


For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- Isaiah 55:8-9 (KJV) -

 heartlight.org

**United Presbyterian Church
1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401**

February 16, 2025

**Guest Speaker
Jim Haverstock**

812-332-1850

www.upcbloomington.org

United Presbyterian Church
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WELCOME ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Allen Pease



Today's Sanctuary flowers are placed by Fadi and Aline Haddad

Prelude in E-flat Minor BWV 853

Benjamin Watkins, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Michelle Heitink, liturgist

Liturgist: Seek the Holy One, who may be found;

People: Call upon God, who is near.

Liturgist: Our thoughts are not God's thoughts,

People: Nor are God's ways our ways.

Liturgist: As the heavens are higher than the earth,

People: so are God's ways higher than our ways and God's thoughts than our thoughts.

Liturgist: The holy word that goes out shall not return empty,

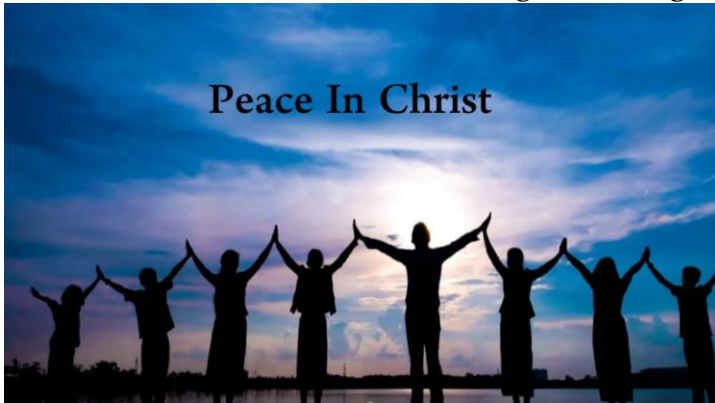
People: but it shall accomplish God's good purpose.

Liturgist: We come to hear the holy word, to seek the Holy One,

People: To call upon our God, who is near.

*Opening Hymn *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* #404

PASSING OF THE PEACE (liturgist & congregation)



Liturgist: Called to live as children of light, let us build one another up as we share signs of peace, and words of love. The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

MUSIC for MEDITATION

Make Me A Channel of Your Peace

Members of the UPC Quartet

PRAYER of CONFESSION (In Unison with Liturgist)

O Holy One, we call to you and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize you in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom.

DECLARATION of FORGIVENESS (Liturgist)

Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence hovering near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom.

PRAYER for ILLUMINATION (Liturgist)

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, illumine the sacred page, we pray, that our minds may be open to receive your Word, our hearts taught to love it, and our wills strengthened to obey it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



The Old Testament Lesson *Isaiah 55: 8-9; Proverbs 14:12* – Liturgist Heitink

The New Testament Lesson *John 12: 26; John 14: 4-6* – Speaker Haverstock

Liturgist: The word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON *How to Retrain Your Mule* James Haverstock

***Hymn** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* #281

***AFFIRMATION of FAITH** – (The Apostle’s Creed – traditional) led by Elder Don Root

I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Gloria Patri.* #579

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER – Elder Don Root

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

Offertory *In the Garden*

**Doxology* #592

Prayer of Dedication by Elder Don Root

***Closing Hymn** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* #288

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION Elder Don Root

POSTLUDE *I’ll Fly Away* Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

UPC Prayer List - Email requests to: upcbloomington@gmail.com.

Bob Hammel Kathleen Olds Anita Steverson

His Eyes Mission in Honduras led by Valerie and Felipe Colby

Nyaka Global in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

The people of Georgia, Lebanon, Nigeria, Middle East, Sudan, Syria and Ukraine **First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon** pastored by Rev. Grace Oh-Howard, is a vibrant community offering worship and Sunday school, Bible studies, classes on community services and personal finances and a GriefShare program. We partner with River Bend Food Pantry and

Habitat for Humanity, dedicating 10% of our budget to mission causes. Our historic Mohler pipe organ, donated by Andrew Carnegie, continues to enrich our worship each Sunday. Currently, we are seeking a music director to enhance our worship and community outreach. Your prayers for our ministries, mission, and website development are appreciated.

All are Welcome . . .



Please share in a time of doughnuts, coffee and fellowship on the lower level of the church immediately after today's service. The host for Fellowship this week is our guest speaker Jim Haverstock.



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