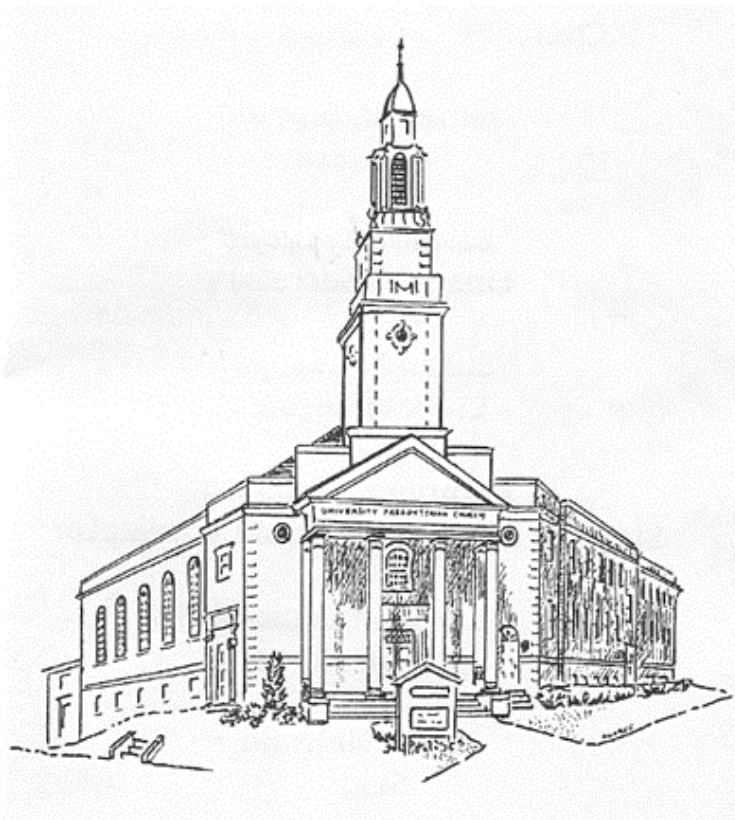


University Presbyterian Church



Sunday, November 23, 2025
10:30 a.m.

Christ the King/Reign of Christ, November 23, 2025
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

Prelude

Sonata No. 2 in F Minor
Grave

Felix Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship[†] (based on Luke 1:68-69)

We gather to worship God, who looks favorably on all the humans they created.

We sing blessings to God, who stands with us for justice and salvation.

We gather to worship God, who worked with many prophetic humans in every time and place.

**We sing blessings to God, who makes faithful promises,
to us and our ancestors.**

We gather to worship God, whose tenderness we see shimmering in the breaking of dawn.

We sing blessings to God, who guides our feet on paths of peace.

***Prayer of the Day[†]**

O God, our Redeemer, all creation sings your praise! You are justice and mercy, judgment and grace. Following our Lord Jesus, Christ, we seek to be faithful, ever sustained by your Spirit, that we might stand blameless at the last with Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

*Hymn #267

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Spanish Folk Melody

Madrid

THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

The Invitation[‡]

As humans, we are all prone to error: when we are entrusted with power, we make mistakes. Let us confess together as a way of holding ourselves accountable to God and each other.

The Prayer

Holy God, we confess that we have neglected to declare Jesus the king and model for our lives. We have been quick to call on others to follow the ways of Christ yet slow to do the same. We have been bold in demanding generosity, mercy, and forgiveness, yet quiet when it comes to offering inclusion, love, and compassion. Forgive us, O God. Restore in us, yet again, the commitment to be more Christlike in word, in deed, and in spirit.

