



First Congregational

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

608 West Fourth St
Waterloo IA 50702

www.firstcongucc.org
phone 319-234-8927



Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 21, 2023



Director of Music

Luke Overton

Organist

Hudson Lourenço-Feld

Guest Worship Leaders

Rumen Hulmequist and
Members of the Youth
Coalition

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 & Introduction

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Beloved, let us worship God!

All: Let us give praise to God, the one who rides upon the clouds!

Leader: Parent to orphans and Protector of widows,

All: God gives the desolate a home and leads the imprisoned into prosperity.

Leader: As God led the Israelites through the wilderness and provided for them,

All: we too find our dwelling in God's goodness and provision.

Leader: The Rider in the heavens speaks throughout creation;

All: We gather to listen and ascribe power to God!

All: Awesome is God in the sanctuary of creation! Blessed be God! Amen.

Adapted from Psalm 68 NRSVUE by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, October 2022.

***Song**

Lamb of God

(See Screen)

Sunday School Songs & Presentation of Bibles

Prayer of Confession

God, we confess that we rarely recognize the Holy Spirit at work, even when She smacks us in the face. Worse yet, even when we do recognize this work of the Spirit, we don't acknowledge that it is you at work in our lives and in the world.

This week, you sent angels to watch over us. We barely uttered our thanks. We hurried on our way. Forgive us our inattentiveness and reluctance to credit you loudly and joyously. Teach us to tell our children and our children's children of your goodness. Teach us to tell our parents of your goodness. Teach us to tell even the supermarket clerk of your goodness!

We long to hear the good news of the resurrecting love of Christ Jesus. Still our hearts long enough for us to hear that you are with us. Amen.

*Written by Sherrie Dobbs Johnson, The Africana Worship Book Year A
(Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 143.*

First Reading

Acts 1:1-11

Max

Special Music

Kiyle Cheer Dance

Second Reading

Psalm 47

Emma

Special Music	Singing Oceans (Where my Feet May Fail) <i>By: Hillsong UNITED</i>	Bee Boettcher
Third Reading	Ephesians 1:15-23	Richricia
*Congregational Hymn	<i>Shine Jesus Shine</i>	(See Screen)
Fourth Reading	Luke 24:44-53	
Message by Youth	<i>"Living Faith: Embracing Spirituality in Today's Generation"</i>	
Prayers of the People		
*Benediction		
Postlude	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço-Feld

* You are invited to Stand

**Offering will be collected at the back of the church today.
A special offering plate designated for Youth is also available and
will go to the Youth Coalition Program.**

***Thank you to Rumen Hulmequist, Bee Boettcher, & Dakota Hoepner for their
leadership with our collaborative Youth Program!***