



# *First Congregational United Church of Christ*

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**608 West Fourth Street, Waterloo, Iowa 50702**

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

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

## **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 29, 2023**



**Worship Leader**

Greg Holt

**Mini-Message**

Greg Holt

**Director of Music**

Luke Overton

**Guest Preacher**

Rev. Brad Braley

**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.*

**Prelude** Hymn Improvisation Hudson Lourenço-Feld

**Welcome & Announcements** Greg Holt

**Call to Worship** Greg Holt

Leader: To all searching for grace and truth,

**All: Come and see!**

Leader: To all searching for meaning and purpose,

**All: Come and see!**

Leader: To all searching for abundant life,

**All: Come and see!**

Leader: Come let us worship God and let us be open to God's presence with us.

**\*Opening Hymn** *Womb of Life and Source of Being* #274 (NCH - Black)

**\*Prayer of Invocation** (unison) Greg Holt

We encounter you, O God, in places we might not expect, in people we would never imagine. Sometimes we see you clearly and sometimes we pass by without seeing you at all. Open our eyes to see you here and now, to see you among your people in this church and among strangers we meet outside these doors. Amen.

**Joys & Concerns** Greg Holt

**Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer** Rev. Brad Braley

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** Greg Holt

**Choral Anthem** Chancel Choir

**Invitation to Offertory** Greg Holt

Our generous giving is a witness to God's abundance against a worldview of scarcity. These gifts point to and enable the ongoing work of Jesus Christ in our community and beyond. Let us return a portion of the gifts we have been given to Christ's ministry and those most in need.

**Offertory** Hymn Improvisation Hudson Lourenço-Feld

**\*Doxology** #515 (Pilgrim - Red)

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

Greg Holt

Holy God, we present these offerings to you in faith. We trust that you will bless and use them to further Christ's ministry and serve those in need. May these gifts bless those we know who are suffering and those who are known only to you. Amen.

**Scripture Lesson**

John 1:6-8, 19-37

Greg Holt & Rev. Braley

**\*Hymn**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing  
(Jesus, the Light of the World)*

#160 (NCH - Black)

**Message**

*"Mr. Irrelevant"*

Rev. Braley

**\*Hymn**

*Arise, Your Light is Come*

#164 (NCH - Black)

**Benediction**

Rev. Braley

**Postlude**

Hymn Improvisation

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.