

St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Guest Pastor Sunday June 22, 2025

Worship Leader – Brenda McFadden

Church Musician – Deb Rick



Musical Interlude
Ring of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements
Prelude Music

Let us rise for our Call to Worship

* **Call To Worship:**

Pastor: God, our Father, calls us into the church to be spiritual companions in the love of Christ.

People: **May our Holy Father be with us as we turn our hearts and minds to him.**

Pastor: Let us worship together in the name of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pastor: Now, let's join our voices together in saying our Affirmation of Faith...

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Now, let us sing together our first hymn.

* **Hymn: # 423 "Great is your Faithfulness"**

Please Be Seated.

Call to Prayer: God calls us into relationship with him so that we can know him better and become more like him so that we will do his work in the world. Let us pray together about that ...

Unison Prayer: **Eternal God, you are the light of the minds that know you, the joy of the hearts that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you. Grant us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom. Amen.**

Assurance: By the power of God all that we know of Jesus helps us fulfill our prayers to know him and be more like him. 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: Susie Clark

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God's Holy Scripture. Our reading today comes from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 8, verses 26-39 where we hear about how Jesus healed a man possessed by demons.

Let us pray: Holy One, you give us every good thing and ask us to share it with others. Bless our hearts with the wisdom found in your Holy Scripture that we can go forth to share in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Reading: Jesus and his disciples went in a boat across from Galilee to the country of the Gerasenes. As Jesus stepped out on land, he immediately noticed a man not far from there who was possessed by demons. He wore no clothing and was chained with shackles at the opening of a cave. Many times before this, the man had been seized by the demons so violently that he had to be taken away from other people and kept here on the outskirts of town under guard.

Jesus went directly to this man and commanded the unclean spirit to come out of him. But the man shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me". Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" The man said, "Legion"; for there were many demons that had entered him. They begged Jesus to not order them to go back into the abyss.

Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So, he gave them permission. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid.

Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might join him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So, he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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, # 2025, "As the Deer"

Hymn: # 2025, "As the Deer"

Message: "Jesus Casts out Demons"

Special Music: "Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone"

Solo by Deb Rick

Prayer for the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offering Invitation: The world belongs to God and he calls us to take care of it in his name. In gratitude for that which God has entrusted to our care, let us now share our morning offering.

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:**

**Gracious God, grant that these gifts now placed before you will be tangible signs of our love for you.
Bless them in the name of Jesus, Amen.**

*** Hymn: # 284, “Joys are Flowing Like a River”**

*** Benediction:** God calls us to show to others the same kind of love and care that Jesus showed to all those whom he encountered in his life. Let us go forth from this time together to follow Jesus. And may God go with us and bless us in all that we say and do. 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**