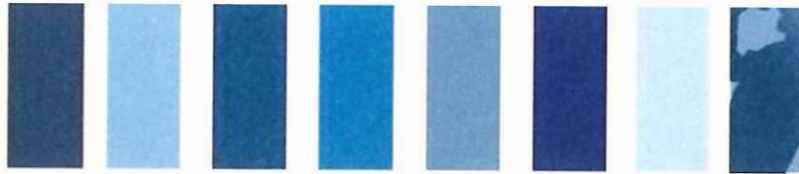


UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



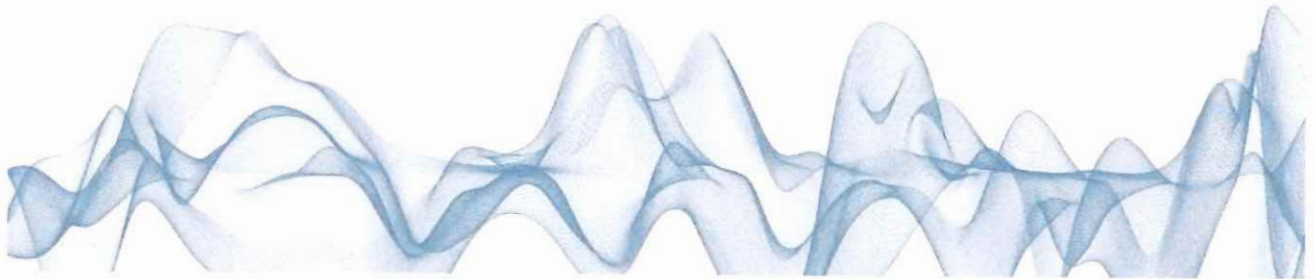
UNION
CHURCH
HINSDALE

The Power of Voice

MAY 2026 MUSIC OF THE AGES

Celebrating Our Voice

SUNDAYS @ 9 & 10AM



Love's Enthusiasm

Sixth Sunday of Easter
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
May 10, 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 find meaning, and ultimately peace, through our
shared commitment for justice and community outreach.***

You are welcome here!



GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Grant Glowiak

PRELUDE

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Ollie Townsend - Organ

arr. Diane Bish

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Here, the walls of the world crumble. There is no longer Jew or Greek, citizen or immigrant.

All: For we are all one in Christ Jesus.

One: There is no longer slave or free, worker or owner.

All: For we are all one in Christ Jesus.

One: There is no longer male and female, or any binary that seeks to divide.

All: For we are all one in Christ Jesus. We are heirs to the promise, children of a radical hope. Let us worship the One who makes us whole.

* HYMN (LAST PAGE)

Open My Eyes That I May See

Clara H. Scott

* INVOCATION PRAYER

Holy One, who calls us from the shadows of the law into the brilliance of your grace: we gather today as your beloved children. We thank you that the walls we build to separate ourselves have no power here.

In this space, may we truly believe that we are "one in Christ Jesus." Strip away our need for hierarchies and labels. Clothe us instead in your compassion, that we might see the divine image in every neighbor. As heirs to your ancient promise, guide our hearts toward a justice that knows no borders and a love that knows no bounds. Be present with us now, as we celebrate the freedom of faith and the beauty of our shared life.

Amen.

* RESPONSE

Halle, halle, halle - lujah

Halle, halle, halle – lujah! Halle, halle, halle – lujah!

Halle, halle, halle – lujah! Halle, halle, halle – lujah!! Hallelujah, hallelujah!

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

PRAYER SONG

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Medema

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying. Send love, send us power, send us grace.

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

Fanny Crosby Medley
Chancel Choir

arr. Courtney

CHILDREN DEPART FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

* HYMN # 606

Nearer My God to Thee

Sarah Flower Adams

SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 3:23-39

Lavina Gross

SERMON

Love's Enthusiasm

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

* HYMN

Blessed Assurance

Fanny Crosby and
Phoebe Palmer Knapp

* BENEDICTION

REPRISE

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

Today's flowers are given by Lavina Gross in loving memory of her husband, Martin Gross.

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)

Macy Danenhower(s)

Ushers – Lavina Gross, Michael Kucera

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)

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.

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.

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

UPDATE ON UCECI "BEFORE WE GET TO MARS" PROJECT

The UCECI (Union Church Early Childhood Initiative) Team got very close in its plans to open a kindergarten readiness classroom at a Summit elementary school in August. For the past 9 months, we had many productive and encouraging meetings with the Superintendent of District 104 and its pre-K Director. We successfully obtained a \$20,000 grant from Summit Community Network, and we initiated a search for a Director/Teacher of the classroom. However, to our significant surprise and disappointment, the Summit School Board recently decided to open two full-day preschool classrooms. The classroom they initially offered to us will be used by them. The District has not offered full-day preschool for over 20 years. While we will not be directly providing those full-day preschool opportunities, our discussions with District 104 resulted in more full-day preschool opportunities for the children of Summit. We trust God and the belief there are more opportunities out there for us to do good work. We will keep you posted.

