



Community UCC

We're worth our words

Welcoming Progressive Community

Vibrant Messengers of Hope



Champaign, Illinois

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

June 28, 2026

Thoughts before worship: ““What feels like a gift in my life that elicits my opening out toward the world and other people? How does gratitude invite me to move toward others in acts of giving? What resources does my faith tradition provide for expressing gratitude in community?” — Rev. Cody J. Sanders

Prelude

Andrey Ivanov

***Call to Worship**

We come to worship this morning to affirm this:

Hope must be formed like faith that gets scattered like seeds and tended like love that grows up wild and free.

Even when we are fearful, angry, sad, or grieving, in order to cultivate hope, we need to express gratitude. We want hope as some sort of mood or good luck charm. But, hope is a thing we DO together.

Together, in community with our Creator, let us scatter, cultivate, and practice hope that turns us towards one another.

***Invocation**

Let us pray,

Holy one, we have gathered in your name, as your people, as your church. Move among us this morning and anoint us with your spirit that we might leave this place with good news on our lips, love in our hearts, and hope in the spaces between one another. In the name of the Way-Maker we pray, Amen.

***Opening Hymn**

Holy, Holy, Holy

NCH 277

Welcome, a Word About Worship, and an Opportunity to Check-In

Introit

Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free

Come, O Lord, and Set us Free, Give your people hope

Come, O Lord, and Set us Free, Give your people peace

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Let us pray,

God, we must admit that we find it hard to be grateful. We see the news or experience a loss and feel like we can't possibly express gratitude when the world feels like it is coming to an end. We forget that we are made in your image, as "good", along with the glory of all creation. When we forget how interconnected we are, we turn toward tactics of self-preservation: greed, callousness, violence, exclusivity, and other ways of being not in the Way of Jesus. We pause now to confess how our inability to be grateful has warped our way of being in full communion with you and your children. (pause for silent reflection). Forgive us we humbly pray. Amen.

We welcome you to our service this morning. Celebrating the diversity of creation, Community United Church welcomes persons of any age, ability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or life condition. May the Divine Presence become real to you through this time of worship. We hope you come back!

Note: Our worship services are live streamed. If you prefer not to have the back of your head seen on the live stream worship please do not sit in the first seven pews on the left side (organ/piano) of the sanctuary.

Note 2: The congregation responds to the liturgy parts in **BOLD**

*Everyone is invited to stand in body or in spirit.

Words of Assurance

*Passing the Peace

Children's Moment

Call to Prayer

Later in the service, we will offer up our joys and concerns. Your prayer requests will be offered aloud. Whether you are sitting here in the sanctuary, or worshipping with us remotely, you are invited to add your joys and concerns to the prayer list: go to community-ucc.org/pray (a Google Form), or scan the QR code found here or there are prayer cards on the table at the back of the Sanctuary that you may fill out and hand to the usher.



Prelude to Scripture

Whether we take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth, or story, let us listen now for the meaning it might hold for us on this day.

Sacred Reading from the Original Testament

Psalm 100

- ¹ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
- ² Serve the LORD with gladness;
come into God's presence with singing.
- ³ Know that the LORD is God.
It is God who made us, and we are theirs,^[a]
we are God's people and the sheep of their pasture.
- ⁴ Enter God's gates with thanksgiving
and their courts with praise.
Give thanks to God; bless God's name.
- ⁵ For the LORD is good;
whose steadfast love endures forever
and whose faithfulness is to all generations.

Postlude to Scripture

Together, let us say:

May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder as we ponder the meaning of these words for our lives.

*Hymn

I Woke Up this Morning

NCH 85

Message

Apocalyptic Emotions: Gratitude

Silent Meditation

Community Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Music for Reflection

Call to Offering

We look around the world and see such brokenness. And yet, God calls us into community, to be the Church, One Body, to serve. Together, we DO hope and we MAKE hope a way of life in the world, even when we are angry. You may place offerings in the plates or give online at community-ucc.org/ and clicking "Donate." Our ushers will now come forward to receive our offering.



Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:

God of Hope who made us in gladness, bless and multiply all that we offer so that our community of faith may continue to DO hope together and BE hope for others. May these gifts make it possible for us to grow as a church and practice hope in this moment in history in profound, life-giving way. In the name of the Way-Maker we pray, Amen.

Commissioning of the Community

*Sending Hymn

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

NCH

17

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

Postlude

Andrey

Ivanov

Please join us in the Parlor for the after party.

