

5. So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory. Refrain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: In Your Mercy, P: Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray together the prayer our Lord taught us:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*HYMN Down at the Cross

1. Down at the cross where my Savior died, Down where for cleansing from sin I cried, There to my heart was the blood applied; Singin', Glory to Christ's name.

Refrain:

Glory to Christ's name, Glory to Christ's name; There to my heart was the blood applied; Glory to Christ's name.

4. Come to this fountain so rich and sweet, Cast your poor soul at the Savior's feet; Plunge in today, and be made complete; Glory to Christ's name. Refrain

*BENEDICTION

May the Lord be with you as you greet this day, and be in your heart as you go on your way. Take the Peace of God to every place you're in; and may the Lord be with you until we meet again.

*POSTLUDE

***All who are able may stand**

Offering plates are located near the entrance of the sanctuary.



Welcome to First United Church of Christ

600 Mulberry St., Tipton, IA (563) 886-6361

We are pleased that you have decided to worship with us today!

First Sunday of Lent

February 21, 2021

10:00 a.m.

www.firstucctipton.org
office@firstucctipton.org

Please be mindful of social distancing. There are green "x's" on the floor to help maintain a six-foot distance.

Make sure to sit in pews with green tape on the back. Also, please wait to be dismissed from the back of the church at the conclusion of the service.

We are not congregationally singing at this time. You are invited and encouraged to read the lyrics to the songs as they are played or hum along with the music.

Hearing assistance is available; ask an usher for a receiver.

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND CELEBRATIONS

OPENING PRAYER

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 25)

L: Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths.

P: Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior.

L: Guard my life and rescue me do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.

P: May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope, Lord, is in you.

*HYMN Just as I Am

1. Just as I am, without one plea but that your blood was shed for me, And that you called inviting me,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

3. Just as I am, you will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because your promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

*PASSING THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you **P: And also with you!**

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end, Amen. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 9: 8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

CHILDREN'S LESSON "The Idea of Repentance"

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1: 9-15

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

SERMON "The Test for Strength"

*HYMN Lift High the Cross

REFRAIN

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;
Let all adore and praise that sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the Lamb victorious, Christ the Child of God. Refrain

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Flowers Lois Moon	Prayer Partners and Encouragers All Members of First UCC	
Liturgist Whitney Gehrs	Greeters Hobert & Terry Flory, Blair & Pam Freet	
Ushers Jerry Meier, Jake Meier, Joel Meier, Mike Wagner		

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Monday, February 22

6:30 Brownies Girl Scout Troop 3028 Meeting

Tuesday, February 23

6:30 p.m. Bible Study – Book of Ruth

Wednesday, February 24

9:00 a.m. Women's Fellowship Executive Board Meeting

5:30 p.m. Youth Group

6:30 p.m. Lenten Service

Thursday, February 25

4:15 p.m. Sheltered Reality Practice

Saturday, February 27

11:00 p.m. Shared Blessing Free Meal at Methodist Church

Sunday, February 28

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

11:15 a.m. Who Are We? First UCC Meeting

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◆ This Tuesday, February 23, the **study of Ruth** will conclude at 6:30 p.m. Please consider joining as we look at devotion, faithfulness, and bravery in following God's will in our lives. We will meet in person or on Zoom for both sessions.

◆ You won't want to miss the **Lenten services** on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Dates include: Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, and 24. Services will be held in the sanctuary and live-streamed on Facebook and the website. We will be looking at Jesus' "I am" statements. All offerings will be designated to the UCC Conference for disaster relief.

◆ All youth (grades 5th-12th) are welcome to come to **youth group** on Wednesday nights from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. through Lent. We eat together and then have a time of study, activities and lots of fun. Please take a youth schedule outside the sanctuary.

◆ Want to learn about First UCC? Contemplating membership? Prayerfully consider attending "**Who Are We? First UCC!**" We will meet immediately following the worship service in fellowship hall on Sunday, February 28. You are welcome to come in person. If you would like to join on Zoom, please just let the office know.

◆ Plan to pick up your **One Great Hour of Sharing** coin box and calendar next Sunday, February 28. This year's theme is "Let Love Flow." The money collected this year will go towards providing clean water to water-scarce regions.

◆ **First Friday Donut and Devotion** is Friday, March 5 at 8:00 a.m. You are welcome to come and cheer on the students and staff as they begin their day.

◆ Ushers help prepare the sanctuary for worship and ensure everyone has a great experience at First UCC. If you are interested in **servicing as an usher**, we definitely need your help in the upcoming year. Please contact the office for available dates. Or, check out the website where you can click on the "Sign-Up Genius" button. Anyone can be an usher. Pastor Kerri will give you instructions.

◆ If you are **willing to sing a solo, duet, trio, quartet ... or play an instrument** during worship, please plan to attend a short meeting on Sunday, May 7, immediately following the worship service. You will be a wonderful addition to the worship services!