



First Congregational United Church of Christ

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[@FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa/](https://twitter.com/FirstCongregationalUCCWaterlooIowa/)

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022

Rally Day



Please join us for a fish-fry luncheon following service today!

Thanks to the Spiritual Growth & Programs Board for your hospitality!

Children's Lesson

John Mardis

Director of Music

Luke Overton

Organist

Hudson Lourenço

Guest Preacher

Rev. Brad Braley

Worship Leader

Peter Brock

Director of Youth

Abbie Chronister

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

Seek Ye First

Touch of Brass Handbells
Song by Karen Lafferty arranged by Jeffrey Honoré

Welcome & Announcements

Peter Steva

Call to Worship

Peter Steva & Rev. Brad Braley

Come Join the Circle! The circle is an ancient symbol.

In a circle, there is no beginning and no end.

The shape and movement of the sun, moon, and earth are circles.

When people sit in a circle, all are equal.

In a circle of friends, there is love, caring, trust and belonging.

In the circle of life, things are born, they live and die, and they bring new life.

When things come full circle, there are new beginnings, renewals of life, and new hope.

So today, as we have returned to begin a new church year, let us worship God, remembering
all of God's gifts, and our part in God's circle of creation, readying ourselves to renew our
promise to live in God's way.

***Opening Hymn**

Come, Join the Circle

(See Page 4)

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Joys & Concerns

Abbie Chronister

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Rev. Brad Braley

Dedication to Faith Formation

Abbie Chronister & Rev. Brad Braley

Mini Lesson

John Mardis

Choral Anthem

Allelu, Sing Praises!

by Michael Jothen

Chancel Choir
Seth Chronister, Percussion

Invitation to Offertory

Peter Steva

Offertory

Hymn Improvisation

Hudson Lourenço

*Doxology		#515 (Pilgrim - Red)
*Prayer of Dedication		Peter Steva
Scripture Reading	<i>Acts 16:6-12; Hebrews 12:1-3</i>	Rev. Brad Braley
*Hymn	<i>Be Now My Vision</i>	#451 (NCH - Black)
Message	Looking Ahead	Rev. Brad Braley
*Hymn	<i>God of Our Life</i>	#366 (NCH - Black)
*Charge	<p>One: Let us remember all those whose ministry has brought us this far in our faith. All: We remember and rejoice! One: Let us thank God for those who taught us with patience and heard us with joy! All: We thank God and rejoice! One: Let us become the light and strength for others on their journeys of faith. All: We humbly ask your guidance for such a wondrous task! As the Spirit empowers us, we can do all things with God who loves us!</p>	
Benediction		Rev. Brad Braley
Postlude	Hymn Improvisation	Hudson Lourenço

* You are invited to Stand

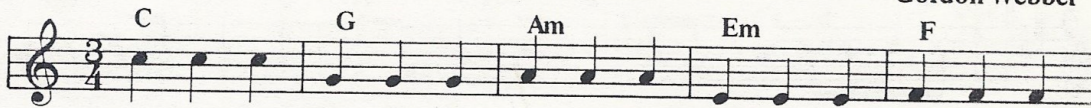
(Hearing assistance devices are available in the cabinet in the back of the sanctuary.)

Childcare for students up to 5th grade is provided after the Children's Message through the end of service. We welcome your child(ren) to follow youth staff to the childcare room (located at the bottom of the steps closest to the sanctuary)

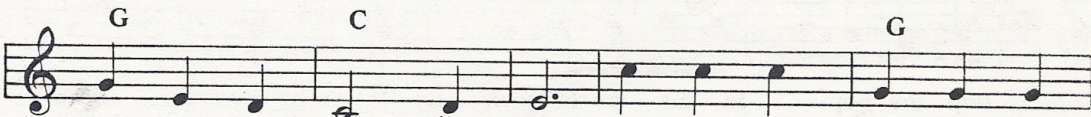
Come, Join the Circle

Opening Hymn

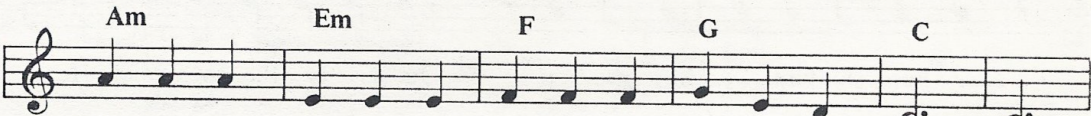
Gordon Webber



1. Come join the cir - cle for Je - sus is call - ing, as part - ners with
2. Now say "hel - lo" to the per - son be - side you - wel - come them
3. O - pen the cir - cle for oth - ers are call - ing us, call - ing from

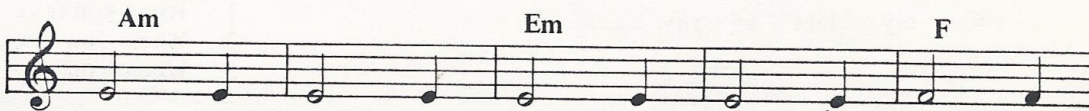


God in cre - a - tion. All join your hands now let
in - to the cir - cle. Each has a gift or a
past and from fu - ture. Chal - len - ging us with their

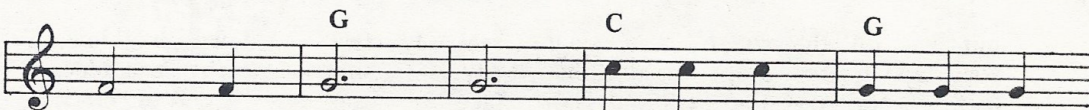


all be in - clud - ed for this is a great cel - e - bra - tion.
tal - ent worth shar - ing as part of their call - ing to ser - vice.
cry - for jus - tice as part of this glo - bal com - mu - ni - ty.

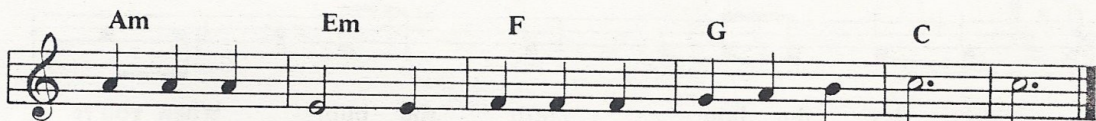
REFRAIN



Look a - round and see who's here, look at



all the fac - es. This is the cir - cle of



vi - sions and dreams of peo - ple from all times and plac - es.