UCECI Team Members: Abby Lombardi (Chair), Penny Davey, Christy Weimer, Tim Rhodes, and Gaby Gleason

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS YOUTH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We're getting ready for an exciting week of Vacation Bible School, and we're looking for youth helpers to be part of the fun!

If you're in middle school or high school, this is a great opportunity to serve, build leadership skills, earn service hours, and make a meaningful impact in the lives of younger children. Youth helpers play an important role—assisting with activities, shepherding groups, helping with crafts and games, and bringing great energy to the week. If you are interested in being part of the week, please sign up using the QR code on the left. **Training is on Sunday, May 17, from 11:15 to 12:30 p.m. in the Kitchen Classroom.**

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!



UPCOMING IN MAY

BLESSING OF BICYCLES (AND STROLLERS, SCOOTERS, SKATES...ANYTHING THAT ROLLS!)

Sunday, May 31, 9:00 a.m. worship service

Ride to church and have your wheels blessed for a summer of safety! May the road rise to meet you!

MUSIC SUNDAY: ILLUMINARE

Sunday, May 31, 10:00 a.m. worship service

Please join us for this musical worship service. Talent from Chancel Choir, Union Bells, fourtissimo, WE, Duplette, and Chamber Orchestra will be sure to delight your every sense!

Open My Eyes, That I May See

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see Glimp-ses of truth Thou hast for me;
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear Voi - ces of truth Thou send - est clear;
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear Glad - ly the warm truth ev' - ry-where;

Place in my hands the won - der - ful key That shall un - clasp and
 And while the wave - notes fall on my ear, Ev' - ry - thing false will
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare Love with Thy chil - dren,

set me free; Si - lent - ly now I wait for Thee, Re - ady, my God, Thy
 dis - ap - pear: Si - lent - ly now I wait for Thee, Re - ady, my God, Thy
 thus to share: Si - lent - ly now I wait for Thee, Re - ady, my God, Thy

will to see; O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spi - rit di - vine!
 will to see; O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spi - rit di - vine!
 will to see; O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spi - rit di - vine!

Text: Clara H. Scott, 1841-1897
 Tune: Clara H. Scott, 1841-1897



Irregular
 SCOTT
www.hymnary.org/text/open_my_eyes_that_i_may_see

THE POWER OF VOICE: MUSIC OF THE AGES

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing – arr. Diane Bish

Diane Bish (born **February 25, 1941**) is an internationally renowned American **concert organist** known for her virtuosity, colorful registrations, and engaging performance style. She gained wide recognition through her long-running television program ***The Joy of Music***, which helped bring organ music to a broad, global audience. Bish has performed on major historic organs around the world and has been influential in redefining the role of the concert organist as both musician and communicator for modern audiences.

Open My Eyes, that I May See - **Clara H. Scott (1841–1897)** was unusual for her time in that she wrote both the words and the music for many of her hymns. In a period when women were often encouraged to write texts but not compose tunes, Scott was a trained musician, choir director, and publisher, and she claimed both roles confidently.

Inspired by Psalm 119:18, **Open My Eyes, That I May See(1895)** was written late in Scott's life, just two years before her death in 1897. It represents her mature theological and musical voice and stands as her most enduring contribution to congregational hymnody.

Fanny Crosby Medley – Fanny Crosby (1820–1915) was one of the most prolific hymn writers in Christian history, composing more than *8,000 hymns* despite losing her sight in infancy. Her influence on hymnody was profound: she helped shape the *American gospel hymn tradition*, writing texts that were emotionally direct, easily sung, and well suited to revival and congregational use. Crosby's hymns emphasized *personal conversion, assurance of salvation, and intimate trust in God, reflecting the evangelical revival theology of the 19th century*, especially within Methodist and Holiness movements. Rather than focusing on abstract doctrine, her texts spoke from lived faith, frequently using first-person testimony (“I,” “me,” “my Savior”) to invite singers into personal relationship with God. In this way, her work embodied a theology that valued heartfelt experience and accessibility, helping ordinary worshipers articulate faith in times of joy, doubt, and suffering.

Sarah Flower Adams wrote **Nearer, My God, to Thee** (1841) to accompany a sermon on Genesis 28—the story of Jacob's ladder, where Jacob dreams of a stairway between heaven and earth and awakens with a renewed sense of God's presence. The hymn reflects the Romantic-era conviction that: God is encountered through struggle, not comfort alone, suffering can become a pathway to spiritual depth, and faith is a journey toward God, not a settled arrival.

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine” is one of the most beloved American hymns of the late 19th century, known for its warmth, joy, and confidence in God's saving love. It was written by two women - Lyricist **Fanny Crosby (1820-1915)** and composer **Phoebe Palmer Knapp (1839-1908)**. According to early accounts, Phoebe Knapp played a new melody for Fanny Crosby at the piano and asked her what it “said.” Crosby immediately responded with the words “Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!”—and the hymn was written almost on the spot. This kind of spontaneous collaboration was typical of gospel-hymn writing in that era.