

United Presbyterian Church

August 23, 2026 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome and Announcements Elder Allen Pease

Prelude Benjamin Watkins, piano

Call to Worship Isaiah 51: 1, 7-8 Thomas Koehnline, Liturgist

Liturgist: Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the
Lord:

**People: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from
which you were hewn;**

Liturgist: Hear me, you who know what is right, you people who have taken
my instruction to heart:

**People: Do not fear the reproach of mere mortals or be terrified by their
insults.**

Liturgist: For the moth will eat them up like a garment; the worm will
devour them like wool.

**People: But my righteousness will last forever, my salvation through all
generations.**

***Opening Hymn** *How Firm a Foundation* #361

Call to Confession

You call out to us, Lord, but we struggle to listen. As we come before
you with our hearts open, quiet the noise of the world, of our pressing
thoughts and fears, so that we may hear your Spirit fully.

Prayer of Confession – In unison with liturgist

God of truth, like a moth that gnaws at wool, our brokenness eats
away at our souls. We allow the cacophony of greed, selfishness,
apathy and ignorance to drown out your voice as you call us to see
the suffering in our world and respond to the needs of your children.

In our busy lives, we convince ourselves that there is no time to help, no space for prayer and no need for justice. Forgive us. Remind us that only when we slow down and breathe deeply of your Holy Spirit and holy Word can our ears hear your voice. Inspire us to greater love for you and for one another. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (based on Isaiah 51:4 and Matthew 16:19)

Liturgist: The prophet Isaiah wrote, "Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me." Jesus promised, "I will give you the keys to the kingdom." We know love and forgiveness because God first loved us and has been calling out to us forever, "You are my beloved!" May we respond to such abundant grace with deep gratitude for God's unending forgiveness.

**People: God loves me, heals me, strengthens me and calls me by name.
Through Jesus I am made whole! Thanks be to God!**

***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.

Prayer for Illumination – Liturgist

God of light, your wisdom is right here, speaking truth to us in love. We pray for you to open our eyes, our ears and our hearts so we may drink in all that you have for us to learn today.

Music for Meditation

The First Lesson *Romans 11: 1-2A; 29-31* – Liturgist

The Gospel Lesson *Matthew 15: 21 - 28* – Reverend

Rev: The Word of God for the people of God **People: Thanks be to God**

Sermon: Reverend Martha FrizLanger
***Hymn of Praise** *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less* #379

Affirmation of Faith led by Reverend FrizLanger
(The Confession of 1967, inclusive language ed.)

9.24 The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. The teaching of apostles and prophets guides men and women in living this life, and the Christian community nurtures and equips them for their ministries.

9.25 The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose rather than human schemes will finally prevail.

9.26 Life in Christ is life eternal. The resurrection of Jesus is the sign that God will consummate the work of creation and reconciliation beyond death and bring to fulfillment the new life begun in Christ.

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 – Elder Root
Offertory

***Doxology** #592
Prayer of Dedication – Reverend FrizLanger

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

***Charge and Benediction** Rev. Martha FrizLanger

POSTLUDE Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

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

Thomas Koehnlne family as they mourn the loss of Thomas' grandfather

Roby Troy Virginia Kathleen Seth

His Eyes in Honduras Nyaka Global in Uganda

All people who are suffering from armed conflict

Nabb Presbyterian Church is a small congregation. We want to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the community by demonstrating Christ's love through outreach and by providing a place of worship where everyone feels welcome. By doing these things, we hope to help people develop a relationship with Christ. We contribute to mission projects. Our building remains open and serves as a storm shelter for the community.

United Presbyterian Church (812) 332-1850—upcbloomington@gmail.com

Commissioned Pastor – Alejandra Haddad – (812) 322-5327

Dear Church Family,



My family and I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the wonderful welcoming party organized for us. We truly appreciate the love, kindness, and warm reception you showed us. It was such a beautiful and thoughtful gesture, and we feel blessed to be part of such a caring church family. Thank you to everyone who contributed their time,

effort, prayers, gifts, food, and presence to make the occasion so special.



May God richly bless you all for the love you have shown to us. We are sincerely grateful and look forward to continuing to fellowship and grow together as one family in Christ.

With love and gratitude,

Matthew and Family