

# UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

137 S Garfield Ave., Hinsdale, IL 60521 • United Church of Christ



## *Under the Broom Tree*

Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 17, 2024

*Our Welcoming Statement, adopted January 28, 2024:*

*We are all called by God as disciples of Christ. We affirm & welcome all persons as precious to God, just as they are. As a community of faith, in the service of God, we are enriched by our differences including diversity of gender identity and expression, age, marital & economic status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, race, and physical & mental abilities and qualities. We affirm that the Holy Spirit gathers us as a congregation in which all persons are invited to participate equally in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, concerns, & joys of our community of faith. We pledge to love, encourage, & support one another as the Body of Christ.*

What are we all about at Union Church?

***Living lives of love for God and all people.***

***You are welcome here!***

# A GATHERING IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF CREATION

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\* = Those who are able and willing, please stand

## PRELUDE

Ollie Townsend

## WELCOME

Grant Glowiak

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

## CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

*With a Voice of Singing*  
Chancel Choir

Ken Jennings

## \* OPENING HYMN (See Screen)

*Praise*

## \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we come before you, some of us weary and burdened, some of us just looking for a message of hope, all of us wanting to experience joy. We confess that in our exhaustion, we have doubted your presence and provision. We have allowed our fears and frustrations to overshadow our faith in You. Forgive us for the times we have turned away from Your guidance and neglected to support one another in love. We admit that we have often failed to be the hands and feet of Your compassion, choosing instead to focus on our own struggles. Renew and strengthen us, O God. Help us to recognize our shortcomings and to seek Your forgiveness with sincere hearts. Empower us to extend Your grace and mercy to those around us, becoming instruments of Your peace. Renew our spirits and grant us the courage to continue our journey with faith and hope. May we always remember Your unwavering care and guidance. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## \* ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you!

People: 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.*

## LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

*\*Children are invited to meet Penny at the front for Sunday School. As the children depart, we will exchange these blessings:  
Congregation: May God be with you there. Children: And may God be with you here.*

## SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

Janet Birchenough-Koehn

## SCRIPTURE

*It Is Enough from Elijah  
from 1 Kings 19*

Felix Mendelssohn

Jess Koehn – Bass • Ollie Townsend - Piano

## SERMON

*Under the Broom Tree*

Stephen C Edwards

## \* HYMN (See Screen)

## PRAYER, ENDING WITH PRAYER WE LEARNED FROM JESUS

Robb Knuepfer

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.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**OFFERTORY**

*Waiting Here for You*

*At this time, please sign & pass the Attendance Sheets – they help us care for members & welcome visitors.*

*For e-giving, head to [www.hinsdale.church](http://www.hinsdale.church). Tap 'Menu,' then select the 'Live Generously' tab, and tap 'Make a Contribution.' Or text "GIVEUCH" to 73256. Thanks for giving to the life & work of Union Church!*

**\* DOXOLOGY**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God all creatures here below  
Praise God for all that love has done!  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.***

**\* PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

**\* HYMN # 423**

*Great Is Your Faithfulness*

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

*Toccata from V Symphony Op. 42 No. 1*

CM Widor

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**FLOWERS** –Today's flowers have been given by the Beaumont family in loving memory of Shirley Beaumont.

**STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS**

*(h = he/him/his, s = she/her/hers, t = they/them/theirs)\**

Associate Minister – Grant Glowiak (h/t)	Dir. of Audio & Visual Media – Adam Nakutis (h)	<u>Section Leaders</u>
Associate Minister – Robb Knuepfer (h)	Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)	Jess Koehn (h)
Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson (s)		Coleman Dziedzic (h)
Dir. of Music and Worship – Stephen C Edwards (h/t)		Dei Nikoi (s)
		Tierra Whetstone-Christian (s)
Ushers – Cyndi Breslow, Winnie Leathers, Melissa Mann, and Stephanie Ley		Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h)
	Guitars – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h) and James Lang (h)	
* Go to <a href="https://tinyurl.com/ymabnh5t">https://tinyurl.com/ymabnh5t</a> for a guide to gender identity terms		Bass – Ben Dillinger(h)

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Children kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will begin in the Sanctuary with their families. After the Life of the Faith Community, the children will leave and go upstairs to our Sunday School space, returning before the last song.

Also, there is always Sunday School and nursery care for younger children in classroom 129 on the lower level.

**RESTROOMS**

To find the gender-neutral restroom, exit through the main doors of the Sanctuary into The Gathering Place. Follow the glass doors on your left until a hallway opens on your left. It is a few steps down that hallway on your right.

Gendered restrooms are located just off The Gathering Space - complete with changing tables on the lower and main levels.

