

UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE

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



First & Foremost

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
10:00 A.M. Worship Service
October 4, 2026

Union Church Welcoming Statement

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.

A Union Church Core Commitment:

We love children and youth, and we seek to raise them with a curious, generous, personal, and socially engaged Christian faith.

You are welcome here!

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY

PRELUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Union Bells

Holden

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Grant Glowiak

One: Be still and know that I am God.

All: We pause. We breathe. We remember that God is here.

One: The Lord is with us. God is our refuge and our strength.

All: In the midst of whatever we carry, we are not alone.

One: Be still. Be present. Trust God.

All: We are here. God is here. Let us worship.

*HYMN #332

As We Gather at Your Table

BEACH SPRING

*INVOCATION PRAYER

God of stillness and strength, we come into your presence just as we are. Quiet the noise within us. Ease our worries. Help us let go of what we cannot control and trust that you are with us. Be our refuge when life feels uncertain and our strength when we feel weary. Remind us that we are never alone. In this moment, help us be still, breathe deeply, and know that you are God. Amen.

*RESPONSE

Gloria

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Winifred Hamilton Glowiak
Steven Hurst Glowiak

BAPTISMAL HYMN

I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry

BORNING CRY

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.

CHORIAL ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas
Chancel Choir

Gjeilo

* Please rise in body and spirit

OFFERING



*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!
At this time, also please sign and pass the Attendance Sheets
they help us care for members & welcome visitors.
Thanks for giving to the life of Union Church!*



MISSION MOMENT

The Power of Generosity

*HYMN

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 46.10-11

Maria Coyne

SERMON

First & Foremost

Rev. Timothy C. Rhodes

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

COMMUNION HYMN #349 vss.1-3

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

*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 description in the announcements section.*

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

I Speak Jesus

Baldwin

*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

House of the Lord

Wickham

*BENEDICTION

*REPRISE

Today's altar flowers are in loving memory of Dee and Eleanor Patterson by Lolly and Steve McDonnell.

The flowers near the Baptismal Font are given in celebration of the baptism of Winifred Hamilton and Steven Hurst Glowiak by their Hurst-Burger family.

———— Week of October 4, 2026 ————

Choose one hour this week to be fully present, even if you're alone (screens dark).



Every Soul Spark is built on a simple conviction: transformation happens in ordinary moments, not heroic ones.

We don't change simply by resolving to be different. We change by doing one small thing differently—repeatedly—until that practice begins to shape who we are.

A Soul Spark is one simple, doable action that connects Sunday's theme to daily life. It is not a challenge, a project, or a heroic commitment. It is a small, repeatable practice—something you can actually do amid an ordinary week.

And we'd love to hear what happens. Drop your pastors a note and tell us about your Soul Spark experience—what you noticed, what surprised you, or how the practice affected your week. Sometimes a small spark is all it takes to begin a transformation.

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?

Today, Union Church celebrates 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. 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.

UNION CHURCH 160 YEAR CELEBRATION!

Our Congregation was officially recognized as the Congregational Union Church of Hinsdale on October 16, 1866.

The rest is "history" and YOU are part of it!

Join in the Celebration of Union Church's 160 Years!

Sunday, October 25

9:30 Worship

Special time to combine 9:00 and 10:00 Services

10:30-12:00 Celebration Brunch

STAFF AND WORSHIP LEADERS

Bridge Minister – Timothy C. Rhodes

Associate Minister – Grant Glowiak

Associate Minister – Robb Knuepfer

Interim Music Director & Organist – Oliver Townsend

Bass – Ben Dillinger Trap Set – Kalyan Pathak

Ushers – Maria Coyne, Christy Weimer, Randy Weimer

Dir. of Christian Education – Penny Johnson

Dir. of Audio & Visual Media – Adam Nakutis

Dir. of Handbells – Elizabeth Jung

Interim Choir Director – Mike Molloy

Guitar – Andrew Sudhibhasilp

Section Leaders:

Macy Danenhower

Manda Gervase

Jess Koehn

Haven Wallgren-Lemmerman



Welcome

Whether this is your first time worshiping with Union Church of Hinsdale or you have been here for many years, we are grateful you are here. We believe every person is created in the image of God and worthy of love, dignity, and belonging. Inspired by the open and generous hospitality of Jesus, we welcome everyone, without exception. Union is a community where faith is something we practice. We ask questions about what matters, grow in kindness and generosity, love and nurture our children and youth, and put our faith into action through service, community, and the pursuit of justice. Together, we seek to love God and one another, following the way of Jesus with curiosity, courage, grace, and hope.

You are welcome at Union. You belong here.



LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE

All worshipers are asked to please let us know you're here. Please locate and sign in on the black friendship pads found at the end of each row. Please use the pads to update the church with your information. As you pass the pad along the row, please greet those who are worshiping with you today.

