

**“I AM THE LIGHT
OF THE WORLD.”**



**WHOEVER FOLLOWS ME WILL NEVER
WALK IN DARKNESS,
BUT WILL HAVE THE LIGHT OF LIFE.”**

JOHN 8:12

February 22, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Welcome to First United Church of Christ

600 Mulberry St., Tipton, IA (563) 886-6361
www.firstucctipton.org ♦ office@firstucctipton.org

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

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

The offering plate is located on the small table outside of the sanctuary



venmo

*You are welcome to give using
this QR code or Venmo.*

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***THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND**

PRELUDE Prelude by Jay Mason and Lanie Mason

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

OPENING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

***PASSING OF 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.**

***HYMN #584** “I Am the Light of the World” (vv. 1, 4)

PRESENTATION OF FAITH STATEMENT

Jarrett Burnett

Ada Herold

***HYMN #237** “In the Garden”

PRESENTATION OF FAITH STATEMENT

Mason Jeffries

Riley Resor

***HYMN #237** “In the Garden”

SCRIPTURE READING John 8: 12-20

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.” Jesus answered, “Even if I

testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one. But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.” Then they asked him, “Where is your Father?”

“You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come.

L: The Word of our Lord **P:** Thanks be to God

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE “Food for the Soul”

***HYMN** “My Light House” Rend Collective

In my wrestling and in my doubts
 In my failures You won't walk out
 Your great love will lead me through
 You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh oh
 You are the peace in my troubled sea

In the silence, You won't let go
 In the questions, Your truth will hold
 Your great love will lead me through
 You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh oh
 You are the peace in my troubled sea

Refrain:
 My Lighthouse, my lighthouse
 Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
 My Lighthouse, my lighthouse
 I will trust the promise,
 You will carry me safe to shore
 Safe to shore
 Safe to shore
 Safe to shore

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
 With each morning I'll rise and sing
 My God's love will lead me through
 You are the peace in my troubled sea,
 You are the peace in my troubled sea,
 You are my light

Refrain

Fire before us, You're the brightest
 You will lead us through the storms
 Fire before us, You're the brightest
 You will lead us through the storms
 Fire before us, You're the brightest
 You will lead us through the storms
 Fire before us, You're the brightest
 You will lead us through the storms

Refrain

***BENEDICTION** “The Blessing” Jobe, Carnes

The Lord bless you, and keep you; make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Music Leader - Tony Fletcher
 Liturgist - Whitney Gehrs
 Greeters - Hobert & Terry Flory, Jerry Meier, Jeff Meier
 Ushers - Steve Urmie, Mike Wagner
 Ministers of First UCC are its members
 Assisting them is Rev. Kerri Sandusky

THIS WEEK’S CHURCH CALENDAR

Tues.	Feb. 24	10 a.m.	Bible Study
		6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Wed.	Feb. 25	4:30 p.m.	Loaves and Fishes Food Distribution
		4:45 p.m.	Radiate Youth Choir
		5 p.m.	Lenten Dinner @ St. John’s UCC
		5:30 p.m.	Radiate YG (6th-8th)
		6:15 p.m.	Radiate YG Dinner
		6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service @ St. John’s UCC
		6:45 p.m.	Radiate YG (9th-12th)
Thurs.	Feb. 26	9 a.m.	Cedar County Consortium
		5 p.m.	AA Meeting
Sat.	Feb. 28	1 p.m.	Feed My Starving Children mission event
Sun.	Feb. 29	9 a.m.	Sunday School (PreK—5th)
		9 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
		9 a.m.	Confirmation
		10 a.m.	Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Choir Practice** will be held today after worship in the sanctuary.
- ◆ **Bible Study** is looking at the *I Am* statements: their meaning and how they speak to us still today. You won't want to miss this study that meets each Tuesday at both 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ It's not too late! Even if you missed a previous Saturday, PLEASE come and join us the 1st or 3rd Saturday each month at 8:00 a.m. for our **book study** of *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: How to Stay Emotionally Healthy and Spiritually Alive in the Chaos of the Modern World* by John Mark Comer. Grab your copy of the book from the Fireside Room or order your own. We will be discuss the section "Slowing" on March 7.
- ◆ There will be a meeting for all who are going on the **St. Louis Mission Trip** today after worship. Please plan on attending as we finalize plans.
- ◆ Do you have some ideas to bring people together? Come to the **Outreach Committee meeting** today after worship. Open to anyone—your ideas are invaluable!
- ◆ Want to help pack food to help those dealing with food insecurity in other spots throughout the world? Sign up on the kiosk to help **Feed My Starving Children** in Cedar Rapids at Radiant Church on Saturday, February 28 from 2-4 p.m. All ages and abilities are welcome!
- ◆ Our confirmation students are presenting their **faith statements** during worship the next few weeks. Please continue to keep these youth in your prayers as they prepare.
- ◆ **Easter Lily Display**—Would you like to remember a loved one, honor someone, or simply share a symbol of life with an Easter Lily? First UCC has ordered a limited number of Easter lilies from the Tipton Greenhouse, that you will be able to purchase for the Easter display. The cost will be \$25 each and **must** be paid for prior to March 8th to secure your lily for the display. There is a form available at the office or outside the sanctuary for you to complete and turn into the offering plate or the office. The lilies will be displayed on the altar for Easter Sunday with names listed in the bulletin. Please feel free to take them home after the Easter service.

LENTEN SERVICES

Lenten services begin on February 25. Each Wednesday of Lent will consist of a meal from 5-6:15 p.m. and worship from 6:30-7:15 p.m. Participating churches include: St. John's, Clarence; Zion, Lowden; St. Paul's, Wheatland; Peace, Bennett; and First UCC, Tipton. We look forward to meaningful services.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Site</u>	<u>Menu</u>
2/25	Truth	St. John's UCC	TBD
3/4	Repentance	First UCC	Potato Bar
3/11	Understanding	Zion UCC	Lasagna
3/18	Steadfast Love	Peace Church	Soup
3/25	Trust	St. Paul's UCC	Soup

SERMON NOTES/TAKEAWAYS