

**University Presbyterian Church
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Sunday, August 24, 2025

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

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

11th Sunday after Pentecost, August 24, 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.

If you would like to borrow a hearing device for the worship service, please see one of this morning's Greeters.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude Melodia Max Reger

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*please stand if able*)

The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in love.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have taught us that all our deeds without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of love, the very bond of peace and of all goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn #35

Praise Ye The Lord, The Almighty

Lobe Den Herren

Stralsund Erneueren Gesangbuch

Confession and Pardon

The Invitation:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Our old selves were crucified with him, so that we might be slaves to sin no more. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

The Prayer:

O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all. Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.

There follows a moment of silent personal confession

The Pardon:

If we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. Therefore, consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

In the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

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:

God of abundant life, your grace is our daily bread.
Nourish us by your Word and fill us with your Spirit
so that we may grow in faith and love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Psalter: Psalm 103:1-8

Bless the LORD, on me, bless God's holy name.
**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

Who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

Compassionate Father, you forgive all our sins and put them far from us. As an eagle to her young, you nourish and renew us with your tender love. Sustain us each day of our mortal life, that we may seek your healing for all who are in need, and bring us at last with saints and angels to bless and praise you forever; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (p. 698 of the OT in the pew bible)

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17 (p. 76 of the NT in the pew bible)

Solo Go Down Moses Traditional Spiritual
Howard Henry, Bass

Sermon "The Three Pillars of Ministry: The Priest"

Hymn #722 Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak
Canonbury Robert Schumann

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Voluntary Trio Sonata, No. 1, BWV 1027
Andante *Johann Sebastian Bach*

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

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 #32	I Sing the Mighty Power of God <i>Ellacombe</i>	Gesangbuch der Herzogl
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Benediction

Postlude	Festival Toccata <i>Allegro brillante</i>	Percy E. Fletcher
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Participating in Worship
The Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty, Interim Pastor
Rebecca Kroetsch, Choir Director
Gregory White, Organist
Amy Erickson, Liturgist
Dennis Erickson, Greeter
Val Macer, Live streamer

Next Week:
Amy Erickson, Liturgist
Grace Agbemenu & Sharon Melius, Greeter
Val Macer, Live streamer

This Week...

Sunday, August 24	10:30 am	Worship Service
Tuesday, August 26	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, August 28	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
Sunday, August 31	10:30 am	Worship Service-Hymn Sing!
	11:30 am	Fellowship & Birthday Cake

From the Pastoral Nominating Committee We invite you to join us in honoring Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty on his final Sunday with UPC, **September 7**. Following the worship service, we'll gather for a farewell luncheon to thank him for his faithful leadership and to wish him well on his next adventure.

The following Sunday, **September 14**, we joyfully welcome **Rev. Christine James** as she begins her ministry with us at UPC. Please stay after the service for a celebratory luncheon as we greet her with open hearts and warm hospitality.

Let's come together in gratitude and hope as we mark this meaningful transition in our church community.

August Sermon Series: The Three Pillars of Ministry: The Pastor, The Prophet, The Priest. As UPC prepares for The Rev. Dr. Christine James to start as permanent pastor of this congregation, Dr. Yorty will preach a sermon series on the three biblical pillars for Christian Ministry. In her candidate sermon, Dr. James expressed a vision of walking together with the members of University Church, in this new chapter of UPC's life and mission. That "walk" includes three essential kinds of ministry—pastoral care, prophetic words and actions, and priestly oversight of the worship and gifts of God. Today's sermon is the end of the series.

Please Note: Next Sunday, August 31 is the Hymn Sing! Join us!

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. Tom Yorty	Interim Pastor
Choral Director	Rebecca Kroetsch
Organist	Gregory White
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”