

**University Presbyterian Church
3330 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214-1316
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**www.upcbuffalo.org
office@upcbuffalo.org**



Sunday, October 5, 2025

**The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor
Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director
Gregory White, Organist**

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

THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

The Invitation

We have been buried with Christ in baptism,
through faith in the power of God.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

The Prayer

**Merciful God,
we confess that we have not loved you with our whole
heart. We have failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our
neighbors, and we have refused to hear the cry of the
needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

There follows a moment of silent personal confession

Kyrie Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy New World Symphony

The Pardon

Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by
faith. Beloved people of God, believe the good news: through
the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace and Greetings

*The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.
(Signs of peace may be exchanged by all.)*

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:

Gracious God,
we do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from your mouth.
Make us hungry for this heavenly food,
that it may nourish us today
in the ways of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen**

The Psalter: Psalm 150

Hallelujah! Praise God in the holy temple;
praise God in the mighty firmament.

**Praise God for mighty acts;
praise God for exceeding greatness.**

Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lyre and harp.

**Praise God with tambourine and dance;
praise God with strings and pipe.**

Praise God with resounding cymbals;
praise God with loud clanging cymbals.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. allelujah!

Great and glorious God, unite our praise with the praise of all creation: singing your mighty acts with every breath, playing music to your name with all our instruments, joining the dance of stars and planets with our whole bodies; for you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High—Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

The Reading: John 20:19-23 (p. 115 of the NT in the pew bible)

Anthem: Go Into the House of the Lord Lloyd Larson
 Sanctuary Choir

Children's Sermon

Sermon: "Let Us Be Bread"

Hymn #525 Let Us Break Bread Together
Let us Break Bread *African American Spiritual*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Adagio Johann Sebastian Bach

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

THE EUCHARIST

The Invitation:

On the Lord's Day, Christians from around the world gather at the table, one family sharing one meal. On this day, we focus our attention on that global gathering that happens every time we share the cup and the loaf. Christ invites us: "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, and let the one who believes in me drink." (John 7:37-38)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. All: It is right to give our thanks and praise. It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator of the universe.

You made us from the dust of the earth, Breathed into us the breath of life, And set us in your world to love you.

We rejected your love, your peace. We chose to live in enmity with one another Rather than peace with you and all creation. But you did not reject us, and you called us back to you over and over again. We thank you for the prophets like John who prepared the way of peace.

Therefore we praise you, Joining our voices with the heavenly choirs And with all the faithful of every time and place, Who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give you thanks for Jesus at whose birth the angels sang of the coming reign of peace on earth, who fed the hungry, humbled the mighty, and proclaimed the good news.

With thanks and praise we offer ourselves to you, sharing this holy meal, Remembering Christ's dying and rising, And praying: Come, Lord Jesus!

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us— this bread, this cup, this people— Christ's body and blood, that brings us peace.

As you make us one in the Spirit, grant us the strength and wisdom to seek peace in the world.

Keep us in the peace of Christ until you gather us at your table in glory Guide us in the path of peace.

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

**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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Our Lord Jesus, on the night when he was betrayed, took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, he took the cup also, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Amen.

Intercessions for the church and the world

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

God our hope, we give you thanks that you have given us this foretaste of the heavenly realm of justice and peace. Strengthen us with this food from your table as we seek to serve you. Lead us in lives of purpose and joy as we await the coming again in glory of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Blessing and Charge

Jesus Christ is the dawn that lights the way of peace. **Alleluia!**
Therefore, let us follow in that way, making peace with all.
Amen.

Hymn # 312	Take Us As We Are, O God	Alfred V. Fedak
	<i>Endless Feast</i>	

Benediction

Postlude	Toccata in D Minor, BWV 565	Johann Sebastian Bach
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Adagio Lento, Adagissimo

(The congregation is invited to remain seated during the Postlude)

Chancel Flowers are given by Connie & Ed Michael
in loving memory of Julie Safulko

Music License # A-723910

Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director

Gregory White, Organist

Jim Smyton, Liturgist

Nick Casseri, Sharon Melius & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Val Macer, Live streamer

Amy Maundrell, Sharon Melius & Barbara Kraemer, Communion Servers

Next Sunday:

Howard Henry, Liturgist

Grace Agbemenu, Scott Horton & Amy Maundrell, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

This Week...

Sunday, October 5	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	International Potluck
Monday, October 6	7:00 pm	Zoom Deacon Meeting
Tuesday, October 7	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, October 9	9:00 am	Christian Ed
	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, October 11	2:00 pm	Blessing of Pets
Sunday, October 12	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	3:00 pm	Christine's Installation

University Presbyterian Church (UPC)
and The Presbytery of Western New York
invite you to attend

The Installation of Rev. Dr. Christine James as Pastor of UPC

DATE October 12, 2025

🕒 3:00 pm

📍 Location:
University Presbyterian
Church
3330 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14214

Join
Us!



For more info contact UPC at (716) 836-7660 or office@upcbuffalo.org

TRUNK OR TREAT: As everyone knows by now, we're entering autumn with cooler temps and the return of football. I wanted to get the word out early about Halloween at UPC with our annual Trunk or Treat. It has increased exponentially since our beginning 3 years ago, so I'm hoping for the same outcome this year!! We would like to make it bigger and better if it is possible with more congregational support.

We need volunteers to either use their cars or one of the church's tables to hand out candy. We hold it between 6 to 8pm in the church parking lot. In the past it has been a wonderful evening with adorable trick or treaters and hopefully the Buffalo Fire Dept.

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If you're unable to join us, we could always use a donation of candy for the event. Last year we totaled over 300 participants so there's no such term as "too much candy for this activity!!" If the weather is cold or rainy it will be held in the gym on tables.

For more information or questions, please contact Amy Erickson at (716) 876-6874 or our secretary, Peg, at the church office (716) 836-7660

ARE YOU A RINGER? When the handbell choir plays have you ever wondered, "How do they do that?" Or maybe you've thought, "That looks like fun. Could I do that?" Whether you are a former ringer feeling a little rusty or a newcomer, join Lee Ann Grace on Sunday, October 12 following worship for a brief workshop to try your hand at UPC's three-octave set of handbells. You do not need to read music to play bells. Ability to count is the only requirement. We will soon be organizing to play for Advent or Christmas Eve – four or five rehearsals, time to be determined by those who wish to play. For more information, e-mail Lee Ann at laghh4@gmail.com or call (716)

VISION STATEMENT The Vision Wordsmithing Team (Lee Ann Grace, Pastor CJ, Matt Smith, Craig Steger) reported to Session on September 17. In crafting the following statement of what we want UPC to look like in five years, they used the compiled output from the July visioning process. The team based the vision statement on the tag line of the UPC mission statement, taking the first letters of BREAD to spell out the components of the vision, which reflect the salient themes that surfaced in the visioning process.

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

Welcome Visitors

University Presbyterian Church (UPC), the members and officers, welcomes you today. Your presence strengthens our faith and our commitment as Christ's disciples.

University Presbyterian Church welcomes all who seek to follow the Way of Jesus—the way of compassion and justice—regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or gender identification. UPC does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation in celebrating the rites of marriage.

University Presbyterian Church Officers and Staff

The Rev. Dr. Christine James	Pastor
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