



First Congregational United Church of Christ

608 West Fourth Street, Waterloo, Iowa 50702

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[@FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa/](https://www.instagram.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa/)

Second Sunday of Christmas

January 1, 2023



Guest Preacher
Rev. Cathy Young

Director of Music
Luke Overton

Office Manager
Michelle Wolfe

Worship Leader
Gina Greene

Organist
Hudson Lourenço-Feld

Custodian
Kyle Lindaman

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

Prelude Hymn Improvisation Hudson Lourenço-Feld

Welcome

Announcements Gina Greene

Call to Worship Gina Greene

Leader: From the midst of our real lives with their very real problems,

People: **We come to seek courage and strength from the presence of God and the support of one another as we step into 2023.**

Leader: As persons who love imperfectly and are loved imperfectly,

People: **We come to be renewed by the perfect love of God, proclaimed in the community of love and faith.**

Leader: As persons who never fully live up to their high calling in Jesus Christ,

People: **We come to be encouraged to do our best in the year ahead.**

Unison: **Let us worship, with hearts open to the love of God, with hands outstretched to one another, and with whole selves willing to accept the cost and joy of being Christ's disciples.**

Prayer of Invocation Rev. Cathy Young

***Opening Hymn** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* #117 (Pilgrim - Red)

Joys & Concerns Gina Greene

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer Rev. Young

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Mini-Message Paul Greene

Invitation to Offertory Gina Greene

Offertory Hymn Improvisation Hudson Lourenço-Feld

*Doxology		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
*Prayer of Dedication		Gina Greene
Scripture Lesson	Isaiah 63:7-9 Matthew 2:13-23	Gina Greene
*Hymn	<i>Great Is Thy Faithfulness</i>	#423 (NCH - Black)
Message	<i>"The Empty Manger"</i>	Rev. Young
The Sacrament of Holy Communion		Rev. Young
Invitation to Holy Communion		
Blessing and Distribution of the Elements		
*Hymn	<i>Joy to the World</i>	#130 (Pilgrim - Red)
Benediction		Rev. Young
Postlude		Hudson Lourenço-Feld

* You are invited to Stand

(Hearing assistance devices are available in the cabinet in the back of the sanctuary.)