

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
September 13, 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

PRELUDE

Be Magnified

Harris, Funderburk, and Harris

Chorus

**Be magnified. Let praises rise, praises rise.
Be lifted high. Here in our lives, in our lives.
Be magnified.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Grant Glowiak

One: We gather as many creatures, each with different gifts, stories, and journeys.

All: Yet we belong to one another, and together we belong to God.

One: Just as a body has many parts, so we are many members, each with a place and purpose.

All: There is room for every one here. We are needed, valued, and welcomed.

One: We do not come as isolated individuals, but as a community joined together in love.

All: Come, let us worship the God who gathers us into one body.

*HYMN

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

*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

Creator

Wickham, Fowler, Getty, & Getty

* 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

Softball Season Recap

*HYMN

The Earth Is Yours

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 12.3-13

Melissa Mann

SERMON

Belonging vs. Fitting In

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

PET BLESSING

One: God made the wild animals of the earth, everything that moves on the ground and swims in the seas. And God saw that it was good.

All: The animals of God’s creation share in our lives, bring us joy, and remind us of the beauty of the earth.

One: Let us remember that we are caretakers of God’s world, bound together in love with all living things.

Let us pray:

All: Loving God, maker of all things: Thank you for the gift of our animal companions. Watch over them, keep them safe, and fill them with health and gladness. Help us to be wise and loving stewards of all your creation. Amen.

Blessing of the pets (The pastors will move among the congregation blessing the pets.)

Blessing Song

So Will I

Houston, Fatkin, & Hastings

*SONG

Let Everything That Has Breath

Redman

*BENEDICTION

*REPRISE

Today's flowers are given by Judy and Will Cochran.

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS

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)

Macy Danenhowe (s)

Associate Pastor – Robb Knuepfer (h)

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung (s)

Manda Gervase (s)

Interim Music Director & Organist – Oliver Townsend (h)

Interim Choir Director – Mike Molloy (h)

Jess Koehn (h)

Bass – Ben Dillinger(h) Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak (h) Guitar – Andrew Sudhibhasilp (h) Haven Wallgren-Lemmerman(h)

Ushers – Maria Coyne, Debbie Hopkins, Vicky Hurst, and Joel Pundmann

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.





SOULCRAFT – THE ART OF LIVING

What if church was more than a place to learn about faith? What if it became a place to practice it?

Next Sunday Union Church will begin an exciting year-long journey called **Soulcraft: The Art of Living**.

Soulcraft is built on a simple conviction: most of us already know the kind of people we want to become. We know that kindness matters. Presence matters. Gratitude matters. Generosity matters. The challenge isn't knowing—it's living.

Throughout the coming program year, our worship, learning opportunities, small groups, and congregational life will work together to help us practice faith in everyday life. Each season will explore a different aspect of Christian living, and every week will include one simple "Soul Spark"—a practical invitation to carry Sunday's message into Monday and the week ahead. We'll begin by exploring what it means to build authentic community and be fully present with God & one another. Along the way we'll reflect on our digital lives, stewardship, relationships, forgiveness, purpose, legacy, and the everyday practices that shape faithful living. Whether you've been part of Union Church for decades or you're just beginning to explore faith, Soulcraft offers a place to grow—one small practice at a time. Join Union Church as we begin crafting lives shaped by grace, compassion, and hope.

SPOTLIGHT

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 joined a Semester at Sea program as a Lifelong Learner.



NEW HVAC UNITS

Union Church of Hinsdale will be replacing two rooftop HVAC units. During the installation process, you may experience some disruption to the daily activities of Union Church. The project will begin on Monday, September 14, and conclude on Friday, September 19. There will be disruptions to the building's heating and cooling systems and some parking limitations. For a more thorough look into this project and the schedule for this week, please click the link in the weekly email.

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. And please don't hesitate to ask an usher for help!

For children Kindergarten – 5th grade, Sunday School will be taking a break today, 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.

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing



To you, O God, all creatures sing,
and all creation, everything
sings your praises, alleluia!
Your burning sun with golden beam,
your silver moon with softer gleam
sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your wind that blows the tempest by,
your clouds that sail across the sky
sing your praises, alleluia!
Your morning rises with a song,
and lights of evening sing along,
sing your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Your flowing waters, crystal clear,
make melodies for you to hear,
sing your praises, alleluia!
Your fire, bountiful and bright,
remembering your warmth and light,
sings your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

To you, O God, day after day,
your planet earth in every way,
Sings your praises, alleluia!
As savory fruit and fragrant flower
show forth your glory and your power,
Singing praises, alleluia, alleluia!
Sings your praises, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Earth Is Yours

CHORUS



Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord.
The earth is Yours and singing
"Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord"
The earth is Yours
The earth is Yours.

Let Everything That Has Breath

Let everything that, Everything that,
Everything that has breath praise the Lord.
(Repeat)

Praise You in the morning,
Praise You in the evening,
Praise You when I'm young and when I'm old.

Praise You when I'm laughing,
Praise You when I'm grieving,
Praise You every season of the soul.

If we could see how much You're worth,
Your power, Your might, Your endless love,
Then surely we would never cease to praise.

Let everything that, Everything that,
Everything that has breath praise the Lord.
(Repeat)

Praise You in the heavens,
joining with the angels,
Praising You forever and a day.

Praise You on the earth now
Joining with creation
Calling all the nations to Your praise

If they could see how much You're worth,
Your power, Your might, Your endless love,
Then surely they would never cease to praise.

Let everything that, Everything that,
Everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

