West Fourth St  
Waterloo IA 50702

[www.firstcongucc.org](http://www.firstcongucc.org)  
phone 319-234-8927



# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023



**Worship Leader**

Craig Driver

**Mini Message**

Gina Greene

**Director of Music**

Luke Overton

**Guest Preacher**

Rev. Carol Young

**Organist**

Hudson Lourenço-Feld

**Office Manager**

Michelle Wolfe

**Custodian**

Kyle Lindaman

*No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i> - Albert Hay Malotte	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>		Craig Driver
<b>*Call to Worship</b>		Craig Driver
Leader:	On World Communion Sunday, come to Christ, the living bread, who satisfies those who hunger and thirst.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>Come to Christ, who gives living water, that you may never thirst again.</b>	
Leader:	Come to Christ, that being filled yourself, you may minister to the hunger and thirst of others.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>Come to God, in worship and praise, through our one Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gives us life.</b>	
<b>*Opening Hymn</b>	<i>In Christ There Is No East or West</i>	#394 (NCH - Black)
<b>*Prayer of Confession</b> (unison)		Craig Driver
	Loving God, you created us in love and sent your son to forgive our sins as we receive the promise of eternal life. Yet we confess that we are too often influenced by the powers of this world rather than trusting in you alone in life and in death. We live in a world that's often tantalized by false doctrine and proclamation that's apart from the one Word of God. We too quickly dismiss groups of people who are different and react with fear rather than love. Forgive us, we pray. Strengthen us to reject any events and power, figures and truths, that are not your revelation. Empower us to speak your truth, resist Christian Nationalism, and reach across the aisle as we interact with those whose views differ from our own. May we truly reflect the light of your love and the justice & hope which Christ's ministry proclaimed. This we pray in His name, Amen.	
<b>*Assurance of Pardon</b>		
<b>Joys &amp; Concerns</b>		Craig Driver
<b>Prayers of the People &amp; The Lord's Prayer</b>		Rev. Cathy Young
<b>Mini-Message</b>		Gina Greene
<b>First Scripture Reading</b>	I John 4:7-12	Craig Driver
<b>Second Scripture Reading</b>	Ephesians 4:14-16	Rev. Young
<b>Sermon</b>	<i>"The Threat of Christian Nationalism"</i>	Rev. Young
<b>Invitation to Offertory</b>		Craig Driver
<b>Offertory</b>	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld

**\*Doxology** #515 (Pilgrim - Red)  
**\*Prayer of Dedication** Rev. Young  
**\*Hymn** *Let Us Break Bread Together* #330 (NCH - Black)

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

The Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion of the People

*Please come forward for the table is ready.*

The Communion Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

(The Chancel Choir is singing *Remember, Remember Me* by Jack Schrader)

**WE DEPART TO SERVE THE LORD**

**\*Hymn** *O for a World* #575 (NCH - Black)  
**Benediction** Rev. Young  
**Postlude** *Prelude in A minor BWV 559* - J S Bach Hudson Lourenço-Feld

\* You are invited to Stand

*Sunday School for students up to 6th grade is provided after the Mini-Message.*

*We welcome your child(ren) to follow our Sunday School leaders to the  
youth director's office at the conclusion of the Mini-Message.*

*After church, you will be able to pick up your kids in the church basement.*