PRAYER CARDS

In the black friendship pads you will find blue prayer cards. Please write your prayer joys and concerns on the card and place it in the offering plate. Your pastors are privileged to pray with you.

SOUND

Worship can be heard through "T" or "T-coil" settings of hearing aids. You may also ask an usher for a headset.

GIVING YOUR VALUES



Developing a Giving Philosophy: **Today 11:15 - 12:30, Rowell Hall. Experience Dan Pallotta's Ted Talk, "The Way We Think About Charity is Dead Wrong"**

(it's about 20 minutes). This talk inspired his book *Uncharitable* and then the movie. Following the TED Talk we will have a workshop-style discussion with Rev. Tim Rhodes about crafting our own giving philosophies that are aligned with our values. Join us on October 18, 11:15 to 12:30, in Room JK for a follow-up conversation from UCH financial advisors on planning, strategizing, and ways to support.

BAPTISMS

Today, Union Church of Hinsdale celebrates the sacrament of Baptism with Steven Hurst Glowiak and Winifred Hamilton Glowiak. The children were born on July 25, 2026, to Anna and Grant Glowiak. Winnie's godparents are Nicholas Reed and Kurt Burger. Steven's godparents are Nicholas Reed and Mark Alan. We give thanks for these two beloved children and pray that they may always know the love of God and the love of their family, godparents, and church community.

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 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.

RESALE THANKS

Thank you to one and all who helped make Resale 2026 a success. If you donated, sorted, worked, or bought you helped reduce, recycle and reuse; and you blessed the ministries of Union Church.

WOMEN OF A CERTAIN AGE

The next WOACA Meeting will take place on Sunday, October 11 after the 10:00 am worship service in Rowell Hall. Jane Walker, UCH member, and Hinsdale resident will present "Grandma Moses a Folk Artist". In keeping with The Art of Living- Soulcraft theme she will tell us about her extraordinary life when she became an Artist/Painter at age 78.

The purpose of WOACA is for fellowship, friendship, and fun! All are welcome. No food or beverages will be served. For more information, please email Melissa Barnes Mann at elissamann403@gmail.com.

CAMERATA CHICAGO ORCHESTRA



Join us for on October 18 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for a stunning 2026 / 2027 Camerata Chicago season opening concert and enjoy Mendelssohn's A Midsummer Night's

Dream with excerpts from Shakespeare. Watch the magical tale unfold as Maestro Drostan Hall conducts and narrates. This is a family-friendly event by Union Church's Ensemble-in-Residence.

Camerata Chicago is thrilled to present the World Premiere of Fantasy on English Folk Tunes by our Composer-in-Residence Dr. Tony Payne.

UCH church members use coupon code UCOH for a 15% discount.

SEEKING CAR DONATION

Jeremiah Abeche's current car has reached the end of its life, and it's time to change the model. Jeremiah hails from Cameroon and is a friend of Union Church. He uses the car to get to his jobs, and so reliable transportation is critical, as is a smaller gas tank! We're hoping to find a used car that someone in our Union Church family might be willing to donate. If you have a vehicle, you're no longer using—or know someone who might—please consider reaching out. Even spreading the word helps. Please contact Vicky Hurst at hurkuhn@comcast.net if you need further information.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

As we celebrate World Communion Sunday, we offer a variety of breads for communion including gluten free bread, ingredients below; Challah, a Jewish braided bread served on Shabbat; and Naan, a traditional South Asian flatbread.

Gluten Free 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.

CURRENT EVENTS "HANG IN THERE" GROUP

Sunday, October 11, 11:15 to 12:30 p.m. in the Kitchen Classroom (room 302). A broad discussion of events impacting our church, nation, and world.

WORSHIP IN THE WOODS



Join us on October 11 and 18 at Fullersburg Woods! Fresh air and movement are good for us all. Celebrate the changing colors and seasons as we

"Worship in the Woods" and take our church service in the form of a 30-minute hike. Meet near the Nature Center off the main parking lot to step off right at 9:00 a.m.

SANDWICH MAKING FOR THE NIGHT MINISTRY

Sunday, October 18, 11:15 to 12:30 p.m. in the Dining Room. Sandwich lunches bless unhoused people in Chicago.

SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH UPDATE

The Senior Minister Search Committee is excited to share that we are in the final phase of the search. If all goes well, we expect to conclude our work in the very short term. That is not a guarantee, but we believe we stand in a very good position right now after evaluating many candidates and having multiple deep conversations with those we thought to be the best fit. Especially now in this delicate part of the process, please continue to keep the entire committee and candidates in your prayers.



UNION CHURCH INFORMATION

For all the info on Union Church ministries and programs check out the website; Hinsdale.church

