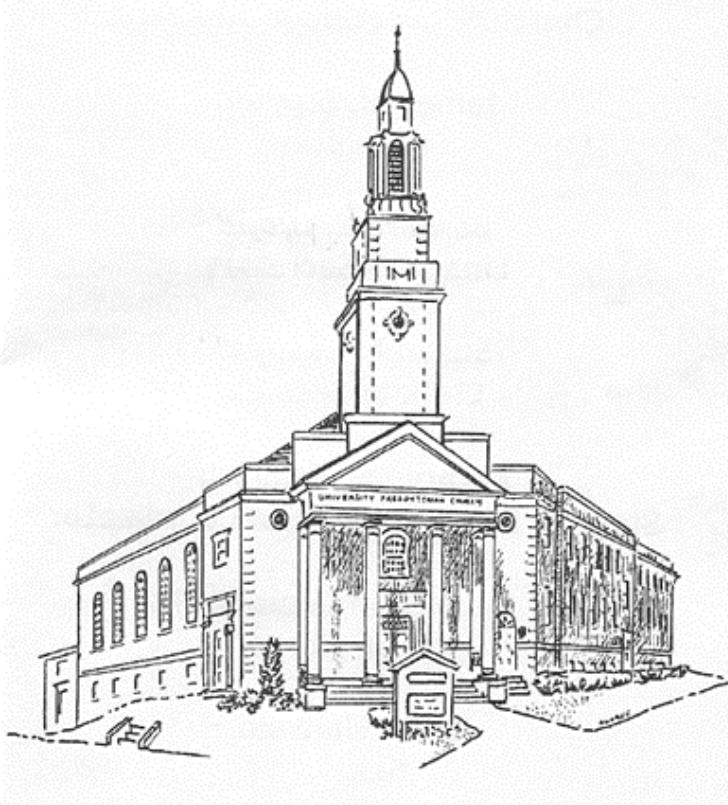


# University Presbyterian Church



Sunday February 8, 2026  
10:30 a.m.

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany, February 8, 2026  
Service for the Lord's Day  
10:30 a.m.

## **AS YOU PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

In order that people may listen to the music or pray in silence without distraction, please refrain from conversation after the music begins and kindly silence all cell phones. Also, please do not bring any food or beverage, other than water, in the sanctuary. Thank you.

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in worship. A playroom is available near the sanctuary for young children who are accompanied by their parents.

Prayer Requests: If you have a prayer request which you would like the pastor to include in “Prayers of the People,” please fill out the yellow prayer request slip found in the pew racks and place it in the offering plate when passed.

## THE GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

## Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship (*2 Cor. 13:13; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 4:4*)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**There is one body and one Spirit, just as we were called to the one hope of our calling.**

### **\*Prayer of the Day**

Almighty and eternal God, by your grace you have called us to this time and place to be your servant people as we follow our servant Lord. Make your Holy Spirit move within and among us, that together we may live a new life in the crucified and risen Christ. Bind us together in faith, so that as we receive all spiritual gifts needed to fulfill our calling, we may support one another in common ministry; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

\*Hymn #33

Praise the Lord! God's Glories Show

*Llanfair*

Robert Williams

## THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

The Invitation (Eph. 2:4–6)

Even when we were dead through our sin, our merciful and loving God made us alive together with Christ and raised us up through him. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

The Prayer

**Merciful and loving God, you have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling to proclaim the good news in word and deed. We are quick to speak when we ought to listen and remain silent when it is time to speak. We put too much faith in our own actions and fail to trust the strength of your Spirit. O God, forgive our foolish and sinful ways. Strengthen us anew to follow Christ's way in the world. By your Holy Spirit, give us the grace we need to be faithful disciples and fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.**

*There follows a moment of silent personal confession*

The Pardon (Eph. 2:8)

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen**

\*Hymn #581

Glory Be to the Father

Henry W. Greatorex

**Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.**

\*Sharing the Peace and Greetings

*As God's forgiven people we extend the peace of Christ to one another saying, "the peace of Christ be with you."*

\*Sung response      Hymn #822

**Shalom to you now, shalom my friends.  
May God's full mercies, bless you, my friends.  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

Prayer for Illumination

Send us your Holy Spirit, O God, that these words might speak to us as your word, and our lives bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Responsive Reading    Psalm 112:1-9

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD  
and have great delight in God's commandments!  
**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last forever.

**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
and the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

**Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

First Scripture Reading    1 Corinthians 2:1-16 (NT, p. 166)

Second Scripture Reading    Matthew 5:13-20 (NT, p. 4)

Anthem

Keep God's Light  
*Sanctuary Choir*

Mark Patterson

Children's Sermon

Sermon

"Immediately? That is Quick"

\*Hymn #726

Will You Come and Follow Me  
*Kelvingrove*

Scottish Melody

## INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS

Elders: Dennis Erickson, Jude Hammer, Shirley Herman, Eric Maundrell,  
Gary Melius

Deacons: Kathy Hallborg, Amy Maundrell

Sentences of Scripture (1 Cor. 12:4–7, 27)

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.**  
Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

Statement on Ordination

Profession of Faith

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world? **I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love? **I do.**

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love? **I will, with God's help.**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith. Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Constitutional Questions

*To the deacons and elders being installed:*

Do you trust in Jesus Christ your Savior, acknowledge him Lord of all and Head of the Church, and through him believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? **I do.**

Do you accept the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be, by the Holy Spirit, the unique and authoritative witness to Jesus Christ in the Church universal, and God's Word to you? **I do.**

Do you sincerely receive and adopt the essential tenets of the Reformed faith as expressed in the confessions of our church as authentic and reliable expositions of what Scripture leads us to believe and do, and will you be instructed and led by those confessions as you lead the people of God? **I do.**

Will you fulfill your ministry in obedience to Jesus Christ, under the authority of Scripture, and be continually guided by our confessions?

