

Union Congregational United Church of Christ



At Union, we are all the body of Christ together:
Through our voices, Christ is still speaking
Through our hands, Christ is still serving
Through our hearts, Christ is still loving



July 19, 2026

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. You can access the loop by activating the T-coil in your hearing aid. If you do not have a T-coil, you can request a portable receiver from an usher.



Welcome to Union Church!

- Today's service is being live streamed via Facebook and YouTube.
- During the Children's Moments, the live stream will display a graphic, in order to protect our children's privacy.
- Please see an usher if you would like a children's activity packet or if you need help finding the nursery.
- Visitors are encouraged to fill out a visitor card at the usher's station or email office@unionucc.com to receive our weekly email newsletter.
- Visitors, if you would like more information about our church, please take home a yellow "Welcome to Union Church" folder located at either sanctuary door. If you have trouble finding them, ask one of our friendly members to help you locate one!
- We encourage those who are COVID positive or have cold or flu symptoms to worship from home and to consult with your healthcare provider to ensure you are engaging in best practices regarding masking, distancing, and receiving vaccines/boosters, particularly if you or someone you live with have health concerns.

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training Tuesday, July 28, from 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Check your Friday This Week at Union Church email for details.

Really Free Market TEEN EDITION

NEW CARE is back at it! The REALLY Really Free Market is returning, and this time it's all about teens. No catch, no cost, just community taking care of community!

Saturday, August 1, 2026, from noon until 4 p.m. at Union Church

Donate — We're collecting donations EVERY Wednesday in July, 3:30–6:30 p.m. at Union. A planning meeting follows at 7 p.m. so come be part of making this happen!

Volunteer — Come to a planning meeting any Wednesday in July at 7 p.m., or sign up directly on the website. Shifts are open from set up all the way through take-down.

For more information, see your Friday This Week at Union Church email.

Serving Christ . . . Loving Each . . . Affirming All

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

(*) invites all who are able to stand

PRELUDE:

"I Am a Poor Wayfaring Stranger"

arr. Joel Raney

With music and silence we begin worship, praying quietly and opening our hearts to God.

THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome! Please share Announcements, Ministry Opportunities, Joys and Concerns.

PRAISING OUR GOD

THE BOND OF UNION (in unison)

Giving our all as we have been given all...

We accept the religion of love and service which Jesus lived and taught, and declare it our purpose to strive to do the will of God, and to make the Christ Spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations.

*GATHERING PRAYER: (responsive)

One: Come, beloved of God. Come with the breath you have today—whether rooted in deep, joyful sighs or weary gasps.

All: God meets us here with the breath of life.

One: Come with your questions, your hopes, your gratitude, and your grief.

All: We come knowing that before we can find the words, the Spirit is already praying within us.

One: The Spirit helps us in our weakness and surrounds us with grace.

All: Come, beloved of God, come. Come to be reminded that you are claimed, cherished, and called, trusting that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

One: Let us worship God whose love gives us life, whose Spirit gives us courage, and whose hope renews all creation.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Amy Loving

One: The Apostle Paul tells us that the Spirit of God prays for us

“with sighs too deep for words.”

Through the Life-Giving Breath of God,

we are given all that we need.

Let us breathe deeply—

inhaling the good gifts that God provides,

and exhaling all of the things that we need to release.

Let us breathe in strength. *(Pause for breath...)*

And, let us exhale our exhaustion. *(Pause for breath...)*

Let us breathe in freedom. *(Pause for breath...)*

And, let us exhale all that holds us back. *(Pause for breath...)*

Let us breathe in a new sense of direction. *(Pause for breath...)*

And, let us exhale the paths we no longer want to use. *(Pause for breath...)*

Let us breathe in hope. *(Pause for breath...)*

And, let us exhale self-doubt. *(Pause for breath...)*

Let us breathe in unconditional love. *(Pause for breath...)*

And, let us exhale distrust and hate. *(Pause for breath...)*

Holy Spirit, let us feel the mighty rush of your presence in this place.

Blow away our fears and worries,

and help us to breathe in your gifts of new life. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (in unison)

Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST -2-

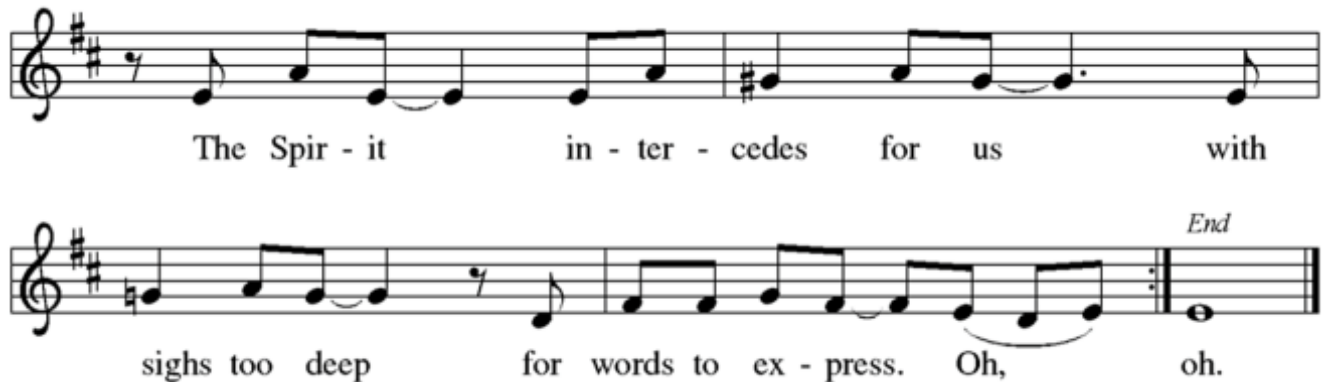
*HYMN:

“Sing a New World into Being”
(see page 7)

NETTLETON

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

The Spirit Intercedes for Us



HOLY SCRIPTURE:

Romans 8

Reader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

All: But we are not in the flesh; we are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in us.

Sing Refrain: *"The Spirit Intercedes for Us"*

Reader: So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption.

All: When we cry, 'Abba! Father!' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Sing Refrain: *"The Spirit Intercedes for Us"*

Reader: I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

All: Likewise, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Sing Refrain: *"The Spirit Intercedes for Us"*

Reader: We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

'For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

All: No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Sing Refrain: *"The Spirit Intercedes for Us"*

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"We Are Dancing Sarah's Circle"

arr. Richards Walters
Aygul Garrryeva and
Emily Lakatos, vocalists

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Children are invited to gather on the chancel steps and bring their offering.
Following Children's Moments, all children are welcome to remain in worship.
Additionally, parents are welcome to accompany their children to our "playground" in the south transept to play and pray quietly or to drop them off downstairs to play in the nursery with our paid nursery staff. Activity bags with crayons, etc. are available from an usher.

THE SERMON:

Rev. Andrew Warner

RESPONDING IN FAITH

HYMN:

"For All the Children"
(see page 8)

David Lohman

THE PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please join us in praying the Lord's Prayer in these words or a translation meaningful to you.
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE OFFERING

Offertory:

"Spirit of God"

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Praise Response:

"We Belong to One Another"

Amanda Udis-Kessler

***We give thanks for one a-no-ther,
for each heart and hand and face.
We are grate-ful for the bless-ings
that in-fuse our lives with grace.
May we of-fer our a-bun-dance.
As we're gi-ven, may we give.
In our thanks for one a-no-ther,
may we help each o-ther live.***

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (in unison)

Generous God, every good gift comes from you: the breath in our lungs, the strength for this day, the hope that carries us forward, and the love that never lets us go.

Receive these gifts that we offer in gratitude. Breathe your Spirit into them, that they may become signs of your compassion, instruments of your justice, and seeds of hope for a weary world. Use our offerings, and use our lives, to remind those who are afraid that they are not alone, those who are burdened that they are not forgotten, and those who are searching that your love is already seeking them.

May all that we give bear witness to the truth we proclaim today: that nothing in all creation can separate us from your love. In the name of Christ, who breathes peace into our lives, we pray. Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

***HYMN:**

"You Are the Seed"
(see page 9)

***THE BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE:

"He Leadeth Me"

arr. Joel Raney

Thanks to all who helped lead today's service including our reader, **Lou Ann Norsetter**, **Ed Tucker** who offered our Children's Moments, and our guest preacher, **Rev. Andrew Warner**.

Sunday Morning Faith Formation Needs You!

Education Ministry is currently seeking teachers and aides for our 2nd-4th grade classroom. Are you interested in passing on the faith and can you commit to 2 to 3 hours a month on a Sunday morning during the school year? If so, please reach out to a member of the Education Ministry. We have a great curriculum and even greater kids and colleagues—what we're missing is YOU!

Beth Lyman Piontek, Education Ministry Chair, at beth.e.lyman@gmail.com or (920) 217-3564
Amy Heusterberg-Richards, Education Ministry Vice Chair, at amyheus@gmail.com (920) 627-0033

Sing a New World into Being

Mary Louise Bringle

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NETTLETON

Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second 1813

1. Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sound a bold and hope - ful theme.
2. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where each gen - der class and race
3. Sing a new world in - to be - ing where the home - less find a home.

Find a tune for si - lent yearn - ings. Lend your voice and dare to dream:
brings its rain - bow gifts and col - ors to God's lim - it - less em - brace;
where no chil - dren ev - er hun - ger but are filled with God's sha - lom;

dream a church where all who wor - ship find their lives and loves be - long.
where the lines that once di - vi - ded form in - stead the ties that bind.
where all peo - ple work for jus - tice, where all hate and vengeance cease.

