

United Presbyterian Church

September 20, 2026 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Welcome and Announcements

Elder Allen Pease

Prelude

Benjamin Watkins, piano

Call to Worship

Pastor Alejandra Haddad, Liturgist

Liturgist: O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

**People: Sing to the Lord; bless God's name; tell of God's salvation
from day to day.**

Liturgist: Declare God's glory among the nations, God's marvelous works
among all the peoples.

People: For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

Opening Hymn:

How Great Thou Art

#467

Prayer of Confession (in unison with liturgist)

Liturgist: In penitence and faith, let us confess our sin before God and one
another.

**People: 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.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Liturgist: God meets us in Jesus Christ, with a love that knows no end,
and a peace that passes understanding. Sisters and brothers, in
Christ we are forgiven!

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

* *Gloria Patri* #579 Blue

****Passing of the Peace***

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Liturgist: As a forgiven and reconciled people, let us share the peace of Christ with one another by greeting those around us.

Music for Meditation Anna Ambartsunian, Patrick Tervo

Prayer for Illumination The Reverend Susan McGhee

New Testament Lesson *Philippians 4: 4-9* – Rev. McGhee

Reverend: The words of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God.**

Reflections and Remembrances:

Reverend Susan McGhee and Elder Allen Pease

Special Music "Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive" Anna and Patrick
*The music was written by Harold Arlen and the lyrics by Johnny Mercer in 1944.
It's inspired by a sermon, and explains accentuating the positive is key to happiness.*

Concluding Remarks and Thanks Rev. McGhee and Elder Pease

Affirmation of Faith—led by Rev. McGhee

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.

Joys & Concerns/Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Pastor Alejandra Haddad

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

***Invitation to the Closing Hymn – Rev. McGhee**

***Closing Hymn:** *Let All Things Now Living* #554

CHARGE and BENEDICTION Reverend Susan McGhee

Postlude Dr. Benjamin Watkins, piano

*Please stand if you are able

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

Roby Troy Virginia Kathleen Seth People suffering from armed conflict. **Greencastle Presbyterian Church**, pastored by Rev. Wes Kendall, was founded over 200 years ago by the Rev. Isaac Reed and several other faith communities during this missionary age. Our mission is to be a "welcoming family of believers, here to LOVE like Jesus, LIVE like Jesus, and SERVE like Jesus." We're dedicated to extend that welcome specifically through a major remodel project. We also are praying for and seeking a Family Life Minister to join our ministry team as we welcome younger families into our

church community. We continues to serve Putnam County through SAWs ministry - offering handicap accessible entry into homes at no cost to the family or individual. Our community outreach also includes Lifeline Youth & Family Services utilizing our community resource room. We are grateful for the chance to serve God in this unique place where the natural differences between our rural history, college town and growing downtown help us practice love for neighbor.



Judie Iverson was an active member of United Presbyterian Church for



many years until her passing on June 26, 2021.

Her family desired to do something meaningful and lasting in her memory. Judie loved music and

she loved her church family and thus a contribution in support of the music program of UPC seemed appropriate. In July of 2021, Krista Detor, daughter of Judie, presented UPC with a \$500 check. Krista noted that Judie loved music so much and was so pleased with the work of Music Director Benjamin Watkins, that her family would repeat the donation annually in her memory. In 2022, the arrangement was formally organized as The Mulryan-Iverson Music Endowment for United Presbyterian Church of Bloomington, Indiana or, **The Mulryan-Iverson Music Endowment**. Since 2021, Judie's family has donated \$500 annually via The Hundredth Hill. Some UPC families have set up an annual pledge. Other UPC members and friends make donations to the Endowment each August/September. The Worship Team will receive 2026 donations until Sunday, September 27.

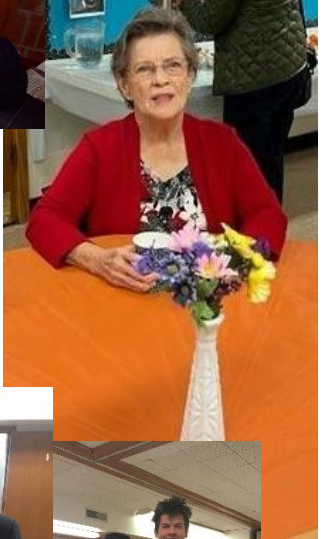
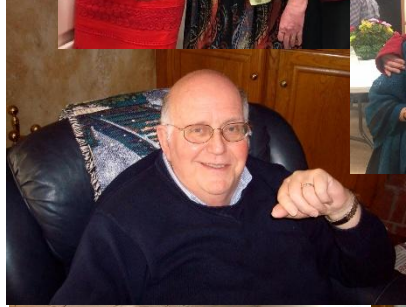
World Communion Sunday at United Presbyterian Church – October 4



The Reverend Mac Bellnar officiating
Holy Communion prepared by the Deacons and served by the Elders
For the Communion service, the Worship Team is seeking donations of
ethnic breads. If you'd like to do this, please contact Allen in the church office.
The World Communion Offering will be received October 4 and October 11

**What does the Lord require of you? ... to do justice and to love kindness
and walk humbly with your God. – Micah 6:8**

World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) originated in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). In 1936, for the first time, the first Sunday in October was celebrated in Presbyterian churches in the U.S. and overseas. The World Communion Offering supports five causes areas that cultivate reconciliation around God's Table of Grace. They are: Racial Justice, Gender Justice, Peacemaking, Global Witness and Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations.



Memories





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btwatkins@alumni.iu.edu

Christian Education – Melanie Mathis-McBride – susieq_msm@yahoo.com

Allen's final day as UPC Secretary and event coordinator is Wednesday, September 30. He's maintaining his membership at UPC and will continue serving as volunteer Worship Team chair.

