

# University Presbyterian Church



Sunday, May 31, 2026  
10:30 a.m.

Trinity Sunday, May 31, 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**

Prelude

Veni Creator Spiritus

Nicholas de Grigny

*Verset I: "En talle à 5"; Verset II: "Fugue à 5"; Verset III: "Duo"*

Welcome and Announcements

**\*Call to Worship<sup>†</sup> (2 Corinthians 13:13)**

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

**Let us worship our triune God.**

**\*Prayer of the Day<sup>†</sup>**

**Holiness, Word, Power, you reveal yourself as one God in three persons, a mighty, creative, life-generating dancer who invites your creation to join you. Catch us up in your love and lead us into your world to call others to follow you with singing and rejoicing. Amen.**

**\*Hymn #14**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Conrad Kocher

*Dix*

## THE CONFESSION AND PARDON

### Call to Confession†

Creation displays the glory of God, but our sin keeps us from rejoicing in the love God reveals. Yet Christ Jesus the Son carried our sins to the cross, and the Holy Spirit breathes new life into us so that we can praise God, our Maker, Savior and life giver. Let us confess our sins, that we may receive such grace.

### Prayer of Confession†

**Presence, Life, Fire, God who is Three in One, we confess that we have turned away from you. We gaze upon ourselves as if we are worthy of worship. We take your creation into our hands, not to love, but to use and then to discard. We do not deserve that you would even notice us, but we pray for mercy because you are merciful. Purify us from sin, lead us to your truth, and baptize us into union with you. Transform us into the faithful disciples who worship you alone, God who is Trinity. (Time for Silent Prayer) Amen.**

### Assurance of Pardon†

The Holy One of Israel, the Redeemer of all the world, and the Holy Spirit who comes as the breath of new life forgets the sins of all who repent. I declare to you, therefore that you are forgiven, in the name of the Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, Parent of us all.

**All**

\*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†

Sing into our ears, O Spirit, the holy word of life. Tell us who we are and to whom we belong so that we may live with gratitude for all that you have done.  
**Amen**

Responsive Reading Psalm 8

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens.

**Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established;

**what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?**

Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.

**You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

O Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

First Scripture Reading Genesis 1:1-2:4a (OT p.)

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 28:16-20 (NT p.)

Anthem

We the Lord's People

Jeffrey H. Rickard

Children's Sermon

Sermon

"An Approachable God"

\*Hymn #1

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! John Bacchus Dykes  
*Nicaea*

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Veni Creator Spiritus

Nicholas de Grigny

*Veni Creator Spiritus*

\*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 # 694

Great God of Every Blessing

*Aurelia*

Samuel Sebastian Wesley

\*Benediction

Postlude

Veni Creator Spiritus

Nicholas de Grigny

*Verset V: "Dialogue sue les Grand Jeux"*

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

† Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion.

*One License #: A-723910*

Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choir Director

Gregory White, Organist

Jerilyn Hickey, Liturgist

Marietta Bratton, Amy Maundrell & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

*Next Week:*

Jim Smyton, Liturgist

Kathy Hallborg & Tom Somerville, Greeters

Val Macer, Live streamer

## This Week...

Sunday, May 31	10:30 am	Worship Service
Monday, June 1	7:00 pm	Zoom Deacon Meeting
Tuesday, June 2	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, June 4	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, June 6	10:00 am	Breakfast with Friends
Sunday, June 7	10:30 am	Worship Service

**Celebrate Children's Sunday & Welcome Summer! – June 7** : Join us on **Sunday, June 7** for a joyful day of celebration! During worship, we'll honor our children on **Children's Sunday**, giving thanks for the faith, laughter, and energy they bring to our church family.

Then the fun continues! Stay after worship for a **Summer Celebration Lunch** filled with good food, fellowship, and celebration.

June 7 is also our **final Sunday School day** before summer break! After lunch, children and their families will head to **Adventure Landing** for some well-deserved fun and adventure! Bring the kids, the grandkids, your smiles, and your summer spirit as we celebrate the gifts of this community, the blessings of the year behind us, and the promise of the season ahead.

**Sunday June 7 – Extending Welcome:** You are invited to a Pride-themed worship at Lafayette Presbyterian Church on Sunday June 7 at 10 a.m. This service will also be on Zoom. You are invited to march in the Pride Parade with the Presbytery of Western New York on June 7 at 11 a.m. Please contact Howard Henry for details

## University Presbyterian Church's Vision Statement

Let us be **BREAD:**

**B**eaming Christ's love to our neighbors and beyond

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

**E**nriching our neighborhood through creative use of our building

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

**D**eveloping 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

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