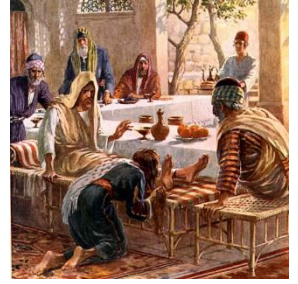


St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Communion Sunday July 6th, 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:**

Pastor: Give thanks to God with your whole hearts and sing praises to God.

People: **We give thanks for God's steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Pastor: God will answer us by fulfilling his purpose in us this day.

People: **God's love endures forever.**

Pastor: Let us rejoice together in his holy name as we join our voices together 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: # 697 “My Country ‘Tis of Thee”** (insert)

Please Be Seated.

Call to Prayer: When we lift our hearts and speak to God, God hears us and responds. Let us then turn to God, using the prayer printed in the bulletin...

Unison Prayer: **God of all, we give you thanks for Jesus, who has shown us the ways of love and compassion and hospitality by the way he lived among us. Help us to follow those in all that we say and do – so that we might truly be your heart and hands and voices in the world today. May what we say and do make a positive difference in the lives of all those whom we meet. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Assurance: When we invite God to use us to spread his love, God will take us up on our offer and help us to do good in his name. And it begins today as we 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: Kathy Strahan

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 7, verse 36 through chapter 8, verse 3 where we hear the story of the woman and her alabaster jar.

Let us pray: God of all, we long to know you and follow your ways more fully. Grant that we might meet you here in the midst of Holy Scripture and be blessed with understanding and inspiration to be more like you. Amen.

Reading: While he was teaching in the crowds one day, a Pharisee invited Jesus to eat a meal with him. So, he went into the house of the Pharisee and took his place at the table. Now, there was a woman in the city, who was a sinner who learned that he was there. She came to the house, bringing an alabaster jar of ointment with her. She placed herself near Jesus and began to weep, bathing his feet with her tears and then drying them with her hair. She continued to kiss his feet and anoint them with the ointment from her jar.

Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw it, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what kind of woman this is who is touching him—that she is a sinner." Jesus spoke up and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher," he replied, "speak."

"A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they could not pay, he canceled the debts for both of them. Now which of them will love him more?" Simon answered, "I suppose the one for whom he canceled the greater debt." And Jesus said to him, "You have judged rightly."

Then turning toward the woman, he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she bathed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not stopped kissing my feet. You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. Therefore, I tell you, her sins, which were many, have been forgiven; hence she has shown great love. But the one to whom little is forgiven, loves little."

Then he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." But those who were at the table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace." Soon afterwards he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God.

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, # 591, "This Is My Song".

Hymn: # 591, "This Is My Song".

Message: "The Joy of Hospitality"

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.**

Sacrament of Holy Communion – see insert

Sung Response: # 2176, “Make Me a Servant”

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Offering Invitation: Because God has been so good to us in so many ways, we want to be good like him. Let us give back to God a portion of his many blessings now 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:** O God, as we present these offerings to you, we ask you to bless them so that they may grow and benefit those for whom they are given. We dedicate them in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn: # 594, “How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies”**

*** Benediction**

*** 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; God, my children, fed and
nourished, joyful and free.

*** Postlude Music**