



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

608 West Fourth St
Waterloo IA 50702

www.firstcongucc.org
phone 319-234-8927



Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

hearts wide
OPEN

July 7, 2024

Worship Leader
Cliff Highnam

Mini Message
Nancy Mahood

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.*

Prelude		Hudson Lourenço-Feld
Welcome and Announcements		Cliff Highnam
*Call to Worship		Cliff Highnam
Leader:	Beloved, when our bodies feel unable and incapable, and the voices all around us disparage and criticize our bodies as weak and worthless, God calls to us...	
People:	Open your heart to your weakness and my strength.	
Leader:	When we persist in the false belief that we should and must do everything on our own, never asking for help and persisting in our drive for full independence, God calls to us...	
People:	Open your heart to your weakness and my strength.	
Leader:	When we feel shame because we need help, and the deep vulnerability of our needs pierces our hearts, God calls to us...	
People:	Open your heart to your weakness and my strength.	
Leader:	Listen! Pay attention! God calls to us in our weakness, not to erase our frailties or bemoan all the things society may tell us we lack, but to empower us within the vulnerability of our humanness, naming us Beloved in the fullness of who we are.	
People:	May we open our hearts in worship to receive the goodness in our weakness and the power in the strength of God's love for all of God's vulnerable creation. Amen.	
*Opening Hymn	<i>Come, we who love God's name</i>	#379 (NCH - Black)
*Prayer of Invocation (unison)		Brandyn Miller
	Loving God, who opens our hearts to the mysteries of faith in ordinary and extraordinary moments, come near to us today. Make known among us and within us your strength, that we might experience your power that uses what the powers of this world call weakness to demonstrate your love to all creation. Amen.	
Mini-Message		Nancy Mahood
Invitation to Offertory		Cliff Highnam
Offertory	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
*Doxology		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
*Prayer of Dedication		Cliff Highnam
Scripture Reading	2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Cliff Highnam
Leader:	This is the word of the Lord	
All:	Thanks be to God!	
Message	<i>"Hearts Wide Open: in strength & weakness"</i>	Brandyn Miller

***Hymn of Response** *Come, o fount of every blessing* #459 (NCH - Black)

Joys & Concerns Cliff Highnam

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.

COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

All: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the gift of our Savior's presence in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal. Unite us with all that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen

***Parting Hymn** *Sent forth by God's blessing* #76 (NCH - Black)

***Benediction** Brandyn Miller

Postlude Hudson Lourenço-Feld

* Please Rise in Body or Spirit

*Children are welcome to worship with their families
(Activity bags are available at the back of the Sanctuary).*