

OCTOBER 4, 2026



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

BUL0105

8 1/2" x 14 UCC SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE
Bulletin artwork copyright © 2026 United Church of Christ



St. John's United Church of Christ
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
 October 4, 2026



* Please stand if it is comfortable to do so. **Bold print** is everyone in unison

World Communion

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GREET ONE ANOTHER (be seated)

PRELUDE

CHURCH BELL (the bell invites us to worship)

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP (responsively)

Feel the living presence of Christ:

Dwell in the silence, rise in the song,

Live in the Word, be in the prayer.

Feed at the table, for this is worship.

Let us come together and praise our living God.

AMEN and AMEN!

* **OPENING HYMN** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* #422

* **WE CONFESS OUR SIN TO GOD** (unison)

God above all and within all, you desire a harmony of heart and mind, of humanity and creation that flows as steadily as a mountain stream. Yet how often we block the flow. We prefer to notice differences, point out flaws, look for contradictions. The inner connections with all creation, the shared breath of the universe, get lost in a sea of distinctions. We let divisive words pass without challenge and let skin color and dress and language push us apart. Healing God, weave us together. Break down the walls that divide us and let your unity flow within us. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

GOD FORGIVES US

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven.

God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people, who will always be made new in the name of Jesus Christ.

* **RESPONSE** *Seek Ye First* (v.1) #354

BIBLE PRESENTATION Bennett Edward Cummings, Ellis Joseph Jones and Cora Lita Schlag

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (children please come forward) *Jesus Loves Me*

ANTHEM *Bread and Wine of Life*

OFFERING INVITATION**

Let us give back to God with gratitude for all blessings received.

* **RESPONSE** *Now Thank We All Our God* (v.1) #715

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (unison)

Thanks be to you, O God, for all good gifts, and especially for your inexpressible gift of the Lord Jesus. Help us, O Lord, to see wherein we have been blessed, and to be a blessing to others. Amen.

WE GATHER IN PRAYER

Silent Prayers – Pastoral Prayer-The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Congregational Response *Seek Ye First* (v.2) #354

SCRIPTURE: Old Testament: Exodus 29:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

New Testament: Acts 4:5-12

L: The Word of God for the People of God **P: Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE *The Top Ten Top Ten*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Hymn: *O God, by Your Mercy We Come to this Place* (vs. 1-3)
(tune: Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise)

*CLOSING HYMN *I Have Brought You Out of Egypt*
(melody: *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*)

*BLESSING (responsively)

Let us go forth as workers together with God proclaiming the Good News, performing deeds of mercy and kindness, and giving evidence of Christ's love in all that we do.

And may the grace of God be with us all. Amen.

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Go in Peace* #445

* POSTLUDE

**You may place your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary or online at myucc.org and clicking on the *contribute* button. Please prayerfully consider setting up regular online donations to continue our outreach into the community.

I Have Brought You Out of Egypt

NETTLETON

*Repository of Sacred Music,
Part Second, Harrisburg, 1813*

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette



1 "I have brought you out of E - gypt," Mo - ses heard the
2 "Do not use the Lord's name wrong - ly, use God's name for
3 God con - tin - ued these com - mand - ments: "Do not steal an -
4 God of grace, we see Your prom - ise in the cov - e -



Lord God say. "I have saved you! I have freed you!
what is good. Keep the Sab - bath; keep it ho - ly;
oth - er's things; And you shall not bear false wit - ness—
nant You give. For Your law is wise and won - drous



Peo - ple, lis - ten and o - bey. Have no oth - er gods be -
rest and wor - ship as you should. Hon - or fa - ther, hon - or
see the an - guish that it brings. Do not seek with bit - ter
as it shows us how to live. Lov - ing God and lov - ing



fore me; don't make i - dols for your - selves. I will
moth - er; do not mur - der! Hon - or life! Do not
long - ing what you see a - cross the street. Keep these
neigh - bor, may we fol - low where You call. Saved by



judge those who re - ject Me; wor - ship Me and no one else."
wan - der to an - oth - er from your hus - band or your wife."
laws and find with - in them where My love and jus - tice meet."
grace, may we to - geth - er seek to live Your gra - cious law.

Text: Copyright © 2012 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Used by permission.

Tune: Public domain

Announcements

COMMUNION AT ST. JOHN'S UCC is open to EVERYONE, no matter their age, church affiliation or non-affiliation, Confirmed or not. If you belong to Christ, you are welcome at the table. It is God's table, not ours. No one should be denied God's grace through the sacrament.

FAITH VENTURES is our Faith Formation program (formerly Sunday School) for grades K-6th. Participants leave with the teachers following the Children's Moment and return by end of service. Younger children are invited to play quietly under parental supervision in the Playground in the back of the sanctuary.

FALL FESTIVAL is TODAY from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the church parking lot, featuring: Pet Blessing; Lincoln Trail Mobile Farm (petting zoo), Face Painting, Vincennes Firetruck and firefighters, Bounce House, free food, marshmallow toasting for S'mores, gift card raffle, carnival games, race car, pumpkin painting and MORE! Plan now to participate and volunteer to help! Invite your friends and families. [We need lots of help to set-up & clean-up. Please volunteer to help.](#)

PET BLESSING will take place during the Fall Festival. Pastor Debbie will be set up throughout the event to blessing any animal you wish to bring. Dogs must be leashed, Cats & small animals in carriers and large animals (horse, cow, llama, elephant) must be tethered and controlled by the owner. Each animal will receive a small tag and prayer card.

