

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
September 6, 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 know we have power, and we use that power to make the world more like Jesus would want it to be.



You are welcome here!

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

PRELUDE

Prelude on "Old Hundredth"

Bock

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We gather as people who belong to one another, seeking to follow the way of Jesus.

All: We come not as strangers, but as community—learning, sharing, serving, and growing together.

One: The first followers devoted themselves to teaching and fellowship, to breaking bread and to prayer.

All: May we devote ourselves to one another, making room for friendship, compassion, forgiveness, and joy.

One: They shared what they had, cared for those in need, and welcomed one another with glad and generous hearts.

All: We desire a community where all are welcomed, all are valued, and all have a place.

One: People of God, let us worship the God who calls us into community,

All: and let us become the beloved community God is creating among us.

*HYMN #332

As We Gather at Your Table

BEACH SPRING

*INVOCATION PRAYER

Gathering God, you create us for one another. Call us beyond isolation and self-interest into the gift of community. Help us to listen with open hearts, to welcome one another with generous spirits, to share what we have, to bear one another's burdens, and to celebrate one another's joys.

May this congregation be a place where no one is forgotten, where differences become understanding, where generosity flows freely, and where each person knows they belong. May the way we live together be a witness to your presence in the world and our love of neighbor. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER

PRAYER SONG

Hear Our Prayer

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

Be Not Afraid
Chancel Choir

Courtney

* Please rise in body and spirit

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

Resale

Claudia Moffat

*HYMN #321

Break Now the Bread of Life

BREAD OF LIFE

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 2.42-47

Laurie McMahon

SERMON

What Makes Community Real

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

*COMMUNION HYMN #349 (verses 1-3)

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All are welcome at the Communion table. All means all. Please take a piece of bread and a cup. You may partake of the elements either before or after returning to the pew. Those not coming forward will be served in the pews.

For a list of ingredients in our gluten free communion bread, see the photo of the package in the announcements section.

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

Thanks for giving to the life of Union Church!

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is right and our greatest joy.....

COMMUNION MUSIC

*PRAYER OF GRATITUDE (in unison)

We thank you, O God, for giving us your grace through the visible signs of this bread and vine, uniting us with Christ, and helping us become the body of Christ for the world. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall join with all nations and peoples in the joy of your eternal realm. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

*SONG

Your Grace Is Enough

Tomlin

*BENEDICTION

*REPRISE

Today's flowers are from Sally and Bob Manion in memory of their son, Charles Gifford Manion.

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS

Bridge Pastor – Timothy C. Rhodes (h)

Associate Pastor – Grant Glowiak (h/t)

Associate Pastor – Robb Knuepfer (h)

Interim Music Director & Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)

Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson (s)

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

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)

Bass – Ben Dillinger(h)

Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h)

Guitar – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h)

Section Leaders

Macy Danenhowe (s)

Manda Gervase (s)

Jess Koehn (h)

Haven Wallgren (h)

Ushers – Barbara Herber, Emily Herber, Maria Coyne, Laurie McMahon

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Union Church welcomes 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. It's got a little table, chairs, toys, and a collection of books. 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 children Kindergarten – 5th grade, Sunday School will be taking a break today, September 6, and next Sunday, September 13. It will resume on Sunday, September 20. There is always Sunday School & nursery care for younger children (under 5) in classroom 129 on the lower level.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

PET BLESSING

Both 9:00 and 10:00 services will be outside the morning of September 13, weather permitting. Bring your furry friend to church, or if your pet isn't ready for such a large social setting or portable, send in a photo to Adriana, akieffer@uchinsdale.org, by September 10.

SPOTLIGHT: SEMESTER AT SEA

Sunday, September 20, 11:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

To kick off our Soulcraft: The Art of Living yearlong theme, we can't think of a better presenter than our beloved UCH member, June Scott. In September, our sermons are focused on building community, and June did just that when she participated in a Semester at Sea program as a Lifelong Learner.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATIONS AND WISHES



Union Church's 160 birthday celebration is coming up on October 25. We've been collecting thoughts from church members and friends—things we celebrate about our church and wishes for the next 160 years—

and we want to hear from you! You can fill out a card in the Gathering Place or scan the QR code to send us your thoughts online.

SAVE THE DATE: 160 YEAR CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 25, 2026

Join us for at a 9:30 worship service in the Sanctuary! We are combining the 9:00 and the 10:00 services.

There will be a special brunch in the dining room immediately following the service.

GLUTEN-FREE COMMUNION BREAD INGREDIENTS

Ingredients

water, sourdough (rice flour, water), rice starch, corn starch, modified cellulose, caramelized sugar syrup, psyllium seed husk, sunflower oil, pea protein, yeast, millet flour, citrus fiber, rice flour, quinoa flour, salt, guar gum, corn flour, rice syrup. May Contain: Sesame.