**DON'T MISS A THING!**

Keep up with all our upcoming events by following us on Facebook & Instagram and subscribing to our weekly newsletter.

Head over to [www.hinsdale.church](http://www.hinsdale.church), and click on the 'Connect' button for more info!

**WEEKLY BULLETINS ARE NOW ONLINE!**

Our weekly bulletins/worship orders are now online. You can access them via the UCH web site and/or our YouTube channel. This way if you're worshipping at home/on the go, you can follow along.

Or you can follow along in person on your phone and reduce the number of bulletins we print each week!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### NEW SENIOR PASTOR SURVEY - HAVE YOU SHARED YOUR THOUGHTS?

The Discovery Team invites you to share your hopes & dreams for Union Church and the qualities you want to see in our next senior pastor! An online survey is now open for all members & friends of UCH. Find the link to the survey in our weekly emails. Paper copies of the survey are also available in the church office hallway on the counter between Grant and Stephen's office.

For assistance with the survey, call Maria Coyne at 708-280-8150 or email Jackie Roberts [jacquelineroberts323@gmail.com](mailto:jacquelineroberts323@gmail.com). You are also invited to use the computer in the volunteer office if you do not have access to a pc, laptop or tablet.

### HINSDALE HUMANE SOCIETY BAKE SALE

Saturday, November 23, Hinsdale Humane Society (21 Salt Creek Lane)

'Tis the season for baked goods! There is a bake sale at HHS with 100% of the proceeds benefiting the Zach Leathers Emergency Medical Fund. Find the link in the weekly email to learn more!



### SAVE-THE-DATE FOR A GUEST PREACHER

Sunday, December 1 at 10:00 a.m.

Reverend Josh Heikkila will be joining us to preach for the first Sunday in Advent. He will bring a unique, and worldwide, perspective to the season. Josh lives in Accra, Ghana and will be in the States visiting family over Thanksgiving (including his cousin, Carissa!). He has served as the regional liaison to West Africa for the Presbyterian Mission Agency since 2009.

Prior to his life in 'professional' ministry, Josh earned a bachelor's degree in math and social sciences from Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, and then worked as a survey specialist for the National Opinion Researcher and as a paralegal for the U.S. Department of Justice. Later, he was awarded a Master of Divinity in 2002 from the University of Chicago, where he served as a student intern for both the University of Chicago and First Presbyterian Church. Josh is currently celebrating the twenty-year anniversary since his ordination in 2004 at Fourth Presbyterian in Chicago. He then served for five years as an associate pastor of the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, Minnesota before beginning his work in Ghana.

Immediately following the 10:00 service in Rowell Hall, Josh will share a presentation on life and the church in West Africa.

## MUSIC

### ALLEGREZZA: OH, WHAT FUN! A HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

Sunday, December 8, 3:00 p.m., in the Sanctuary

Get swept away by the festive spirit at Allegrezza's Holiday Extravaganza: Oh, What Fun! This concert promises to be a joyous celebration, with several rousing renditions of the timeless classic "Jingle Bells" that will have you tapping your feet & singing along. The evening will also offer tender moments with Lauridsen's "O Magnum Mysterium," capturing the serene beauty of the season. Adding to the fun, Julian Wachner's "The Snow Lay on the Ground," will thrill you with its dynamic arrangement for choir, brass, harp, organ, & percussion. This monumental concert has something for everyone. You won't want to miss it!

### HANDBELL UPDATE

We are very excited to have had the handbells refurbished - it has been over 20 years! There are many moving parts, literally, within each bell. All of the inner workings of each bell need to be repaired and/or strengthened for the bells to ring correctly. Many thanks to Liz Jung for researching and contracting a group to do this for us.

For many of us at Union, music is an essential part of our church experience...From Liz Jung:

Melody that helps me express joy, gratitude and reverence. It  
Unites us in a harmony of voices that bring a sense of shared purpose, while it  
Stirs my soul. It is an  
Invitation to open my heart to a greater good and  
Celebrate God's spirit.

### CHRISTMAS MUSIC SUNDAY

December 15, at the 10:00 a.m. service

Be sure to enjoy ALL of our music ministry groups - including handbells! We are so fortunate to have such strong music programming at UCH! Here's a special note from Ann Reiland about our music:

*"Make A Joyful Noise Unto The Lord" For me, that psalm excerpt has a direct correlation to UCH music. Musical offerings here feed my spiritual soul, lift me up, give me joy and connect me to worship.*

\$\$\$ **2024** \$\$\$

\$165,441

Needed to meet 2024  
budgeted pledge/offering.

Help us close the gap!



