



Union Presbyterian Church

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026 | 10AM

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

Bold text is read or sung by the congregation.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Confession is our opportunity to be honest with God, so that our relationship may be restored and our hearts reconciled.

Having received Christ's peace, we pass it on. Some worshipers remain at their seat while others roam the sanctuary sharing the peace of Christ with one another. You may choose to share the peace with a fist bump, handshake, or peace sign.

Gather

Prelude

Please help us to know you by signing the fellowship pad or scanning the QR code. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue prayer card. Please place both in the offering plate when it is passed.

*Call to Worship

We gather this day from a week filled with needs and demands

We come to find rest and renewal of our spirits.

Open your hearts in love to hear the voice of God.

We want to rest in God's presence, free from the clamor of the world.

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.

*Hymn 404 (v.1,2)

What is This Place

KOMT NU MET ZANG

Prayer of Praise

Call to Confession

Siblings, God's mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, and God's love is boundless. Trusting God's promise of grace, let us be brave and confess our need for it by praying together the prayer of confession. Let us pray...

Prayer of Confession

Patient Lord, we schedule our lives down to the very second. We crowd in as much activity as we can and then wonder why we are so stressed out and tired. We are afraid to miss out on anything. And when it comes time to be with others we spend our time worrying about details rather than longing for the visit. Forgive us when we get so caught up in the details and miss the opportunity to sit at your feet, learning, listening, growing in our faith. Help us to place ourselves in your care. Slow us down, just a bit, so that we can see the wonders you have placed before us and truly enjoy and share the blessings you have given to us. *(Silent prayers of confession)*

Responsive Assurance of Forgiveness

Siblings, through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we have been forgiven. Rest in this truth and be refreshed.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Sharing Christ's Peace

Because God has given us the peace of forgiveness, let us also be at peace with one another. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn 701

Children of all ages are invited to come to the chancel steps.



Scan QR code to give electronically from your phone

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues out into the world, where we are sent to love and care for God's people.

Engage

Song for Illumination

Sanctuary

SANCTUARY

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 46 (Pew Bible OT p.665)

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Children's Message

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 10:38-42 (Pew Bible NT p.96)

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

Distracted by Many Things

Rev. Erwin Goedicke

***Hymn 23**

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

PLEADING SAVIOR

Respond

Offering of Our Time, Talent and Treasure

Financial offerings support the Body of Christ through the life and mission of Union Presbyterian Church. You may give online at www.unionpresby.org, by automated giving through your bank, and with checks through snail mail.

Offertory

***Doxology**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer, Silent Prayer, and the Lord's Prayer

***Hymn 539**

We Will Go Out with Joy

WE WILL GO OUT WITH JOY

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Worship Leaders

Cheryl Martinez, Accompanist

Erin Kieffer, Liturgist

Announcements

Welcome to worship at UPC this morning!

Please help us get to know you by signing the fellowship pad. If you are a first time visitor, please leave your email address or phone number so that we can continue to welcome you. Also, stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex to pick up your welcome gift after the service!

We value children in worship! There are children's materials and crayons available as you enter the Sanctuary, a play area in the north window of the Sanctuary, and a nursery area down the hall to the right of the narthex. The service is streamed on YouTube on the TV in the nursery.

Thank you to all who helped with our Sunday worship on August 16th: Martha and Dan Spanier, Logan Kemp, Cheryl Davis, Dustie Kemp, Richard Sloan, Andrea Vanzant, Nancy Goodall, and Molly Gilbert. Harper Gilbert was the acolyte. Blakely Brown ran A/V, and our Deacons hosted the potluck.

2026 Backpack Tags are still available. They are tags this year instead of charms because the "You & Me? We're neighbors." is a message not only for the person with the tag but also for whoever reads it. Take some for friends and family as well.

Mark your calendars for Brush Arbor, Sunday, September 20th This is our annual outdoor worship service and dinner on the grounds. More info coming soon about how you can help make this fun tradition possible.

✦Adult Activities

Choir Practice

On summer hiatus

Sunday School

On summer hiatus

Chair Yoga

Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30am Narthex

Wrapped in Prayer Stitchers

2nd & 4th Tuesdays 7pm Choir Room

Florence Woman's Club

3rd Tuesday 12:30pm – 2:30pm

Info: Sue Kozlowski

Alcoholics Anonymous

Wednesdays at 8pm

UPS (Union Presbyterian Seniors)

3rd Thursday Lunch at local restaurants

Info: Elaine Johnson

✦Youth Activities

Sunday School 4th – 7th Grade

On summer hiatus

Middle School Youth

NKY Youth is on hiatus until September 13th.

High School Youth

NKY Youth is on hiatus until September 13th.

Boy Scouts, Troop 805

Monday at 7pm

✦Children's Activities

Sunday School K-3rd Grade

On summer hiatus

Cub Scouts, Pack 3805

Tuesdays 6:30pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2830

1st & 3rd Wednesday 6:30pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2146

Every other Friday 6pm

Union Children's Choir

On hiatus until September 12th

Birthdays

August 24 Tina Wilcox
August 28 Andrea Brooks, Logan Kemp

Prayers

Joe Schaffer, Dave Stenner

Anniversaries

August 23 Dave & Lisa Stenner



Buddy Walk Saturday, September 12th You, too, can be part of Logan's Hulk Hogan Heroes, Logan Kemp's team. Enjoy an incredible morning of kindness and fun and help raise money for the Down's Syndrome Association of Greater Cincinnati. To register and/or to donate, scan the QR code to the left. The t-shirt deadline has passed; however, you may register for the walk through the morning of September 12th.

Brush Arbor, Sunday, September 20th This is our annual outdoor worship service and dinner on the grounds. We worship at tables then share a delicious fried chicken lunch hosted by our Deacons. The Hills of Kentucky dulcimer group leads music. Lots of disciples are needed to make this exceptionally fun time of worship and fellowship happen. We need folks to set up tables and chairs, decorate tables, set up the lunch serving area, set up for worship, set up and serve lunch, and clean up when the festivities are complete. You may sign up in the narthex and on the church website.

There are a few freebies left. In preparation for a new program year, we've been cleaning, sorting and reorganizing; and we have treats for the taking. Please help yourself to the bibles, t-shirts and backpack charms in the narthex. No one is enjoying these items if they are packed away in a box, so put them to good use for yourself and/or for a friend.

Did you complete your survey? Plans are coming together for the new year, and we need your input. Parents of preschoolers through senior high young people received a survey about bibles, Sunday School and youth group. A survey of adult study possibilities was in the newsletter, and there are hard copies in the narthex. Thank you in advance for your assistance!

SESSION

Class of 2027

Mary Lu Funyak
Laura Pears

Class of 2028

Sue Kozlowski
Frank Lindsey

Class of 2029

Kevin Dern
Mark Highland

DEACONS

Class of 2027

Sam Caudill
Grace Daniel
Cheryl Davis

Class of 2028

Molly Gilbert
Ollie Seidman
Alison Vessa

Class of 2029

Hayden Monson
Ruth Ann Sloan
Sheila Wenstrup