

United Presbyterian Church

September 27, 2026 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Allen Pease

Prelude Benjamin Watkins, piano



Call to Worship

Deacon Vera Heitink

Liturgist: Why do you come to this place?

People: We seek the path of righteousness and truth.

Liturgist: Do you come ready to hear and learn giving attention to God's Word?

People: We come with open hearts and minds seeking to learn from the one whose authority is founded on God's love.

Liturgist: Friends, lend your ears and open your hearts because this is God's house, built by love and sustained by hope, where God seeks to align our work and witness.

***Opening Hymn**

Call to Confession (Liturgist)

What burdens your spirit? What regret or hurt do you carry today? Together, let us confess that which does not give us life and take up, instead, the love and grace of God.

Prayer of Confession – In unison with liturgist

Eternal God, we come before you aware that you know the truth of our hearts before we can utter a word. You know when our good intentions exceed our capacity for gospel living. You know when we embrace the good news of liberation with our lips but don't change our actions. We imprison ourselves with the assumption that you will judge us as mercilessly as we often judge ourselves and one another. Forgive our shortcomings and the times we have failed to live the words we say. Restore us in the confidence of people who have heard good news and remind us that even when we arrive late, there is still work to be done. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe this good news, in Christ we are new creations. We are forgiven; we are set free; and we are made ready to live the living Word.

***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 – Deacon Vera Heitink, Liturgist

God of life and light, illumine our hearts and spirits and attune us to the reading and hearing of your word. May our hearing be discerning and may this proclamation be faithful and, in all things, may we approach your word with joy and humility. Amen.

Music for Meditation

Benjamin Watkins & Members of UPC Quartet

The First Lesson *Exodus 17: 1-7* – Liturgist

The Gospel Lesson *Matthew 21: 23-32* – Reverend

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

Sermon: *Who Believes Me* Reverend Dr. Catherine Knott

***Hymn of Praise**

Affirmation of Faith *A Brief Statement of Faith—PC(USA.)* – Reverend Knott

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 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 Don Root

Offertory

**Doxology*

#592 Blue

Prayer of Dedication – Rev. Catherine Knott

***Closing Hymn**

Charge and Benediction

Reverend Dr. Catherine Knott

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

His Eyes in Honduras Nyaka Global in Uganda

All people who are suffering from armed conflict

Retired Ministers: Retired Presbyterian pastors live in the bounds of the POV. Officially retired, many remain active by serving on commissions, moderating sessions, providing pulpit supply and supporting colleagues. We're grateful for their service. Please pray for their health and well-being.

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

Pastor Alejandra Haddad – (812) 322-5327

World Communion Sunday at United Presbyterian Church – October 4



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

Judie Iverson was an active member of United Presbyterian Church for many years until her passing in 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. Krista Detor, daughter of Judie, presented UPC with a \$500 check and noted that her family would repeat the donation annually in Judie's memory. In 2022, the arrangement was organized as **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 members and friends donate each August/September. The Worship Team will receive 2026 donations until Sunday, September 27.

