

**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, October 12, 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>

18th Sunday after Pentecost, October 12, 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	Suite Gothique, Op. 25 <i>Introduction - Choral</i>	Léon Boëllmann
---------	--	----------------

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (*please stand if able*)

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead.

This is the good news we proclaim.

Prayer of the Day

Merciful God, in Jesus Christ you do not call the righteous, but sinners to repentance. Draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction, and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant, that in seeking your truth, and obeying your will, we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession and Pardon

The Invitation

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial, the Lord our God is with us.

With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer,
let us confess our sin.

The Prayer

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

**Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

There follows a moment of silent personal confession

The Pardon:

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.

God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of 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:

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds,
that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed,
we may be led into your truth and taught your will,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Psalter: Psalm 66:1-12

Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.
Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

**All the earth bows down before you,
sings to you, sings out your name."**

Come now and see the works of God, how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.

God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in God.

Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations;
let no rebels exalt themselves.

**Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.**

Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.

For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

God of awesome deeds and unfailing love, you bring your people through the waters of salvation to the shores of new life. Hear our prayer, receive the praise we offer, and loosen our tongues to tell with joy the great things you have done for us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15 (p. 212 of the NT in the pew bible)

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:11-19 (p. 80 of the NT in the pew bible)

Anthem: My Song Shall be Always of the Loving-Kindness of the Lord!
Sanctuary Choir *Gerald Near*

Children's Sermon

Sermon: "Returning to Gratitude "

Hymn #643 Now Thank We All Our God Felix Mendelssohn
Nun Danket Alle Gott

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Prière à Notre-Dame Léon Boëllmann
From: Suite Gothique, Op 25

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 #697

Take My Life
Hendon

H. A. César Malan

Benediction

Postlude

Toccata
From: Suite Gothique, Op 25

Léon Boëllmann

A-723910

Participating in Worship:

The Rev. Dr. Christine James, Pastor

Rebecca Kroetsch, Choir Director

Gregory White, Organist

Howard Henry, Liturgist

Grace Agbemenu, Scott Horton & Amy Maundrell, Greeters

Nick Casseri, Live streamer

Next Week:

Val Macer, Liturgist

Nick Casseri, Katherine Hallborg & Sharon Melius, Greeters

Scott Horton, Live streamer

This Week...

Sunday, October 12	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	3:00 pm	Christine's Installation

Monday, October 13 *Indigenous People's Day ~ Holiday Office Closed*

Tuesday, October 14	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
	2:30 pm	Zoom Community Comm.

Wednesday, October 15	7:00 pm	Session
-----------------------	---------	---------

Thursday, October 16	12:00 pm	Food Pantry Open
----------------------	----------	------------------

Sunday, October 19	9:00 am	Choir
	10:30 am	Worship Service
	11:30 am	Fellowship Time
	1:00 pm	PFLAG

Fellowship Time today has been cancelled due to
Pastor Christine's Installation.

Trunk or Treat: We need volunteers to either use their cars or one of the church's tables to hand out candy. It will be 6 to 8pm in the church parking lot. If the weather is cold or rainy it will be held in the gym on tables. In the past it has been a wonderful evening with adorable trick or treaters and hopefully the Buffalo Fire Dept. will be with us again. It's a great way to provide a safe and fun celebration for our neighbors.

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

Please note: Landscaping around the church is in the process of being replaced. New landscaping will be coming soon.

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. We welcome 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
Rebecca Kroetsch	Choral Director
Gregory White	Organist
James W. Smyton	Treasurer
Pat Cookfair-Casseri	Clerk of Session
Kathryn F. Hallborg	Stephen Ministry Referral Coordinator
Peg Kovach	Administrative Assistant
Aaron Vivian	Facilities Manager
Roll Tomosso	Custodian

Vision Statement of University Presbyterian Church

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