

St. Vincent UCC Worship Service

Veterans Sunday November 9, 2025

Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson

Church Musician – Deb Rick



Musical Interlude

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude Music

*** Call To Worship:**

Pastor: There are many reasons that people seek Jesus: among them are curiosity, hope, loneliness, amazement, love. We never know what's inside another person or their motivation for seeking Jesus in their life.

People: We are blessed that Jesus accepts all those who come to him with love and salvation. Let us celebrate this good news today as we worship God together.

Pastor: Now, let us join our voices together in saying our affirmation of faith for this day ...

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: # 474, “I’m So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me”**

Please Be Seated.

Call to Prayer: God is with us at all times and in the midst of all things. And so it is important that we always turn to God with whatever we hold dear in our hearts and minds. Let us join our voices now in prayer as we say together the prayer printed in the bulletin.

Unison Prayer:

Eternal God, we confess to you our great need for your tender love and care in our lives. When we need rest, you hold out your arms and invite us to rest in your care. When we are afraid, you call us to draw near and shine your light into the dark places in our hearts. And when we feel sorrow and fear, you bring us comfort and hope for something better. Unite us with one spirit and one heart and one purpose – to make all your hopes and dreams for us come true through what we say and do. We pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Assurance: Surely God is at work in us now and at all times. God restores us and makes us whole when we give our whole hearts to his purpose. May we live with joy the abundant life God intends for us. In gratitude, let us sing our response ...

Sung Response: # 2007 Holy, Holy, Holy”

**Holy, holy, holy – my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you – you are holy, Lord!**

Scripture Reading: Liturgist: Kathy Strahan

Liturgist: We now turn our hearts and minds to the reading of God’s Holy Scripture. Today’s reading comes from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 19, verses 1-10 where we hear the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus.

Let us pray: Holy God, bless us now as we turn to Holy Scripture and look for your message that you want each of us to hear for our own lives. Help us to hear it and to learn from it so that we can be more like you in all things. Amen.

Read Luke 19: 1-10 (found on page 82 of the Pew Bible)

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature.

So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, ‘Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.’ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.

All who saw it began to grumble and said, ‘He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.’ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, ‘Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.’

Then Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’

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.

Hymn Intro: Now, let’s sing together our middle hymn, # 449, “Softly and Tenderly”

Hymn: # 449, “Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

Pastor’s Message: “Jesus and Zacchaeus”

Sung Response: # 2224, “Make Us One”

**Make us one, Lord, make us one; Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know we are one in you.**

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer – Recognition of Veterans

Sung Response: #2086, “Open Our Eyes, Lord”

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus – to reach out and touch him and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Offering Invitation: Our scripture reminds us that Christ accepts and blesses those who seek him – regardless of circumstance or social standing and we are now called to do the same through our morning offering.

Offertory / * Response: # 785, “We Give You”

**We give you but your own – whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours alone – we give it gratefully.**

Prayer of Dedication: O God, in gratitude for your generosity, we now dedicate our offering to be used for the good of others in the name of Jesus, Amen.

*** Hymn: # 493, “O Jesus, I Have Promised”**

*** Benediction:** There is no greater love than God’s love, no greater mercy than the mercy God shows toward us, no greater comfort in life than the experience of God’s presence among us. In gratitude, let us go forth into the world to share it all with those whom we meet. And may God go with you and keep you safe until we meet again. Amen.

*** Sung Response: # 81, “God Be With You” (verse 1 & chorus)**

**God be with you till we meet again. By good counsel
guide uphold you. With a shepherd’s care enfold you.
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus’ feet.
Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.**

*** Postlude Music**