**I will.**

Will you be governed by our church's polity, and will you abide by its discipline? Will you be a friend among your colleagues in ministry, working with them, subject to the ordering of God's Word and Spirit?

**I will.**

Will you in your own life seek to follow the Lord Jesus Christ, love your neighbors, and work for the reconciliation of the world? **I will.**

Do you promise to further the peace, unity, and purity of the church?

**I do.**

Will you pray for and seek to serve the people with energy, intelligence, imagination, and love? **I will.**

*To the deacons being installed:*

Will you be a faithful deacon, teaching charity, urging concern, and directing the people's help to the friendless and those in need, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

*To the elders being installed:*

Will you be a faithful ruling elder, watching over the people, providing for their worship, nurture, and service? Will you share in government and discipline, serving in councils of the church, and in your ministry will you try to show the love and justice of Jesus Christ? **I will.**

*To the members of University Presbyterian Church:*

Do we, the members of the church, accept Kathy Hallborg and Amy Maundrell as deacons and Dennis Erickson, Jude Hammer, Shirley Herman, Eric Maundrell, and Gary Melius as a ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church? **We do.**

## Prayer of Installation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Declaration of Installation

## Welcome

## Charge to the Newly Installed

## Charge to the Congregation

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

## Invitation to the Offering

\*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### \*Prayer of Dedication

## Joys and Concerns

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

\*Hymn # 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

*I want to be a Christian*

African American Spiritual

\*Benediction

Postlude

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

arr. Phillip B. McIntyre

\*Please stand or rise in spirit as you are able and feel so led.

*One License #: A-723910*

Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choir Director

Gregory White, Organist

Howard Henry, Liturgist

Amy Erickson, Dennis Erickson & Amy Maundrell, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

*Participating in Worship Next Week:*

*Priscilla Maddock, Liturgist*

*Sharon Melius, Greeters*

*Val Macer, Live streamer*

**This Week...**

Sunday, February 8	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Souper Bowl Sunday
Tuesday, February 10	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, February 15	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	11:45am	MCC Education Hour

Today's service music honors and celebrates "Black History Month". The Prelude, Offertory and Postlude were composed by Phillip B. McIntyre who served as organist at six large churches in the Washington, DC area. Born in 1951, he received his degrees from Catholic University, University of the District of Columbia, and Westminster Choir College. McIntyre was well-known for his ability to take choir members without formal training and transform them into well-trained choirs. He was a student of Daniel Roth, Titular Organist at Saint-Sulpice, Paris. Today's service music is most likely taken from his many improvisations. These compositions utilize warm solo stops accompanied by rich harmonies; various tone colors on the UPC Kegg Organ highlight the beauty of these familiar melodies. McIntyre's organ music places his compositions along-side some of the most celebrated African-American organists and composers. Phillip B. McIntyre died on March 21, 1991, at the young age of 40. It was said at his memorial service: "Phillip always demanded excellence in himself." "Whenever anyone thought of excellence in music they thought of Phillip Barnette McIntyre."

**You're Invited!** The Ministry to Community Committee would like to tell you about our work. More than that, we want to hear your ideas and welcome your involvement! Join us for adult education hour on Sunday, February 15 in the Fellowship Hall 11:45-12:45.

**Adult Ed.:** On February 22 immediately after our service, Craig Steger will again do an adult education session to celebrate Black History Month. Craig recently retired from the Club's Board of Directors where he served as its historian. This year, Craig will show a brief video about Buffalo's Historic Colored Musicians Club and Buffalo Local 533, the American Federation of Musicians black standalone union that founded it, and discuss his most recent research on the 100+ year histories of these amazing organizations. His most recent research can be downloaded from Western New York Heritage magazine's Fall issue for a mere \$2 at [https://www.wnyheritage.org/content/buffalos\\_pioneering\\_african\\_american\\_musicians\\_union\\_its\\_histori/index.html](https://www.wnyheritage.org/content/buffalos_pioneering_african_american_musicians_union_its_histori/index.html). The magazine is still available for purchase (and Craig will have copies on hand to loan out)."

## **University Presbyterian Church's Vision Statement**

### **Let us be BREAD:**

**Beaming Christ's love to our neighbors and beyond**

**Resounding praise of God in worship with music while caring for one another and growing our faith**

**Enriching our neighborhood through creative use of our building**

**Acting with energy to foster a growing, vibrant, and welcoming church family**

**Developing diversity by engaging and welcoming all of God's beloved people**

### **University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff**

Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Christine James

Organist

Gregory White

Choral Director

Rebecca Kroetsch

Treasurer

James W. Smyton

Clerk of Session

Pat Cookfair-Casseri

Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator

Kathryn F. Hallborg

Administrative Assistant

Peg Kovach

Facilities Manager

Aaron Vivian

Custodian

Roll Tomosso

3330 Main Street

Buffalo, New York 14214-1316

Phone: (716) 836-7660

Email: [office@upcbuffalo.org](mailto:office@upcbuffalo.org)

Website: [www.upcbuffalo.org](http://www.upcbuffalo.org)

Services are live-streamed on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/upcbuffalo>