MESSY CHURCH on October 7th from 5:30-7:00 pm is *DO, LOVE, WALK* based on Micah 6:8: *And what does the LORD require of you but to DO justice and to LOVE kindness and to WALK humbly with your God?* Activities include experimenting with magnets, Scripture "cup game," sandal craft, rhythm stick painting and playing, compass necklace and more. We will also do our cattle round-up we didn't get to last month. Dinner is walking tacos, fruit cup and raw veggies & dip. Join us for an evening of faith, food, fellowship and fun.

BLESSING OF THE COSTUMES will take place during the Children's Moment on Oct. 25th and all children are asked to wear their Halloween costumes to worship. Scarlett will be wearing hers.

CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet tonight at **5:00 pm**. Our topic tonight will be the God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Jot down three questions you might have.

A NIGHT AT THE RACES on Saturday, October 17th (NOTE: DATE CHANGE) to watch our own Delaynee Coomes compete in Dirt Track racing at Red Hill Raceway in Sumner, IL. Sign up to attend on the sheet in the back of the sanctuary. The entrance fee is \$25 (cash only facility) and hot laps begin at 7:30 pm. More details to come. If we have enough people, we may take the church van. Let's turn out and support Delaynee!

FELLOWSHIP TIME HELP: Please sign up to help with Fellowship Time at 9:45 on October 11th, November 15th and December 20th. A clipboard is in the back of the sanctuary.

PASTOR ON STUDY LEAVE: Pastor's Call Agreement allows for two weeks study leave each year. In October she will be traveling to Scotland to visit the Abbey on the Isle of Iona and visit a number of cathedrals and chapels throughout the country. On a fun note, she will be having tea aboard the Hogwart's Express (a.k.a. the Jacobite Steam Engine), and visiting other historical sites. She will be away from the pulpit on October 11th & 18th, returning in time for Reformation Sunday on October 25th. The church has established an appreciation fund for donations towards her trip. If you would like to contribute, please do so by October 4th. Thanks!

WHILE PASTOR IS AWAY: October 11th will feature a "Mission Sunday" with our local missions being shared by various members of our congregation. On October 18th, the service will be led by the Youth Fellowship & Will.

UNITED STATES OF KINDNESS is a movement to complete 250 acts of kindness in celebration of the 250th birthday of the United States. We encourage everyone to perform one act of kindness per day for the rest of the year.

THE NEIGHBORS IN NEED offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. We will gather our NIN offering in worship TODAY. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Neighbors Supporting Neighbors will be having a fund raiser on Monday, October 5, from 5-8pm at Culver's. 10% of all sales will be donated to Neighbors Supporting Neighbors.

Prayers Posts

We ask for continuing prayer requests for: Marilyn Houchins, John Mineo, Cindi Gilmore, Kim Godare's daughter Mallory, Marvin Covey, Colten Kirchoff, Jane Ann Marchino, Jana Vieck, Brenda Fillingim, Olivia Robinson, Derrick Flowers, and Ryan Watts.

Shut-in Addresses:

Susie Milligan - Colonial Assisted Living, Room 118, 1622 S Hart Street Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

Leona Conway - Aperia Care, C Wing Room C-35, 3801 Old Bruceville Road, Vincennes, IN 47591

At Home:

Mike Lankford

This Week in the Life of St. John's

Sunday, October 04

Adult SS Class 9:30am
World Communion
Fall Festival 3 –5 pm
Confirmation @ 5pm

Monday, October 05

BABE Store 12-5:30pm

Tuesday, October 06

Pre-School @ 5:30pm
Congregational Life @ 5:30pm
Messy Church @ 6pm

Wednesday, October 07

Handbells @ 3pm
Choir @ 4pm
Messy Church 5:30—7pm

Thursday, October 08

Dinner & Conversation
Off The Square @ 6pm

Friday, October 09

Pastor's Starts Study Leave

Looking Ahead In October 2026

Sunday, October 11

Adult SS Class 9:30am
Fellowship Time @ 10m
Worship @ 10:30am
Mission Sunday

Monday, October 12

BABE Store 12-5:30pm
Office Closed

Tuesday, October 13

Wednesday, October 14

Handbells @ 3pm
Choir @ 4pm

Thursday, October 15

Dinner & Conversation
Monica's @ 6pm

Friday, October 16

Pastor's on Study Leave



Staff and Volunteers

Pastor:	Rev. Debbie Jo Atkins
Secretary	Kim Butler
Church Board President:	Sandra Lange
Choir Director	Jonathan Clark
Pianist:	Pat Sparks
Children & Family Ministry Coordinator:	Will Meyer
Head Usher:	Jill Doggett
Projection:	Jill Lopez
Sound:	Brian Fillingim
Liturgist:	John Riggs

Did You Know?

St. John's Sunday Morning Worship Services are streamed **LIVE** on our church's Facebook page, "**St. John's United Church of Christ Vincennes.**"

Or, you can watch the Worship Service at your convenience by going on the church website, "**myucc.org**" and clicking on "Worship Service" for a particular date.

You can also download a copy of each monthly **church newsletter** from our church website to keep up with all the activities.