St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Guest Pastor Sunday, June 29, 2025 Worship Leader – Brenda McFadden Church Musician – Deb Rick

Musical Interlude
Ringing of the Bell
Welcome & Announcements
Prelude Music

Let us rise for our Call to Worship

* Call To Worship:

Pastor: Let us come together to celebrate the many gifts that God provides for us – our homes, our families, our work, our freedom to become all that God calls us to be.

People: God plants the seeds of good things within us and calls us to help them grow and expand and reach out to others to share in good ways for his glory.

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

Affirmation of Faith:

We are the people of God – his hands and heart and voices on the earth in this time and place. We are brothers and sisters in Christ - evidence of God's continued presence in the world. We believe in our God, we believe in God's goodness, and the power of God's love. We believe in Christ and his presence in our lives, and that we will recognize Christ in one another. We believe in the Holy Spirit, who moves among God's people and inspires us to bring God's reign more fully into our world. We are the people of God and we believe that our church is part of God's eternal plan. May all that we say and do help to fulfill God's hopes and dreams for us and the world in which we live. Amen.

Now, let us sing together our first hymn.

* Hymn: #86, "When Morning Gilds the Skies"

Please Be Seated.

Call to Prayer: Talking to God gives us our best chance of connecting to his heart and mind so that he can speak directly to us and share his hopes and dreams for our lives. Let us then, turn to God and pray together about that ...

Unison Prayer: Wonderful God, open our eyes to see what is beautiful among us: open our minds, to know what is true among us; open our hearts, to love what is good among us. Make our hearts as loving as yours, for we must be your heart here on earth; make our hands as gentle as yours, for we must be your hands in this world; make our voices as strong as yours, for we must be your voice speaking to your people. Lead us in your ways, so that we might grow more like you in all that we say and do. Amen.

Assurance: God loves us in ways we have not even imagined. God is faithful, kind, inspiring, motivating – our guide, our help, our strength, our hope. With God, all things are possible and we have the power to make them so – because that is the way God works in our lives. In gratitude, let us sing 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: Todd Sutter

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God's Holy Scripture. Today's reading can be found in the Gospel according to Luke, chapter 10, verses 1-11 and 16-20. In these verses, we hear how Jesus sent forth his disciples.

Let us pray: Gracious God, bless now to our hearts the words we hear in Scripture so that we might understand you more fully and follow your Son Jesus more completely. Amen.

Reading: Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20

Jesus appointed seventy disciples to go ahead of him to every town and place where he, himself, intended to go. He sent them out in pairs and said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Now, go on your way."

He gave them these instructions: "See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid."

"Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

Know this: whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me." So, the seventy went out as Jesus instructed and they returned afterward with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"

He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

Liturgist: Here ends the reading 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, # 2171, "Make Me a Channel".

Hymn: #2171, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Message: "Do Not Be Afraid"

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.

Prayer for the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offering Invitation: Sharing is what we are called to do – sharing the good news of Jesus and the gifts that God has blessed us with in his name. Let us share what we can for the glory of our Savior in the form of 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: Giving God, we are grateful for all the blessings we've received. Now we dedicate these offerings in the name of Jesus and ask that you bless them accordingly. Amen.
- * Hymn: # 2172, "We Are Called"
- * **Benediction:** Now as we go forth from this time of worship, may God bless us and keep us. May God's face shine upon us and be gracious to us. May God look upon us with kindness and give us peace this day and for all our days yet to come. 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