



# First Congregational

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

608 West Fourth St  
Waterloo IA 50702

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



## Fourth Sunday of Lent



**March 30, 2025**

**Worship Leader**  
Gina Greene

**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>		Gina Greene
Leader:	Come, all who are weary and longing for grace. The Father is waiting with open arms.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>We come as we are, knowing that God's love welcomes us home.</b>	
Leader:	Though we have wandered, God's mercy never fails.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>The Lord runs to meet us, clothing us in grace and calling us beloved.</b>	
Leader:	Let us celebrate and rejoice, for the lost have been found, the broken have been restored!	
<b>People:</b>	<b>With grateful hearts, we worship the God of love, whose mercy knows no end.</b>	
<b>*Opening Hymn</b>	<i>There's a Wideness in God's Mercy</i>	#23 (NCH - Black)
<b>*Prayer of Confession</b> (responsive)		Brandyn Miller
	Loving and merciful God, We confess that we have strayed from Your way. Like the prodigal son, we have sought fulfillment in lesser things, turning away from Your love. We have squandered Your gifts, pursued our own desires, and forgotten the joy of being in Your presence. Forgive us for the times we have been slow to return to You, afraid of Your judgment rather than trusting in Your grace. Forgive us when we have been like the older brother—unwilling to celebrate the mercy You so freely give to others.	
	<b>Lord, in Your great love, welcome us home. Restore us by Your grace, and teach us to love as You love, that we may reflect Your heart in all we do. Amen.</b>	
<b>*Assurance of Pardon</b>		Brandyn Miller
Leader:	Hear the good news! The Father runs to meet us with open arms. In Jesus Christ, we are not cast away but brought home, not condemned but embraced in love.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>In Christ, we are forgiven and made new!</b>	
Leader:	Rejoice and be glad, for the lost are found, the weary are restored, and the love of God will never let us go.	
<b>People:</b>	<b>Thanks be to God! Amen.</b>	
<b>Sung Response</b>	<i>Kyrie Eleison</i>	(See Screen)
<b>Invitation to Offertory</b>		Gina Greene
<b>Offertory</b>	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
<b>*Doxology</b>		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
<b>*Prayer of Dedication</b>		Gina Greene

<b>Special Music</b>	<i>Glorious Celebration</i> - Cynthia Dobrinski	Touch of Brass
<b>Children's Message</b>		Brandyn Miller
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32	Gina Greene
Leader:	This is the word of the Lord	
<b>All:</b>	<b>Thanks be to God!</b>	
<b>Message</b>		Brandyn Miller
<b>*Hymn of Response</b>	<i>Reckless Love</i> - Cory Asbury	(See Screen)
<b>Joys &amp; Concerns</b>		Gina Greene
Leader:	Lord, in your mercy	
<b>People:</b>	<b>Hear our prayer</b>	
<b>Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer</b>	(unison) Brandyn Miller	
	<b>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.</b>	
<b>*Parting Hymn</b>	<i>O God, How We Have Wandered</i>	#202 (NCH - Black)
<b>*Benediction</b>		Brandyn Miller
<b>Postlude</b>	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld

\* Please Rise in body and spirit

*Sunday School for students up to 6th grade is provided after the Children's Message.  
We welcome your child(ren) to follow our Sunday School leaders to the  
youth director's office at the conclusion of the Children's Message.*