There follows a moment of silent personal confession

The Pardon[‡] (Col. 1:20)

All things, in heaven and on earth, are reconciled to God in Jesus Christ. Forgiveness is ours through faith in the Lord, in whom God was pleased to dwell. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

*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[†]

Inspire our hearts, our minds, and our bodies, O God, to listen fully to your Word. Guide us toward creatively courageous interpretations that transform us as we faithfully enact your calling to us. **Amen**

Responsive Reading Psalm 48

Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised,
in the city of our God, on the LORD's holy mountain.
**Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is Mount Zion,
the summit of the north and city of the great king.**

God is in the citadels of Jerusalem;
revealed to be the sure refuge of the city.
Behold, the kings assembled and marched forward together.

As they looked, they were astounded;
dismayed, they fled in terror.
**Trembling seized them there;
they writhed like a woman in childbirth;**

As we have heard, so have we seen, in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God—may God establish it forever!

**Your praise, like your name, O God,
reaches to the ends of the earth; your right hand is full of righteousness.**

Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about it; count the number of the city's towers.

Mark this—God is our God forever and ever, guiding us even to the end.

*Hymn #268 Crown Him with Many Crowns
 Diademata George Job Elvey

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

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 #835 Just a Closer Walk with Thee arr. Thomas A. Dorsey
Closer Walk

*Benediction

Postlude Sonata No. 2 in F Minor Felix Menselddohn
Allegro maestoso e vivace

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

†*Liturgy written by Jimmy Hoke for Presbyterian Outlook.*

‡ Feasting on the word: Worship Companion

One License #: A-723910

Participating in Worship:

Priscilla Maddock, Liturgist

Kathryn Hallborg, Amy Maundrell & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

Next Week:

Ginna Coon, Liturgist

Amy Maundrell, Tom Somerville, Greeters

Val Macer, Live streamer

This Week...

Sunday, November 23

9:00 am

Choir

10:30 am

Worship Service ~ Food Offering

11:30 am

Fellowship Time

Tuesday, November 25	12:00 pm 5:30 pm	Food Pantry Open Pickleball
Wednesday, November 26	5:30 pm	Pickleball
Thursday, November 27 & 28	Thanksgiving ~ Church office closed Food Pantry Closed	
Sunday, November 30	9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 11:45 am	Choir Worship Service Fellowship Time & Cake Adult Ed

A watch with a black leather band and a gold cross have been found in the church. You can claim them in the church office.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS & FRIENDS THANKSGIVING DINNER:

University Students and Friends (university students and other young adults at UPC) are invited to Thanksgiving dinner at the home of Lee Ann and Howard on **Thursday, November 27 at 1:00 p.m.** Please let Lee Ann know **by Tuesday (11/25)** whether you would like to attend and if you will need a ride or can offer a ride to others. You can speak with her at church, e-mail her at laghh4@gmail.com, or text her at (716) 491-3878.

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS GIFT CAMPAIGN 2025: This year our gifts will go to the Children's Enrichment Ministry of Frontera de Cristo in Agua Prieta, Sonora. "Eight years ago, Frontera de Cristo began the Children's Enrichment Ministry as a faith response to the drug culture that was targeting younger and younger children not only to consume drugs but to get involved in the trafficking of drugs. While all children are welcome here, we are especially focused on children who are at risk of dropping out of elementary school.

The Children's Enrichment Ministry has seen hope emerge in the lives of children and their families by providing safe spaces of wide welcome, with the certainty that everyone is important. We provide classrooms full of experiences based on learning, respect, dignity, and love. Children have expressed that here they experience the warmth of a quiet and harmonious home where they like to be." – Marina Forero, Director, Children's Enrichment Ministry Your gift will allow CEM to purchase the most basic needs: pencils, markers, crayons, balls, storage boxes, foam sheets, paints and other items. From Sunday November 30 to Sunday December 21, there will be a table in the narthex staffed by a Ministry to Community member where you can make a donation and receive a card or cards to let a friend or loved one know you have made this gift in their honor. Or you may simply make a donation of any amount. Checks may be made payable to "University Presbyterian Church" with "Alt Gift" in the subject line. Thank you for your consideration.

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
Website: www.upcbuffalo.org

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