

St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Sister Sunday July 20th, 2025

Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson

Church Musician – Deb Rick

Musical Interlude

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude Music

Let us rise for our Call to Worship



*** Call To Worship:** (Based on Micah 6:8)

Pastor: Let us gather in this place with open hearts and minds where, as the people of God, we can find peace and joy.

People: Let us gather in this place where love and hope abound as we seek God's Spirit.

Pastor: May God be with us now and always. Now, let's join our voices in saying our Affirmation of Faith ...

Affirmation of Faith:

We gather in this sanctuary because here we find our home with God. We know that God is calling us to go forth from here to create a holy sanctuary of his love and light in the world through what we say and do. We are here to become closer to God, be strengthened by his Holy Spirit, and to celebrate that God loves us without condition – but simply because we are his. May God be with us in this hour of worship and throughout our whole lives. Amen.

Now, let us sing together our first hymn.

*** Hymn: # 439, “A Mighty Fortress is our God”**

Please Be Seated.

Call To Prayer:

God is with us at all times and in the midst of all things. And so, it is important that we always turn to God with whatever thoughts and concerns we hold in our hearts and minds. Let us join our voices now in prayer as we say together the prayer printed in the bulletin.

Unison Prayer:

Holy God, we often fall short of our goal to follow the ways of Jesus. We listen only to the words we want to hear, only see what we want to see, only do what we want to do. Help us to become more aware of who we are and what we are becoming and remind us once again of whom you are calling us to be. Set us upon a path that leads to greater faithfulness and more generous acts of love, in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Assurance:

Surely God is at work in us at all times. God restores us and makes us whole when we give our whole hearts to his purpose. May we live with joy the abundant life God intends for us. In gratitude let us sing together our response ...

Sung Response: # 2119 “Where the Spirit of the Lord”

**Where the Spirit of Lord is, there is peace;
Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love.
There is comfort in life’s darkest hour;
There is light and life, there is help and power,
In the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.**

Scripture Reading:

Liturgist: Eric Hanson

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God’s Holy Scripture. Today, we are reading from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 10, verses 38-42 where we hear about an encounter Jesus has with two sisters.

Let us pray: Holy One, you embrace the many facets and differences in each of us. Release us from our anxious fears, that we may honor you with all that we are and do. Bless us now with your wisdom as we hear your message in today's readings of Holy Scripture. Amen.

Reading:

Now as Jesus and his disciples were traveling on their way, they entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying.

But Martha was distracted by her responsibilities and busy taking care of her many tasks. Then she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.”

But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

Liturgist: Here ends the read of God's Holy Scripture. May God bless us with understanding, and may we show our understanding in the way we live our lives. Amen.

Now, let’s sing our hymn, # 448, “Take My Life and Let It Be”

Hymn: # 448, “Take My Life and Let It Be”

Message: “Spirit of Truth”

Sung Response: # 286 “Spirit of Gentleness” (refrain only)

**Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness –
calling and free. Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me
from placidness – wind, wind on the sea.**

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Offering Invitation: There are lots of ways in which we can show that Christ is king of our hearts through the sharing of our time, talent, and treasure for his work in our world. Today, we do so through our morning offering. Let us then present our gifts to God for the glory of God.

Offertory / * Sung Response: # 562 “Take My Gifts” (verse 3)

Take whatever I can offer—gifts that I have yet to find,
skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hands
and mind. Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be – take my gifts and let me
love you - God who first of all loved me.

*** Prayer of Dedication:**

O God, most merciful and gracious, we present to you these offerings of your people. Remember in your love those who have brought it as well as those for whom it is given. Follow it with your blessing, so that it may give glory to your name and further your mission here on earth. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn: # 391, “In the Midst of New Dimensions”**

*** Benediction:** May God’s blessings be ever upon you, bringing you every good thing that God intends for your life. And may you become a blessing to others through all you say and do. Let us, then, go forth to love and serve all those whom we meet along the way to the glory of God. Amen.

*** Sung Response: # 82 “Go My Children”** (verse 2)

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here with tender
comfort stilled you; Go, my children, fed and
nourished, joyful and free.

*** Postlude Music**