

St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Summer Sunday – August 9, 2026

Lay Minister – Brenda McFadden

Church Musician – Deborah Rick

Musical Interlude

Ringing of the Church Bell

Welcome

Prelude Music



Let us Rise and Join our Voices in the Call to Worship.

*** Call To Worship:**

Leader: Let us gather our hearts and minds together in the peace of Christ to worship God, who calls us to be his own.

People: We put our hearts in God's hands – eager to be closer to him and do his will.

Leader: Let us, then, begin our worship of God together by joining our voices in saying our affirmation of faith ...

*** Affirmation of Faith:**

We believe in God the Father, maker of all things. We believe in his Son Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior of the world. We believe in the Holy Spirit, giver of life and light. We belong to the Church, God's family everywhere. Amen.

Turning to our Hymnal, Let us Sing Together our First Hymn.

*** Hymn: # 441, "Jesus, Savior Pilot Me"**

Please be seated.

Call to Prayer: Every day and in every way, we have opportunities to become more of what God hopes and dreams for us. In order to take advantage of such opportunities, we need to cleanse ourselves of fear and doubt and wrongdoing – and open ourselves to the grace God has to offer. Join me now in our unison prayer as it is printed in the bulletin.

Prayer: God of all, we ask your forgiveness for the ways in which we have failed to fulfill your call to be true disciples. We give thanks, though, through the grace of Jesus Christ, you have provided a way for us to become closer to you and better disciples for your glory. We praise you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance: Take heart and do not be afraid – for through Jesus, all our fear and doubt can be washed away and we are like new people in the grace of God. Today is truly a new day full of possibilities. In gratitude, let us sing our response ...

Response: # 2108, “O How He Loves You and Me” (vs. 1)

O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me! He gave his life. What more could he give? O how he loves you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!

Scripture Reading: Liturgist = Owen Gift

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the word of God found in the scriptures. Today's reading can be found in the Gospel of Matthew - chapter 14, verses 22-33 where we hear about what happened when Jesus walked on water.

Let us pray: Loving God, be with us now in the hearing of your holy word. Help us to discern it's meaning for our lives today so we may live more fully in your ways. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Read Scripture Lesson (found on page 16 of the NT in Pew Bible)

Jesus told his disciples to get into the boat he had been using earlier that day to rest for a bit away from the crowds who had been following him all day. And after everyone had left, he went up the mountain to be by himself to pray.

He stayed there alone late into the night. By the time he came back down to the shore, the boat was far from land because it had been tossed about by the wind and waves. So, he had to walk out to where the boat was sitting in the sea.

When the disciples saw him coming, walking on the sea, they were terrified and said to one another, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. Immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying “Take heart, friends – it's just me. Do not be afraid.”

Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” And Jesus replied, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and started to walk toward Jesus on the water. But when he noticed how strong the wind was, he became frightened, and began to sink. He cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Jesus didn't hesitate. He reached out his hand and caught Peter by his hand, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?”

The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. The disciples in the boat, having watched the whole thing, worshiped Jesus, saying, “This is it! You are God's Son for sure!”

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 us remain seated as we sing our middle hymn, # 547, “Amazing Grace”.

Hymn: # 547, “Amazing Grace”

Message: “When Peter Sinks”

Sung Response: # 2086, "Open Our Eyes"

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Offering Invitation: All people shall give as they are able, according to the blessings which God has given them. Always remember these words of Jesus: "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Offertory / * Response: Tune "All That Dwell Below the Skies"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*** Prayer of Dedication:** Gracious God, you provide for us all that we need. Help us to step out in faith and share what we have with others without fear or doubt. Bless this offering today and use it for your purpose in the name of Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn: # 474, "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"**

*** Benediction:** Let us now go forth with the light of hope in our eyes, your word on our tongues, and your love in our hearts. Amen.

*** Sung Response: # 82, "Go My Children" (vs. 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