Acknowledgements

Call to Worship adapted from Rev. Cody Sanders

Invocation, Prayer of Confession, Call to Offering, & Prayer of Dedication written by Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser

Introit, "Come, O Lord, and Set Us Free," by John Bell

Sacred Reading, *New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition*. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. <https://support.biblegateway.com/hc/en-us>

Worship Licenses

Reprinted with permission under One License #A-73445, All Rights Reserved

Reprinted with permission under CCLI License #3154689, All Rights Reserved

Reprinted with permission under Convergence Music Project Annual Subscription Membership

Video Clips Shown with permission under CVLI License #5505492922, All Rights Reserved

Streamed with permission under CCLI Steaming License #20117321, All Rights Reserved

From your Mission Team: It's School Kit Time!

Every year, we collect school supplies in order to assemble Kids' Kits for Church World Services. After collecting in June, July, and August, we assemble the kits in the fall and deliver them to a CWS "depot" where they are shipped all over the United States and world for kids who need them. Our goal for the last two years has been to send 100 kits, and together, we've achieved that goal! We hope to try again this year!

There is a collection box in the front corner church entry on 6th Street. Attached to the wall near the box is a list of needed supplies (reprinted below). Please only buy supplies on the list, since it is important for shipping purposes that the weight of each kit is standard. This summer, when you see school supplies on sale, please pick up a few (or a lot!) Although the list tells the items needed for one kid kit, buy items in whatever quantities you want. For example, if you see rulers on sale, buy several! Or if you see kids' scissors, buy a bunch! We will track your donations on the graph by the box, so consult it if you want to see what is needed the most at any given time. **Please bring supplies to church by August 31st!**

We will also need folks to sew school bags to put the kits in which to put the kits. If you are a sewing person, take a pattern sheet from the table in back of the church sanctuary, or follow this link and click on the lower blue box to download the pattern: <https://cwskits.org/assemble-kits/school-kits/> We have fabric available if you need some to sew - just ask Patty or Jeanne.

Kids Kits Shopping List

- o One pair of blunt scissors (Rounded tip only)
- o One wide-ruled 70-page spiral notebook
- o One 30-centimeter/12" ruler (must have centimeters)
- o One hand-held pencil sharpener
- o One set of 12 colored pencils
- o Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers
- o One box of 24 Crayons
- o One two-pocket folder
- o One glue stick
- o One pencil pouch
- o One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)

We look forward to doing this project together again this year!!

Serving Today

Ministers: The Community of Community UCC
Preacher and President: Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser
Liturgist: Tom Ward
Ushers: Peg Wade
Accompanist: Andrey Ivanov
Audio/Video: John Osbourne, Susan Pawlicki, Roger Wade

Community United Church of Christ Staff

Pastor: Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser leah@community-ucc.org	Faith Community Nurse Johnalene Radek johnalene.radek@carle.com
Director of Youth Ministries: Izzy Collazo Izzy@ucccampusministry.org	Minister Emeritus: Rev. Connie Bandy connie@community-ucc.org
Childcare Provider:	Director of Music Ministries: Kathy Lee music@community-ucc.org
Commissioned Minister of Congregational Health and Wellness Emeritus: Linda Morgan lindamorgan@sbcglobal.net	Accompanist: Andrey Ivanov Office Manager:

Your Ministry Team Leaders

Moderator: Beth Hogan* Past Moderator: Susan Pawlicki* Incoming Moderator: Bill Gropp* Clerk: Jeff Radek* Pastoral Relations Committee: Cara Finnegan Personnel Committee: Stephen Kolderup Community Building: Peg Wade* <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Care Team: (Coordinator Open)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prayer Shawls: Elena Kasper- Meal Train: Jennifer Robbennolt- Driver's Ministry: Mary Bunyard- Visitor & Healing Music Ministry: Marilou Hinrichs- Card Ministry: Peg Wade- Health and Wellness Team: Chase Skye, Kelly Tull- Hospitality Team: Rocio (Ro) Arroyave Jamison and Dennis Jamison	Children & Family: Alison Anders*, Jennifer Johnson Finance: Roger Wade* (treasurer), David Willcox (financial secretary) Identity: Keri Evans* (open) Mission: Jeanne Ward* and Patty Gropp Sound & Ethical Practices (SEP): Sue Fristoe*, Shane Brownfield <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Buildings & Grounds: Tom Ward, Marla Elmore- Contracts & Insurance: Andrew McClure UCC Campus Ministry Liaison: Ilsa Kantola* Worship: Mara Smith*, Sebastian Major <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sound Coordinator: Roger Wade
--	--

*denotes Church Life Board Member

United Church Foundation (UCC Campus Ministry)

Director of Campus Ministry: Izzy Collazo | Izzy@ucccampusministry.org
www.community-ucc.org/campus-ministry email: info@ucccampusministry.org

Community United Church of Christ

805 S. Sixth Street, Champaign, Illinois, 61820
Phone: (217) 344-5091 | Website: www.community-ucc.org | Email: info@community-ucc.org