## COLLECTIONS

### UCECP AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY MITTEN TREE

*Beginning Sunday, November 24*

We are collecting **new** mittens, hats & scarfs for our mitten tree at the top of the main stairs. Your donations will help support the children of our Mission Ministries. UCECP families can send their donations with their child, and they will personally place their items on the tree. Members & friends of UCH, you may also place your items on the tree or bring them to Adriana in the church office to place on the Mitten Tree. Thank you for helping to spread kindness and warmth during this winter season!

### NOW COLLECTING TREASURES AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR RUDOLPH'S BOUTIQUE

*Saturday, December 7, 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., in the Dining Room*

At this time, the only **new & gently used items** we need are **men's/boy's treasures and mugs**. Thank you to all who have donated thus far!

**Youth helpers:** We are also looking for volunteers and youth helpers to assist our young shoppers. It's very cute and we know many of you love doing this! Find the link in the weekly email to sign up!

**And adult helpers,** we need your help gift wrapping and at check-out and sorting ahead of time. Use the QR code to sign up!



### ELEANOR'S CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS

*Sunday, December 8, after 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, in Youth Room*

Help us fill 500 stockings for children served by our Ministry for Change and its partners by depositing the following items in the designated boxes in the Gathering Space before November 27:

- Left-over wrapped Halloween candy
- Hot wheels/matchbox type toy cars
- Chapstick
- Children's toothbrushes
- Travel size toothpaste

*Ask your dentist to donate toothbrushes & toothpaste or purchase them yourself (toothbrushes must be individually packaged).*

We also need stretchy gloves and hats, pencils, crayons, Christmas stickers, Play-doh and more. Find a link to our Amazon wish list in the weekly email to purchase any of these items. *These items can be shipped directly to the church (please check the church shipping address when you order).* In some cases, the stockings will be the only gifts these children receive. Please help us fill *Eleanor's Christmas Stockings* on December 8 in the Youth Room after the 9:00 a.m. & 10 a.m. services. All are welcome!

For questions or to help with the stocking project, please email Jane Grimm [jgrimm723@comcast.net](mailto:jgrimm723@comcast.net). Thank you!

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING

For our Thanksgiving Offering this year, we encourage you to make a special contribution to our Ministry for Change partner, **The Boulevard**, which provides medical respite care for homeless individuals in Chicago. As you may know, the City of Chicago is facing a huge budget gap. This shortfall will impact the government funding to agencies like The Boulevard, as we look to continue to support the 64-bed facility.

Union Church has been a long-time supporter of The Boulevard, as our own **Nancy Hanson** is a founding member, and **Christy Weimer** is the current Chair of the Board of Directors. This summer Union Church provided funding for new outdoor furniture for the residents at the facility in Garfield Park.



The Boulevard supports over 350 individuals annually with medical care, permanent housing, job search support and is now a certified Behavioral Health center. Visit their website <https://www.blvd.org> to learn more.

**For the Thanksgiving Offering (running November 17<sup>th</sup> through December 8<sup>th</sup>), you may donate to The Boulevard or make a special contribution to the church - or do both! You have two easy options for giving:**

- 1) Give online through the church website. Find the link in the weekly email, or, on the giving page, under "fund," select either "Thanksgiving Offering – The Boulevard" (all amounts donated under this selection will be donated to The Boulevard) or "Thanksgiving Offering - Union Church Ministries" (all amounts donated under this selection will be shared by ministries of the church generally) and complete the rest of the information. To give to both, please complete two separate transactions.
- 2) Deposit a check in the offering plate during service OR send in a check. If some/all of your donation is for The Boulevard, please tell us the split in the memo line or in a separate note. If all of your gift is intended solely for UCH, just send the check.



# Oh What Fun!

A holiday spectacular



DEC 6 & 8

MORE INFO & TICKETS:

[AllegrezzaSingers.com](http://AllegrezzaSingers.com)

*featuring*

Allegrezza Singers,  
Brass, & Michael Rees

ORGAN SCHOLAR OF FOURTH  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 6 @ 7:30pm

