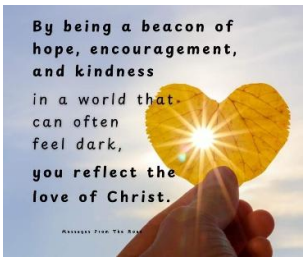
St. Vincent UCC Worship Service
Weaving the Future
Sunday - July 26, 2026

Pastor – Rev. Susan Hanson
Church Musician – Deborah Rick



Musical Interlude
Ringing of the Church Bell
Welcome

Prelude Music

*** Call To Worship:**

Pastor: Let us gather our hearts and minds in one spirit to receive the grace and presence of God more fully.

People: We gather together to worship our loving God with all our hearts and minds, and all our souls and strength. Pastor: Let us, then begin our time of worship as we join our voices in saying our affirmation of faith …

*** Affirmation of Faith:**

We believe in the God of light and love. May God fill our hearts to overflowing with his holy light and love. We believe in God's Son, Jesus, the Christ. May his ways of compassion and kindness guide our every thought and action. We believe in the Holy Spirit to empower us to follow Christ's ways and become more like him and thus be the change we wish to see in the world. We believe that God is always with us. We pledge our hearts to following the ways of his Son, Jesus. We look to the Holy Spirit to help us to fulfill this calling here and now and for the whole of our lives - and we give the glory of it all to our God of light and love. Amen.

Turning to the hymnal, let's sing our first hymn.

*** Hymn: # 1, "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"**

Please be seated.

Call to Prayer: God promises to bring us to everlasting life when we place ourselves in his care. Let us then, turn to God, using our prayer ...

Prayer:

Gracious God, we know that you love us and that you call us to fullness of life - but around us and within us, we see the brokenness in the world and in the way we live. Forgive us when we fall short of your hopes and dreams for us. Help us to be your good children so that we can bring your kingdom more fully into our lives. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance: Rejoice, friends – for God is happy to forgive us, cleanse us, and guide us in living lives that reflect the kingdom of heaven more fully in our world. May we know in our hearts that we are worthy of this great mercy and love. And so, with 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 = Todd Sutter
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 13, verses 31-33, and then 44-52 where Jesus describes for us what the kingdom of God might be like.

Let us pray: Holy God, be with us during this time of reading your word and help us to open our hearts and minds to the message you intend for us to hear so that we can become more like your Son Jesus in all ways. Amen.

Read Scripture Lesson (found on page 14 of the NT in Pew Bible)

Jesus told those gathered about him these parables: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

Likewise, he explained it in another way, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."

And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

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, # 505, "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Hymn: # 505, "Sweet Hour of Prayer"
Message: "Weavers of the Light"

Sung Response: # 2086, "Open Our Eyes"
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 helps us to listen. Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Sung Response: # 2068, "I Love Your, Lord"

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you, O my soul rejoice. Take joy, my king, in what your hear, may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

Offering Invitation: We give back to God a portion of what God has first given to us. Let us do so, with joy, as we now have our morning offering.

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:**

Loving God, bless this offering now placed before you and bless those of us who have brought it for the good of your work through our church. We dedicate it in your holy name. Amen.

*** Hymn: # 584, "I Am the Light of the World"**

*** Benediction & 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