



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

608 West Fourth St
Waterloo IA 50702

www.firstcongucc.org
phone 319-234-8927



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



August 25, 2024

Worship Leader

Diane Highnam

Mini Message

Brandyn Miller

Director of Music

Luke Overton

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 and Announcements		Diane Highnam
*Call to Worship		Diane Highnam
Leader: From the mustard seed a great and mighty shrub emerges.		
People: Good things can come from something that seemed so insignificant!		
Leader: The spore of the yeast can leaven the whole loaf of bread.		
People: We can be those people who bring hope and peace to God's world.		
Leader: Come, let us praise the God of great and mighty wonders.		
People: Let our spirits soar in gratitude for the opportunities God gives us to serve.		
AMEN.		
*Opening Hymn	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	#28 (NCH - Black)
*Prayer of Invocation (responsive)		Brandyn Miller
Pastor: Gracious God, we gather here, hearts open and minds eager. Like seeds sown in fertile ground, we yearn for growth and transformation. May your Spirit nourish us, as the gentle rain nourishes the earth.		
All: We come seeking the hidden treasures of your kingdom. Grant us eyes to see, ears to hear, and hearts to understand the mysteries of your love. Inspire us to be like fishers, casting our nets wide to bring others into your light. May our lives be beacons of hope, reflecting your glory to a world in need. Guide us as we seek to build your kingdom on earth. Amen.		
Special Music		Hudson Lourenço-Feld
Mini-Message		Brandyn Miller
Invitation to Offertory		Diane Highnam
Offertory	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld
*Doxology		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
*Prayer of Dedication		Diane Highnam
Scripture Reading	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52	Diane Highnam
Leader: This is the word of the Lord		
All: Thanks be to God!		
Message	<i>"The Kingdom of God"</i>	Brandyn Miller

***Hymn of Response** *Oh for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* #42 (NCH - Black)

Joys & Concerns Diane 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.

***Parting Hymn** *Christ Will Come Again* #608 (NCH - Black)

***Benediction** Brandyn Miller

Postlude Hymn Improvisation 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).*