



**September 21, 2025      10:00 a.m.**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Welcome to First United Church of Christ**

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

[www.firstucctipton.org](http://www.firstucctipton.org)   ♦   [office@firstucctipton.org](mailto:office@firstucctipton.org)

*We are pleased that 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*

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



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***\*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND***

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L:** We have been given a new day to praise the Lord!

**P:** This is the day the Lord has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

**\*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 # 202 “O God, How We Have Wandered”**

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

**Seeking God, Thank you for continuing to welcome us with open arms. For those who feel lost, please bring a sense of welcome and comfort. For those who are quiet observers, please bring peace. In all, may we rejoice as we live new life in You.**

**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**

**CHILDREN’S LESSON**

**\*HYMN #451 “Be Now My Vision”**

## SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 15: 11—32

Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them. “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

“Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’ ““My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

L: The Word of our Lord

P: Thanks be to God

SERMON "What Have I Done?"

\*HYMN "The Prodigal" by Josiah Queen See Insert

\*BENEDICTION "The Blessing" Carnes, Job

**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. Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

## ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Organist - Deb Schwitzer

Liturgist - Lynne Pinegar

Greeters - Linda Jacobsen, Rusty & Jody Schroeder

Ushers - Lora Zaruba & Jim Clark

Ministers of First UCC are its members

Assisting them is Rev. Kerri Sandusky

## THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Tuesday	Sept. 23	10 a.m.	Bible Study
		6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Wednesday	Sept. 24	4:30 p.m.	Loaves & Fishes
		5:30 p.m.	Radiate Youth Group - Grades 6th—8th
		6:15 p.m.	Dinner for all Radiate Youth
		6:45 p.m.	Radiate Youth Group - Grades 9th—12th
Thursday	Sept. 25	9 a.m.	Cedar County consortium
		5 p.m.	AA Meeting
Friday	Sept. 26	7 p.m.	Red Cedar Chamber Music
Sunday	Sept. 28	9 a.m.	Sunday School: Pre K—5th
		9 a.m.	Adult Sunday School
		9 a.m.	Confirmation
		10 a.m.	Worship

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ♦ **Red Cedar Chamber Music** will perform on Friday night, Sept.26 at First UCC starting at 7 p.m.
- ♦ **All men are invited** to meet in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, Sept.27 at 8 a.m. for a time of prayer, devotions, and discussion.
- ♦ Want to learn about the history of First UCC and what it means to be a member? **"Who Are We? First UCC!"** meets on Sunday, Sept. 28 after worship in the meeting room.
- ♦ The **Tipton Lion's Club** is hosting a dinner and talk on Saturday, October 4 at 6:00 p.m. at First UCC. Don Challis will be speaking about Internet Scams, the Dark Web, and How to stay safe online. The cost of the meal is \$10. Check out the flyer on the kiosk for more information.
- ♦ If you would like to **help with Sunday School** for the children, please contact the office. We always need assistance. Youth helpers are also needed (6th—12th graders).
- ♦ **Radiate Youth Group** begins Wednesday, September 24. The schedule is:  
5:30—6:15 p.m. 6th—8th grade - leaders Jared and Whitney Gehrs  
6:15—6:45 p.m. Dinner for all grades  
6:45—7:30 p.m. 9th—12 grade with leaders Katie Kelly and Bobbie Lieser

Pastor Kerri will be assisting both groups. If you would like to provide a **meal for the youth**, please sign up on the kiosk or contact the office.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**      “The Prodigal”      by Josiah Queen

I've been sick and tired  
Of being sick and tired  
Searching far and wide  
For something that feels real  
I need something that feels real

And I don't wanna lose my soul  
Chasing after things that don't  
Lead me straight to You, and

I'm lost in a feeling  
That I ain't from this world  
The going back to Eden  
Ain't gonna be easy  
But it leads me straight to You  
Now I'm running home  
Like the prodigal

I don't need the money  
I don't want the fame  
I don't want what I can't take with me in the grave

Oh, and I don't wanna lose my soul  
Chasing after things that don't  
Lead me straight to You, and

I'm lost in a feeling  
That I ain't from this world  
The going back to Eden  
Ain't gonna be easy  
But it leads me straight to You  
Now I'm running home  
Like the prodigal

I don't wanna lose my soul  
Chasing after things that don't  
Lead me straight to You, and  
I don't wanna lose my gaze  
When I meet You face to face  
Well done, welcome home  
Now I'm running home  
Like the prodigal

I'm lost in a feeling  
That I ain't from this world  
The going back to Eden  
Ain't gonna be easy  
But it leads me straight to You  
Now I'm running home  
Like the prodigal

Lost in a feeling  
That I ain't from this world  
The going back to Eden  
Ain't gonna be easy  
But it leads me straight to You  
Now I'm running home  
Like the prodigal

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***SERMON NOTES/TAKEAWAYS***