Welcome to University Church

A Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and
United Church of Christ Congregation

August 23, 2026

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UNIVERSITY CHURCH
5655 South University Avenue
Chicago, IL 60637
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ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude *This Is My Father's World* arr. Mary Jane Simpson
Linda Eastwood, flute; Jean Newcomer, piano

Call to Worship & Invocation

Opening Hymn *#42* *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories ever echoing
the triumphs of God's grace!

2 My gracious Savior and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

3 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease,
Is music in the sinner's ears,
is life, and health, and peace!

4 Glory to God, and love and praise,
be ever, ever given
by all the in every age,
the church in earth and heaven.

Ministry of Music *Celtic Heart* Herman Beeftink
Linda Eastwood, flute; Jean Newcomer, piano

Passing the Peace

Welcome & Announcements

Affirmation of Faith

Offering #41 *I Thank You, Jesus*

1 Thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus.
thank you, Jesus, my Savior God,
for you brought me, yes, you brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.

Thank you, Jesus, thank you, Jesus,
thank you, Jesus, my Savior God,
for you brought me, yes; you brought me from a mighty,

a mighty long way, a mighty long way.

2 Been my father, been my mother,
been my sister, my brother too;
for you brought me, yes, you brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.

Been my father, been my mother,
been my sister, my brother, too,
for you brought me, yes, you brought me from a mighty,
a mighty long way, a mighty long way.

Benevolence Offering

Prayers of the People

Sing Together: *O Lord, hear my prayer…when I call answer me.*
O Lord, hear my prayer…come and listen to me.

Ministry of Music *He Looked Beyond My Fault (And Saw My Need)* Dottie Rambo
Ragina Bunton, soprano

Scripture *Romans 12:1-8*

1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

3 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. 4 For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; 7 if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; 8 if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Sermon *A Holy Mess* Sarah Jones

Silent Reflection

Communion

Closing Hymn *I Need You to Survive*

I need you, you need me
We're all a part of God's body
Stand with me, agree with me
We're all a part of God's body

It is his will, that every need be supplied

You are important to me, I need you to survive
You are important to me, I need you to survive

I need you, you need me
We're all a part of God's body
Stand with me, agree with me
We're all a part of God's body

It is his will, that every need be supplied
You are important to me, I need you to survive
You are important to me, I need you to survive

I pray for you, you pray for me
I love you, I need you to survive
I won't harm you with words from my mouth
I love you, I need you to survive
I love you, I need you to survive

I pray for you, you pray for me
I love you, I need you to survive
I won't harm you with words from my mouth
I love you, I need you to survive

I pray for you, you pray for me
I love you, I need you to survive
I won't harm you with words from my mouth
I love you, I need you to survive

I pray for you, you pray for me
I love you, I need you to survive
I won't harm you with words from my mouth
I love you, I need you to survive

Need you to survive
It is his will, that every need be supplied
You are important to me, I need you to survive.

Benediction

Congregational Response

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

The Lord bless you and keep you, and make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, and give you peace. The Lord bless you and keep you, and make her face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you, and give you peace, and give you peace.

FOR PARENTS: A nursery is available on our 2nd floor (Rm. 21)

SACRED CIRCLE (ages 3-8) **AND YOUTH CHURCH** (ages 8+) will meet in the library right after Benevolence Offering.

JOIN US FOR SOCIAL HOUR in the dining room for coffee, tea, and light snacks. Thank you to today's host: **Charlie & Barb Havens**

THIS WEEK | August 23-28

TODAY	**No BLM Meeting today**
TODAY	**Finance Committee Meeting,** 12:30pm, library
TUES. 25	**God Talk**, 7:30-8:30pm, via Zoom
WED. 26	**Qigong**, 10-11am, dining room

UCHURCH RESALE SHOP next sale dates are Friday, **September 4th** 10am-5pm and Saturday, **September 5th** from 10am-3pm. We are looking for volunteers to help clean up after the sale is over on Saturday! Clean up takes about an hour. For more information, please call the office at 773.363.8142

THE MESSENGER, University Church's electronic newsletter, is sent monthly by editor Stephanie Weaver. If you are not on the email list and would like to be, please contact the office. News and announcements are due the second Sunday of each month and can be emailed to wnweaver@sbcglobal.net(**Next deadline: September 13**)

God Talk is on **Tuesday evenings** from **7:30-8:30pm** on Zoom. Join us for our Spring session *"Why do Jesus followers believe THAT?"* Paul and Romans. The link is on church website calendar (uchurchchi.org). God Talk is open to all who are inquisitive, curious, uncertain, and always wondering about all things spiritual and biblical. You might not get answers, but you'll have good conversation and discussion!

Join Charlie Havens for **Community Resilient Qigong** — a gentle, accessible practice of movement, breath, and awareness that strengthens personal vitality and community resilience. Sessions meet every **Wednesday** from **10–11 AM** in the dining room. Free and open to all — drop-ins always welcome. **Together we practice resilience now, so our community can meet what comes with balance, energy, and hope.** *(No Qigong class on September 6th)*

First Annual "***Notes in Summer***" Concert with Sean Harris
Sunday, **August 30th** from 3-5 pm, Cost: $20 at PianoForte Studios 1335 South Michigan Ave, Chicago
https://events.humanitix.com/first-annual-notes-in-summer-concert-with-sean-harris

Please send calendar events, prayer requests, and announcements for the bulletin and/or website to: uchurch@universitychurchchicago.org **Thursdays** at **1:00pm** is the deadline for bulletin news and events.

STAFF
Senior Pastor: Julian DeShazier
Music Director: Charles T. Hayes
Housing Manager: Vince Cole
Administrator: Danielle Fields-Horton
Minister for Spiritual Formation: Allen Reynolds
Minister of Place: Sarah Lyn Jones