

# United Presbyterian Church

June 14, 2026 Third Sunday after Pentecost

*I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation. I can do all things through Jesus who gives me strength.*

Philippians 4: 12-13



**Welcome and Announcements** Elder Allen Pease

**Prelude** Benjamin Watkins, piano

**Call to Worship** Fuad Haddad, Liturgist

Liturgist: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**People: Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**

Liturgist: Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us, and we belong to God; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture.

**People: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and the courts of the Lord with praise. Give thanks, and bless God's name.**

**Liturgist:** For the Lord is good; God's steadfast love endures forever and God's faithfulness to all generations

**\*Opening Hymn** *All People That On Earth Do Dwell* #220

**Prayer of Confession** (in unison with Liturgist):

**Gracious and Holy God, whose mercy comes fresh every morning: we confess to you our faithlessness, our lack of trust in your promises, our lack of hope in your reign. Forgive us our sins and free us from our fears, that we may serve you with joy and confidence, offering ourselves as instruments of your providing love. In the strong name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

*- all pray in silence*

**Assurance of Pardon**

From sin and frailty, from the hardness of our hearts, from fear and confusion, God comes to us and sets us free. Glory be to God. Amen.

**\*The Gloria Patri**      #579

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Liturgist:      The Peace of Christ be with you.

**People:**      **And also, with you.**

Liturgist:      Let us share that peace with one another.

**First Lesson**    *Genesis 18:1-15 & Genesis 21:1-7*    (Liturgist)

**Music for Meditation**

**Second Lesson**      *Philippians 4:4-9*    (Preacher)

Reverend:    The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon:**      *With a Gladsome Mind*                      Reverend Susan McGhee

**\*Hymn of Praise:**    *Let Us With a Gladsome Mind*                      #244

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

*from A Brief Statement of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Susan McGhee

**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**

*\*Doxology* #592

**Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn:** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* #464

**\*CHARGE and BENEDECTION**

Reverend Susan McGhee

**POSTLUDE** Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

\*Please stand if you are able

**UPC Prayer List** - Email requests to: [upcbloomington@gmail.com](mailto:upcbloomington@gmail.com).

Roby Troy Virginia Kathleen Raymor

His Eyes in Honduras led by Valerie & Felipe Colby

Nyaka Global in Uganda led by Jackson Kaguri

All people who are suffering from armed conflict

Monroe County's first-responders

**Churches searching for Pastoral Leadership** – At any given time in our presbytery, several congregations are in search of installed pastoral leadership through the work of a PNC (pastor nominating committee). Other sessions are searching for part-time stated supply pastors. Still others are exploring the type of pastoral leadership that will best help them be in ministry to one another and their communities. Please pray for discernment for all involved in the search for pastoral leadership, for those pastors searching for a new call, and for the committee on ministry and presbytery staff that help guide congregations and pastors through times of transition.

## ✠Our Chancel Cross by Bob Hammel

In Psalm 92, David writes: *The Righteous Man will flourish like the palm tree; he will grow like a cedar in Lebanon.* It's one of 23 Biblical references to those Cedars of Lebanon, and mention of cedars in 92 other verses that have been taken by Bible scholars to be references to the legendary almost knot-free trees in Lebanon. Dedicated in 2008, the cross you see in the UPC Chancel was hand-carved from one of those trees and includes the beloved Bible verse, John 3:16, carved in calligraphic Arabic.

The cross is an exact replica of the one in the Haddads' home Presbyterian church in Beirut, Lebanon. Souheil and Fadi went to Beirut to bring the cross back and together carried it down our center aisle for dedication in UPC's 175th birthday service.

We want you – as a first-time worshiper with us or a long-time member – to feel free after today's service to take your own close-up look at the cross and its elegant carvings, with cognizance of the live linkage it represents between us and David's holy writings.

We invite you to take a moment to notice our chancel cross, which has its own role in our church history. As part of UPC's 175th-anniversary celebration in September 2008, arrangements were made through the late Dr. Fuad Haddad, father of UPC members Souheil and Fadi Haddad, to bring to Bloomington, a cross from the Holy Land with true biblical roots.

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