

**University Presbyterian Church
3330 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214-1316
Phone: (716) 836-7660
Fax: (716) 836-7662**

**www.upcbuffalo.org
office@upcbuffalo.org**



Sunday, May 25, 2025

**The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor
Gregory White, Organist
Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director**

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

6th Sunday of Easter, May 25, 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. 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. Ushers will take them from the plate and when the offering is brought forward, hand them to the Pastor.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude Resurrection (Trumpetings) Phillip McIntyre
*The third day he rose from the dead; ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father; (from
thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead). I
believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy Catholic Church, the
communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the
resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*please stand, if able*)

God calls us to proclaim the good news.
Let us open our hearts to hear God's word.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you, that, loving you above all else, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen**

Hymn #239 Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing! Melchior Vulpius
Gelobt Sei Gott

Confession and Pardon

The Invitation:

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God;
yet we are justified by the gift of God's grace
through the redemption that is ours in Christ Jesus.
Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

The Prayer:

**O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to
be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content
to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all,
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us
to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by,
endangering the lives of people far and near.**

**Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of
your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength
to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son,
our Savior. Amen.**

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:

Because we were buried with Christ in these waters,
we are also raised to life with him. Believe the gospel!
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

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:

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts— a spring of hope for a thirsty world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Psalter: Psalm 67

May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

**Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

**May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.**

God of wisdom, through your power the earth has brought forth its noblest fruit, the tree of the cross. Unite all people in its embrace, and feed us with its fruit, everlasting life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Acts 16:9-15 (p. 136 of the NT in the pew bible)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem Beautiful Savior Robert Lee
 The Sanctuary Choir

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature, O Thou of God and man the Son, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing. Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations! Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forever more be thine.

Sermon Believe, Belong, Behave: "Partnering in Mission"

Hymn #686 God of Our Life Charles Henry Purday
 Sandon

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Minute for Mission: Promoting Car Free Days Gladys Gifford

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Reflections Phillip McIntyre

Doxology Hymn #606

**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 of Offering

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 #733

We All Are One in Mission

Es flog ein kieiins waldvögelein

Memmingen ms., 17th cent.

Benediction

Benediction Response

Irish Blessing

Kay Saunders

May the road rise to meet you, may the
wind be at your back, may the sun shine warm upon your face.
May the rain fall soft upon your fields, and until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Postlude

Rockingham

Phillip McIntyre

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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

The chancel flowers are given by Amy Maundrell
in loving memory of her mother, Rose Gross.

A-723910

Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor

Gregory White, Organist

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choral Director

Sandy Robertson, Liturgist

Grace Agbemenu, Sharon Melius & Kathy Hallborg, Greeters

Val Macer, Live streamer

Next Sunday:

Jim Smyton, Liturgist

Amy & Dennis Erickson, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

Join Us for a Joyful Celebration! Come together on **Sunday, June 8th** as we celebrate **Pentecost Sunday** and honor **grandparents and grandchildren!** **Pentecost Sunday** marks a special moment in our faith, and we invite everyone to wear **red** as a symbol of the Holy Spirit's presence.

After the service, enjoy **hot dogs and ice cream** with friends and family as we share in the joy of fellowship! Don't miss this wonderful opportunity to celebrate faith, family, and community. **See you there!**

THIS WEEK ...

Sunday, May 25	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Cake
Monday, May 26	<i>Memorial Day Holiday-Church Office Closed</i>	
	7:00 pm	PNC
Tuesday, May 27	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, May 29	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, June 1	10:30 am	Worship
	11:00 am	Pride Parade

Pride Parade, June 1st: Pride Parade, Sunday, June 1, 2025 at 11 a.m.--UPC will participate in the Pride Parade, starting from the parking lot at Buffalo State University. We will be joined by the Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Western New York and other clergy and lay persons. Lafayette Presbyterian Church, 875 Elmwood Avenue, will offer worship at 9:30 a.m. with space along Elmwood afterward to watch the parade. Lafayette will offer communion and there should be enough time to join UPC marchers at Buffalo State after taking communion. If you would like to march in the parade with UPC, please contact Howard Henry for directions.

Today's service music honors **Africa Day** – formerly African Freedom Day and African Liberation Day and celebrates the anniversary of the foundation of the Organization of African Unity. The day is celebrated in various countries across the African continent as well as around the world on May 25. The first Congress of Independent African States was held in Ghana in 1958 to highlight the progress of liberation movements across the African continent; it symbolized the determination of African people to free themselves from foreign domination and exploitation. Contemporary celebrations continue around the world by communities who represent the African Diaspora as is here in our own community in Western New York including University Presbyterian Church.

Today's Service Music was composed by Phillip McIntyre who represents the African Diaspora; a gifted organist and improviser serving churches in the Washington, DC, Baltimore, and Richmond communities. He reveled in the

majesty of the organ and raised the bar of organ music wherever he served as organist. His organ works place him alongside some of the most celebrated African-America organists and composers such as: Florence Price, Eugene Hancock, Ralph Simpson and David Hurd. Whenever someone thought of excellence, they thought of Phillip McIntyre.

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

Interim Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty
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

Mission Statement of University Presbyterian Church

We are a hungry people who receive Christ, the Bread of Life, who sustains us on our journey. We strive to feed as we are fed, sharing the Bread to nourish others in body, mind and spirit.

“Let Us Be Bread”