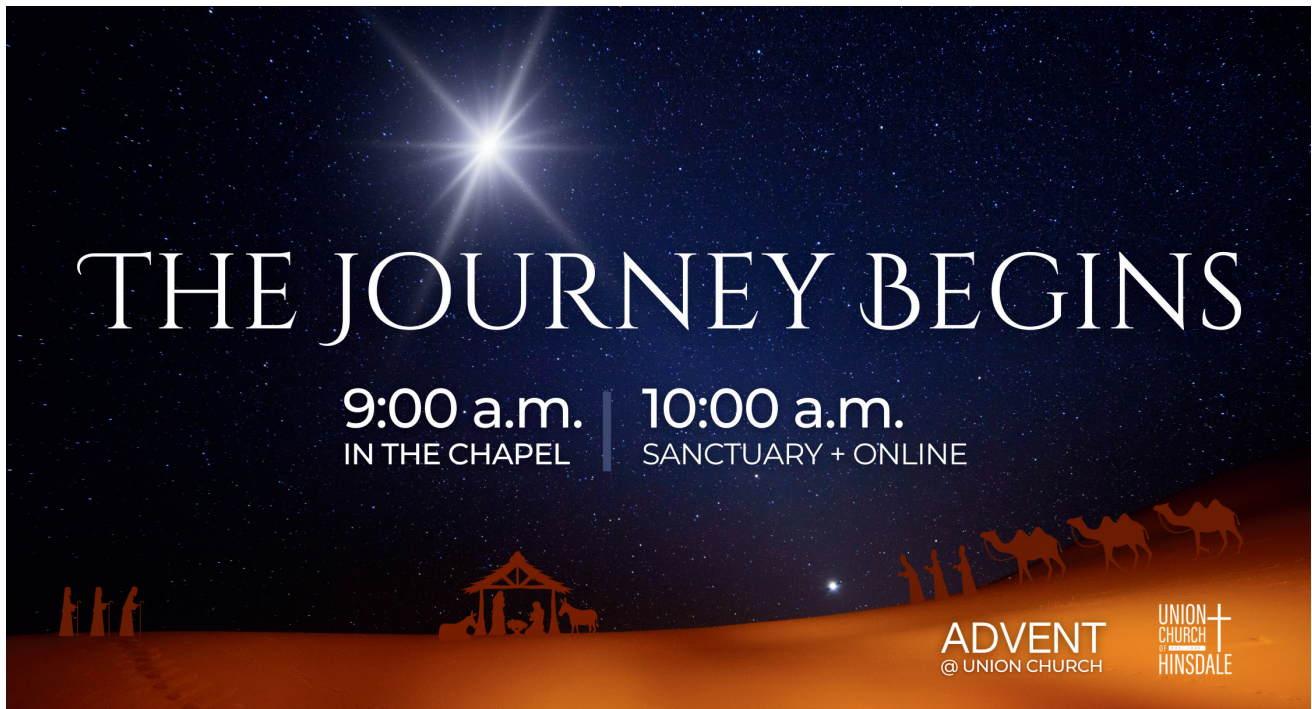
*The Chicago Temple*  
77 W Washington St, Chicago

December 8 @ 3:00pm

*The Union Church of Hinsdale*  
137 S Garfield, Hinsdale



# Season of Advent at Union Church!



## 9:00 A.M. in the Chapel

This kid-approved service is held at 9:00 a.m. in the Chapel. Rev Grant leads the service, as a brief, casual service intended as a first step towards worship for children. We embrace movement, curious little minds, and music at this service. In fact, you'll usually find a familiar face leading the 9:00 a.m. worship music: our guitarist, Cole! Cole also teaches the very popular music class at UCECP.

## 10:00 in the Sanctuary

This service brings us together in-person and online each Sunday. The 60-minute service, held in the Sanctuary and streamed on YouTube, is for the entire congregation to come together to celebrate God's love and learn what it means to be faithful followers of Jesus. Children are always welcome in worship.

*Christmas*  
**PAGEANT**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22**

During **10:00 a.m.** Worship

Rehearsals: Dec. 4, 11, 18 @ 4:00-4:45 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal: Dec. 21 @ 9:30-11:30 a.m.

*Scan the code to register your child(ren)!*

Kids ages 4+



**GENEROUS. OPEN. CONNECTED.**



We are an **open and affirming** Congregation.



hinsdale.church

137 S. GARFIELD ST HINSDALE, IL

There are many memorable events for you and your family to make the Advent season special at Union Church!



## Children's Chimes | kids ages 4+

Come to scheduled practices to give it a try! This is a gentle and safe way for young children to have a first performance experience.

Scan the code(s) to register your child(ren)

### NOVEMBER CHIMES

Practice:

10/30 & 11/6

@ 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Performance:

11/10 @ 10:00 a.m.



### CHRISTMAS CHIMES

Practice:

11/13 & 11/20

@ 4:00 - 4:45 p.m.

Performance:

12/15 @ 10:00 a.m.



## Rudolph's BOUTIQUE

**December 7 @ 8:30-11:00 a.m.**

A holiday boutique shopping experience\* for children through 5th grade. Our Youth Elves will help your little ones pick out gifts for family and friends. There will be coffee, cocoa, and a Santa sighting! (\*Cash only, gifts are \$2 each)



**EVERYONE WELCOME. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

**GENEROUS.  
OPEN.  
CONNECTED.**

UNION  
CHURCH  
OF EST. 1865  
HINSDALE



[hinsdale.church](http://hinsdale.church)



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