

# First Congregational Church of Winona

*United Church of Christ*

14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.

August 29, 2021

**Prelude**

Sandy Todd

**Invitation to Worship**

Rev. Danielle Bartz

**Chimes**

**Call to Worship** (Song of Solomon 2:8-13)

One: Hear the voice of the Beloved, who comes leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills;

**Many: Our Beloved, like a gazelle or a young deer, stands behind our wall, gazing in  
at the windows. Beloved speaks and calls to us:**

One: "Arise, my love, my dear one, and come away; for now the winter is past, the  
rain is over and gone.

**Many: The flowers appear on the earth;**

One: The time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our  
land.

**Many: The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth  
fragrance. Arise, O love, O dear one, and join me."**

**Morning Prayer**

Creator God, you have loved us passionately into being. We come today seeking your  
presence and to know we are your beloved. Enter our sanctuary and enter our hearts  
that we may look into your loving gaze and see ourselves reflected there, as you see us.  
Let our love for you reflect and mirror your perfect love as we gather as your Beloved  
Community.

**Call for Offering**

**Anthem**

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost! Amen.

**Prayer of Dedication** (based on James 1:17)

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift is from above." God, thank you for  
the generosity within us that comes from you. It is with hope that we give and dedicate  
these gifts to you and your work in our world. Amen.

**Scripture Reading**

*Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23*

**Sermon**

*"Rituals and Traditions"*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Announcements**

**Benediction and Blessings**

**Chimes**

**Postlude**