



Union Presbyterian Church

16th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13, 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.

Sung to the tune of Hymn 233

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

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

As we come to worship today,

We acknowledge we are being pulled in multiple directions.

We struggle and hope that we have chosen the right way.

Some of these paths are very enticing, and others are dangerous.

How can we know what to do?

Look to Jesus. Listen to Jesus.

He IS the gospel made flesh and guides us even when the path is not clear.

We will try to follow Jesus

Knowing that he is proof of God's unending love and mercy.

*Hymn

Now Sing the Gospel Story

LANCASHIRE

Prayer of Praise

Call to Confession

If we say we are perfect, we are only lying to ourselves. Even on our very best days, we fall short of what God intends. The good news of the gospel is that God doesn't make us wallow in our shortcomings but offers us mercy and forgiveness again and again. So that we may experience this boundless grace, let confess our need for it by praying together the prayer of confession. Let us pray...

Prayer of Confession

God, we humble ourselves in confession. We admit that we want to be followers of Jesus, but we often want to choose the way. We don't want to listen when Jesus calls us to be in honest and vulnerable relationship with the Holy rather than believing we understand all mysteries. We want to put down the cross of knowing every step, and we cling tightly to what we think we know about you and about how you work in the world. Holy and loving God, please forgive us of these things and those we offer to you in silent prayer.

(Silent prayers of confession)

Responsive Assurance of Forgiveness

Siblings, here the good news of the gospel:

God's love is from everlasting to everlasting. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have all been forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

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.

Hymn 455

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.

***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.

Engage

Song for Illumination

Listen to the Word

LISTEN

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 26:1-8 (Pew Bible OT p. 650)

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

Matthew 16:21-28 (Pew Bible NT p. 26)

Hear what God's Spirit is saying to us. This is the gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ!

Message

That was Harsh

Rev. Lisa Stenner

***Hymn 726 (v.1,4,5)**

Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

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 743**

O God, You Are My God

STEP BY STEP

***Charge and Benediction**

***Postlude**

Worship Leaders

Cheryl Martinez, Accompanist
Luca Vanzant, 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 September 6th: Martha Spanier, Lynn Jasensky, Sam Caudill, Holly VonLehman, Frank Lindsey, Ollie Seidman, Richard Sloan, Kevin Dern, Donna Shupe, Dave & Ginny Claar, Dustie Kemp, Julie Bailey and Sheila Wenstrup. Morgan Dern served as acolyte. Kim Fry ran A/V, and Beverly Johnson was the lemonade hostess.

Adult Study Conversation TODAY Following worship, join Pastor Lisa in the Family Room for a brief conversation about the Basic Bible class she is teaching this year as well as other study possibilities.

◆Other Activities this Week

<u>Monday</u>	Finance Ministry 6:00pm
<u>Wednesday</u>	NKYSafetyNet 12:30pm @ Lakeside Christian
<u>Thursday</u>	NKYSeniors @ Tousey House 11a
<u>Friday</u>	Oktoberfest Parking 5:45pm-9:45pm

◆Adult Activities

Choir Practice

Wednesdays 6:30pm Sanctuary
Adults and teens welcome.

Sunday School

Big news coming soon!

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 5th – 8th Grade

Big news coming soon!

Middle School Youth

This week: NKY Youth Kick Off Dinner & Fun
Lakeside Presbyterian 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Next week: NKY Youth dinner & Gathering
Lakeside Presbyterian 5:30pm – 7:30pm

High School Youth

This week: NKY Youth Kick Off Dinner & Fun
Lakeside Presbyterian 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Next week: NKY Youth dinner & Gathering
Lakeside Presbyterian 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Boy Scouts, Troop 805

Monday at 7pm

◆Children's Activities

Sunday School K-4th Grade

Big news coming soon!

Cub Scouts, Pack 3805

Tuesdays 6:30pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2830

2nd & 4th Wednesday 6:30pm

Girl Scouts Troop 2146

Every other Friday 6pm

Union Children's Choir

Saturdays 9:30am

Birthdays

September 14 Martha Spainer
September 17 Kristin Lintelman

Prayers

Joe Schaffer

THIS Friday, September 18th is the beginning of St. Tim's Oktoberfest, and we will be parking cars at UPC that evening from 5:45 pm – 9:45 pm. Proceeds benefit ministries with children and youth. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex and on the website. Boy Scouts will park on Saturday night to benefit Troop #805.



Brush Arbor NEXT 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.



3rd Annual Boone County Pride Festival is **Sunday, October 4th from 12pm – 4pm** at the Florence Y'all's Stadium. UPC has a booth. If you'd like to help plan and/or want to join the fun, sign up in the narthex or on the website. This year's event does require a free ticket. Scan the QR code to get yours.

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