



# First Congregational

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Waterloo IA 50702

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## First Sunday of Lent



**March 9, 2025**

**Children's Message**

Brandyn Miller

**Director of Music**

Luke Overton

**Senior Pastor**

Brandyn Miller

**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>	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>		Brandyn Miller
<b>*Call to Worship</b>		worship leader
Leader: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, was led into the wilderness, where he faced temptation but did not waver.		
<b>People: We come to worship, seeking strength for the journey.</b>		
Leader: In the face of hunger, power, and false promises, Jesus remained faithful to God.		
<b>People: We come to follow Christ, learning the way of self-control and trust.</b>		
Leader: In this season of Lent, we turn our hearts to God, resisting what pulls us away.		
<b>People: Let us worship the One who sustains us, guides us, and leads us into life.</b>		
<b>*Opening Hymn</b>	<i>Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days</i>	#211 (NCH - Black)
<b>*Prayer of Confession</b> (responsive)		Brandyn Miller
Merciful God, we confess that we are often led by our desires rather than by your Spirit. When we are tempted to seek comfort in things that do not satisfy, when we chase after power and control rather than trusting in you, when we test your love instead of resting in your promises— forgive us.		
<b>Teach us to follow the example of Christ, who, even in the wilderness, remained faithful. Strengthen us to resist temptation, to walk in self-control, and to rely on your word above all else. In your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.</b>		
<b>Assurance of Pardon</b>		Brandyn Miller
Pastor: Even in the wilderness, God's love does not waver. Even in our weakness, God's mercy is strong. Hear the good news:		
<b>People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.</b>		
Pastor: Christ has overcome every temptation, not only to show us the way but to make a way for us.		
<b>People: Thanks be to God! Amen.</b>		
<b>Sung Response</b>	<i>Kyrie Eleison</i>	(See Screen)
<b>Invitation to Offertory</b>		worship leader
<b>Offertory</b>	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
<b>*Doxology</b>		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		worship leader
<b>Choral Anthem</b>		Chancel Choir
<b>Children's Message</b>		Brandyn Miller

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 4:1-13

worship leader

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!****Message**

Brandyn Miller

**\*Hymn of Response***Lord I Need You* - Matt Maher

(See Screen)

**Joys & Concerns**

worship leader

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

**People: Hear our prayer****Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer** (unison) Brandyn Miller

**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.**

**Celebration of the Sacrament of Communion****Invitation****Prayer of Consecration****Words of Institution****Distribution of the Elements****Prayer of Thanksgiving** (unison)

**All: Loving God, we thank You for this holy meal, for Christ's presence among us, and for the grace that sustains us. As we go from this table, fill us with Your Spirit to love, serve, and share Your joy. Amen.**

**\*Parting Hymn***I Want Jesus to Go With Me*

#490 (NCH - Black)

**\*Benediction**

Brandyn Miller

**Postlude**

Hymn Improvisation

Hudson Lourenço-Feld

\* Please Rise in Body or Spirit

*On communion Sunday, children are welcome to join the Pray-Ground which is located at the back of the sanctuary, offering them a comfortable space while staying connected to the service. They will then be able to participate in Communion with their families at the end of service.*