

St. Vincent UCC Worship Service
Harvest Home Sunday October 13, 2024
Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson
Church Musician – Deb Rick



Musical Interlude
Ring of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Music

Let us rise for our Call to Worship

*** Call To Worship:**

Pastor: Let us come before God's presence with gladness and serve him in the world with joy in our hearts!

People: **May our hearts be filled with thanksgiving and praise for all that God has done for us.**

Pastor: Let us bless God and do good in his name - for his steadfast love endures forever.

People: **God is faithful to us and his faithfulness will endure for all generations yet to come.**

Affirmation of Faith:

We have faith in one God, one source of life for the whole earth and all its creatures. We believe in the goodness of that source of life and claim our partnership with God to take care of his creation. We believe that, in Christ, we have been shown the way to care for all life with love and compassion and that this is our given purpose. We seek to fulfill that purpose so that our children and our children's children will live in our legacy of love. May God's Holy Spirit lead us to live in harmony for the benefit of all the generations yet to come. So be it. Amen.

Now, let us sing together our first hymn.

*** Hymn: # 422 Come, O Thankful People, Come**

Call to Prayer: We are a people who claim to have wisdom and yet, we sometimes fail to use our gifts in ways that are wise. We are a people who claim to have understanding and yet, we often fail to discern God's will for all people. Fortunately, we know God will help us when we ask. Let us pray together using our prayer printed in the bulletin.

Unison Prayer: **Almighty God, every day we face challenges and difficulties. We've made decisions that have not always included you. We've acted as if we can function just fine without your guidance. But now we realize that we need you more than ever before. Cleanse our hearts and minds and renew your spirit within us – so that we can live a life that is worthy of your calling and your love. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Assurance: May God grant us wisdom and the courage to become more of what he hopes and dreams for us. May he guide our thinking, give us strength to follow his ways, and protect us from harm as we go forth to fulfill our purpose to his glory. Praise be to God. Now, let's join our voices in our response ...

Response: # 2016 “Glorify Thy Name”

**Father, we love you, we worship and adore you,
glorify thy name in all the earth. Glorify thy name,
glorify thy name, glorify thy name in all the earth.**

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 Mark, chapter 10. We are reading verses 17-31 where Jesus talks about eternal life.

Let us pray: God, you promise to never leave us, but to bring us to life and always nurture us with your presence. Be with us in every moment of our lives, and increase our understanding of your ways, as we now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of your holy scripture. Amen.

Reading: As Jesus was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’”

He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, the man was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions – and thus, much to lose. And he was not able to let it go.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “Do you now see how hard it will be for people with wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words.

But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals trying to do it on their own, it is impossible. But not for God – with God, all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has sacrificed for me or my message – having left behind their house, or brothers or sisters, or mother or father, or children or fields will go unrewarded. There will be trouble for them aplenty in this world because of it – but their reward will be eternal life. This is another example of the reversal of heaven and earth – many who are first now will end up last, and the last will be first.”

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 # 425, For the Fruit of All Creation

Hymn: # 425 For the Fruit of All Creation

Pastor’s Message: “What Will You Do?”

Response: # 2176 Make Me A Servant

**Make me a servant, humble and meek. Lord, let me
lift up those who are weak. And may the prayer of my
heart always be - Make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.**

Pastoral Prayer / The Lord's Prayer

Dedication of Shelf Food Donations

Offering Invitation: God is generous to us – giving us everything that we need. In response, he asks us to show our gratitude by acting just like him – with generous hearts and hands – giving to the church we love for the sake of the people she serves – presenting now our morning offering.

Offertory / * Response: # 370 “What Gift Can” (vs. 4)

**This gift we now bring, this present, this token,
these words can convey it, the joy of this day!
When grateful we come, remembering, rejoicing,
this song we now offer in honor and praise!**

*** Prayer of Dedication:** Generous God, you give us everything we need and then call us to be generous with others as well. Bless now these offerings for the good of our church. Use them and us according to your will, so we may become a part of your good work. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

*** Hymn: # 300 Jesus Shall Reign**

*** Benediction**

*** Response: # 2241 “The Spirit Sends Us Forth”** (vs. 4)

**Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God’s Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus’s name.**

*** Postlude Music**