

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

137 S. Garfield Avenue, Hinsdale, IL 60521 • UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



UNION CHURCH HINSDALE

The Power of Voice

APRIL 2026 OUR EARTH

Honoring

SUNDAYS @ 9 & 10AM

Peace Be With You: Meeting the Risen Christ

First Sunday after Easter
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
April 12, 2026

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 & 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.

***As Union Church, one of our core commitments is:
We believe all people are created in the image of God,
worthy of love and belonging.***

You are welcome here!



GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Dr. Robb Knuepfer

PRELUDE

Carillon on "Easter Hymn"

arr. Young

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Stephen C Edwards

One: When fear closes the doors, peace shows up among us.

All: We welcome the presence that meets us where we are.

One: When doubt lingers, love still bears the marks of life.

All: We trust grace that honors questions and longing.

One: Breath is shared, and joy rises among us.

All: We sing our praise to you, source of life and gladness.

*** HYMN #4**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

*** INVOCATION PRAYER**

Holy presence, already among us, we gather knowing the doors of our lives do not keep you out. You meet us in our fears and our questions, breathing peace into weary bodies and uncertain hearts. Open our senses to recognize you standing here, calling us into trust, courage, and joy. As we worship, let your living breath move through us, that we may become signs of love and new life for the world. Amen.

*** RESPONSE #756**

Glory to God

Jacques Berthier

***Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, Let all sing praise, let all sing praise!***

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Robb Knuepfer

PRAYER SONG

Hear Our Prayer O Lord

Whelpton

***Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us your peace.***

PASTORAL PRAYER, ENDING WITH A PRAYER WE LEARNED FROM JESUS

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.

ANTHEM

The Holy City
Ollie Townsend

Adams

OFFERING



Zelle (preferred)
Please memo designated fund/special offering

*At this time, also please sign and pass the Attendance Sheets –
they help us care for members & welcome visitors.
For e-giving, use the QR code on the right for Zelle (no transaction fees),
the QR code on the left to give through Realm, or text "GIVEUCH" to 73256.
Thank you for contributing to the life & work of Union Church!*



MISSION MOMENT

UCECP Scholarship Video

*** HYMN (SEE NEXT PAGE)**

Healer of Our Ever Ill

Healer of Our Every Ill

*Refrain**Optional descant*

Heal-er of our ev - ery ill, light of each to - mor - row,

Melody

Heal-er of our ev - ery ill, light of each to - mor - row,

(last time) *Fine*

give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be-yond our sor - row.

(last time) *Fine*

give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be-yond our sor - row.

1. You who know our fears and sad - ness,
2. In the pain and joy be - hold - ing
3. Give us strength to love each oth - er,
4. You who know each thought and feel - ing,

grace us with your peace and glad - ness;
 how your grace is still un - fold - ing,
 ev - ery sis - ter, ev - ery broth - er;
 teach us all your way of heal - ing;

D.C.

Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts. _____
 give us all your vi - sion, God of love. _____
 Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide. _____
 Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart. _____

SCRIPTURE READING*John 20:19-31*

Melissa Mann

SERMON*Peace Be With You: Meeting the Risen Christ*

Rev. Dr. Robb Knuepfer

MOMENT OF REFLECTION*** HYMN #301***Crown with Your Richest Crowns**** BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE***Italian Hymn*

arr. Young

* = Those who are able and willing, please stand

Today's flowers are given by Jane and Kirk Grimm in celebration of their new granddaughter, Harriet Elizabeth Grimm.

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS*(h = he/him/his, s = she/her/hers, t = they/them/theirs)**

Bridge Pastor – Timothy C. Rhodes (h)

Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson (s)

Section Leaders

Associate Pastor – Grant Glowiak (h/t)

Dir. of Audio & Visual Media – Adam Nakutis (h)

Manda Gervase (s)

Associate Pastor – Robb Knuepfer (h)

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)

Jess Koehn (h)

Dir. of Music & Worship – Stephen C Edwards (h/t)

Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)

Ushers – Michael Kucera, Virgil Oostendorp, Vicky Hurst, Barbara Parsons

Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h)

Guitar – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h)

* Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ymabnh5t> for a guide to gender identity terms

Bass – Ben Dillinger(h)

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 Place – complete with changing tables on the lower and main levels.

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We welcome children and their energy in all aspects of worship! We're glad you're here! Is it helpful for your child to move around? Consider sitting near the Narthex (under the balcony) and using that space. Also, help yourself to the red activity bags hanging in the Narthex designed to educate and engage the youngest amongst us. Don't hesitate to ask an usher for help!

For Sunday School, Children K - 5th grade will begin in the Sanctuary with their families. Later, the children will leave and go upstairs to our Sunday School space, returning before the last song. There is always Sunday School & nursery care for younger children (under 5) in classroom 129 on the lower level during the 10am service. You may drop off children before the service.

DON'T MISS A THING!

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

Visit www.hinsdale.church, and click on the 'Connect' button for more info!

ANNOUNCEMENTS**SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Senior Minister Search Committee has finalized its full senior minister profile! A tremendous amount of work has gone into this document, and we are very proud of its final form. We expect the UCC to post it this week and we are also beginning our search through other channels as well (divinity schools, community-wide networks, etc.). We are eager to meet with candidates soon and expect to have viable candidates to interview in the coming weeks. After months of prep and consultations, we are finally at the most important part of the search and can't wait to see who is drawn to the Union Church of Hinsdale. We will continue to update the congregation and please continue to keep the entire committee in your prayers.

HAPPENING TODAY

ADULT ED: SOUND BATH

Sunday, April 12, 11:15 to 12:30 p.m., in the Youth Room

A sound bath is an immersive experience where you are “bathed” in sound waves that are produced by various instruments. In a guided meditation, you will have the chance to relax and reset during the spring season of new growth and our April focus on honoring the planet and natural world.

You are welcome to use the youth room sofas, sit in a chair or bring a yoga mat and pillow and spread out on the floor. Please dress comfortably. This unique experience can be enjoyed by adults of all ages.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

VBS: ALL ABOARD! COME RIDE THE PEACE TRAIN

June 22 to 26, 12:45 to 3:00 p.m., at Union Church of Hinsdale

Registration is open!

Get ready for a week of fun, friendship, and faith at Union Church of Hinsdale’s VBS! This year, we’re hopping on the Peace Train to explore what it means to live as peacemakers. Each day, kids will:



- Discover inspiring Bible stories
- Learn how God’s peace includes everyone
- Practice kindness, courage, and compassion
- Play games, enjoy snacks, and create arts and crafts

From God’s promise of peace to sharing it in the world, your child will learn that peace isn’t just something we talk about — it’s something we live!



UCECP

PRESCHOOL PROM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The UCECP is looking for church members to volunteer at the Preschool Prom at the Community House on April 30. This is one of the sweetest nights of the year for the UCECP community and a great way for the church to show our support of the school families by giving them some time to enjoy the event with their children. It is a fun night full of joy. It is wonderful to see the excitement of the children. Teenage helpers are welcome and this can count towards your service hours needed for school activities. If you are available, please consider signing up with the QR code on the left.

SPRING AND SUMMER EVENTS