Sing a new world in - to be - ing. Sing as Christ in - spires your song!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: risk trans - form - ing heart and mind!
Sing a new world in - to be - ing: raise the har - mo - nies of peace.

For All the Children

David Lohman



1. God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a - bove, and we
2. Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be free; and we
3. Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and shame so a -

5



dare to claim the pro - mise of Your love, though the day may not yet
sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be, that they nev - er have a
-fraid of who they are and whom they love. May the mess - age now be

10



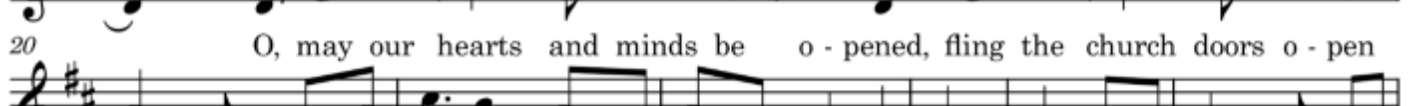
be here, we trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
rea - son to doubt that they are blest. May they, in Your love, find rest.
ban - ished that Your love is for the few, may our faith in You re - new.

REFRAIN

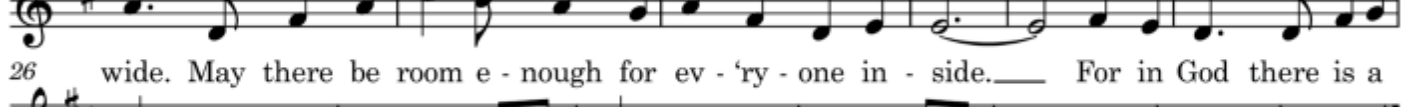
16



20 O, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



26 wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side. For in God there is a



wel - come, in God we all be - long. May that wel - come be our song.

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You Are the Seed

1. You are the seed that will grow a new sprout; you're a star that will shine through the
 2. You are the flame that will bright - en the way, send - ing spar - kles of hope, faith, and

4
 day;
 love;
 You are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a
 You are the shep - herds to lead the whole world through

7
 bea - con to glow in the night. You are the seed that will
 val - leys and pas - tures of peace. You are the friends that I

10
 bring a new day; you're the wheat that will bear gold - en grain;
 chose for my - self, the word that I want to pro - claim.

13
 You are a sting and a soft, gen - tle touch, my wit - ness - es wher - e'er you go.
 You are the cit - y that's built on a rock where jus - tice and truth al - ways reign.

17 *Refrain*
 Go, my friends, go to the world, pro - claim - ing love to all,
 Be, my friends, a loy - al wit - ness, from the dead I a - rose;

21
 1. mes - sen - gers of my for - giv - ing peace, e - ter - nal love.
 "Lo, I'll be with you for - ev - er,
 2. till the end of the world."

Weekly Planner

July 20—25

Monday:

11:30 p.m. Ladies Lunch Bunch

NEXT SUNDAY: July 26 **Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**

10:00 a.m.

Worship with in the sanctuary
(or stream it online)
followed by Coffee Hour
in the church hall

Seeking Cooks for Wednesday Nights

Membership and Inreach Ministry is looking to schedule cooks for our Youth Group and Adult Education activities on Wednesday nights. Meals can be customized to your liking. Cooks sign up for 4 to 6 Wednesdays throughout the school year. Guidelines are:

1. Stay within the allotted budget.
2. Be able to estimate amount of food for about 25 to 30 people.
3. Can volunteer every week, once a month, or as often as you like.

Contact Pastor Bridget to learn more.

Union Congregational United Church of Christ

Union Congregational United Church of Christ is an **Open and Affirming Congregation**. We are a Christian fellowship where diverse perspectives may live together in the Spirit of Christ and where all persons are precious children of God without qualification or discrimination because of ability, age, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

e-mail: office@unionucc.com

church office: 920-437-9266

website: www.unionucc.com

Save the Date!

Union's All-Church Retreat is September 11-13

Cost is \$200 for adults; \$35 for children.

Sign up at Union Central!

Our Church Staff

Senior Minister..... Bridget Flad Daniels
Administrative Assistant Eric Goska
Financial Secretary Katrina Catteruccia
Building & Maintenance Supervisor Brad Dorin
Music Director..... Haley Steele
Organist..... Franklin Beyer
Handbell Ensemble Director..... Linda Cook
Librarian..... Cathy Putman
AV Coordinator Daniel Hatton

Student Music Interns:

Zeke Fietsch-Huber, Caleb Hale, Ella Hamilton

Nursery Attendants:

Jenna Stevens, London Graham, Katelyn Mertens, Scott Nixon