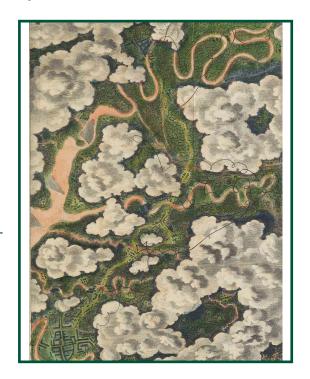
UNITED CHURCH of CHAPEL HILL

FESTIVAL WORSHIP

AUGUST 31, 2025

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 10:30 A.M.

*Please stand, as able, when indicated by asterisk. **Bold text indicates congregational response.**



OPENING VOLUNTARY

His Eye is on the Sparrow

Charles Gabriel, arr. Brook Boddie

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Psalm 104 (The Message)

What a wildly wonderful world!

God made it all, with Wisdom at God's side.

Earth overflows with wonderful creations.

Oh, look—the deep, wide sea, brimming with fish past counting, sardines and sharks and salmon.

All the creatures look expectantly to God to give them their meals on time.

God comes, and they gather around; God opens God's hand and they eat from it.

And we are gathered here with them.

Let us worship the God of all creation!

*COLLECT IN ESPAÑOL

Dios, más maravilloso y más amable, gracias por su presencia con nosotros en todos veces y maneras. Escúchanos cuando oramos por los pobres, los enfermos, y los vulnerables. Proteger y guardar los inmigrantes. Nos ayuda a crecer en el amor de Cristo, con corazones fuertes en fe, que podemos ser vecinos buenos por todos sus niños. Amen.

God, most wonderful and kind, thank you for your presence with us in all times and in all ways. Hear us when we pray for the poor, the sick, and the vulnerable. Protect and save immigrants. Help us to grow in the faith of Christ, with hearts strong in faith, that we can be good neighbors for all your children. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE 289

Come Forth, O Love Divine

DOWN AMPNEY

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 2:4-13 Luke 14:1, 7-14 Pew Bible page 610 Pew Bible page 849

CHILDREN'S MOMENT



Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

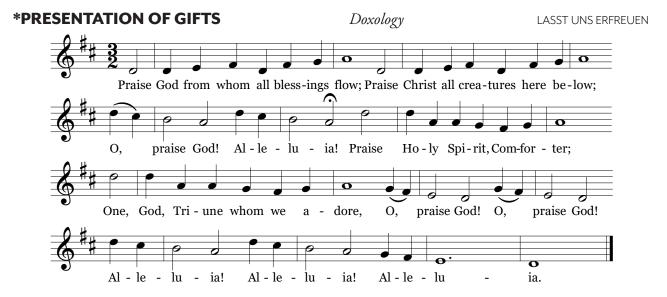
SERMON

For the Life of the Land

Jackson Ringley

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

CALL TO SHARING



*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You may be seated. Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN OF BLESSING 532

Come, Labor On

ORA LABORA

*BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Lobe den Herren (Praise To the Lord)

setting by J. G. Walther

GRATITUDE CORNER

Dear UCCH friends,

I am so grateful to you for your generous celebration of my time here at United Church on August 17th! I feel so warmly wrapped in your love, by the gifts of the prayer shawl, David's touching painting, and Tania's beautiful pocket pillow, and especially by the notes overflowing from the pockets of that pillow! It took me almost a week to get through them as I savored each one. It has been a joy and an honor to serve this congregation over the last 24 years, and I look forward to focusing more specifically on the children as I continue my journey with you! Your support and your love have made this ministry possible! Although I may see a bit less of you in the coming months, you continue to be in my heart.

With a full heart,

lenny

Submissions needed! If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to mmee@unitedchurch.org.

fall 2025 sunday school for youth

all classes meet 9:15 - 10:15 am in the youth room

Middle School Class - 6th - 8th grade

How do I make smart choices in a complicated world? This class invites middle schoolers to discover who they are and how they want to be in community with other people through games, art, service learning, and scripture. Taught by a team of community members.

Confirmation Class – 8th grade & up

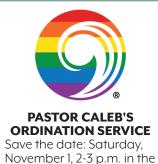
This class is for youth to dive deeper into their questions about life, faith, and change. In the Spring, the class is invited to decide if they would like to be 'confirmed' as members of UCCH. Confirmation includes field trips & onsite activities. Taught by Pastor Jackson.

High School Class – 9th grade & up, after confirmation

This class is for high school aged youth to develop leadership skills, explore their unique interests, and build relationships with the UCCH community after they have experienced confirmation. Taught by Pastor Cameron.

want to join? scan this QR code to register your interest or email Pastor Jackson at JRINGLEY@unitedchurch.org





Sanctuary (with a recep-

tion to follow).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFICE CLOSED TOMORROW - LABOR DAY

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 1, for the Labor Day holiday.

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES SURVEY

Are you new to our congregation and looking for ways to get engaged, or are you a long-time member who is eager to be more deeply connected to our church community? Scan the attached QR code and fill out the Celebration of Ministries Survey to indicate your interest in programs & groups offered at UCCH, and someone will follow up with more information. Questions? Contact Andrea Tanner at acarsontanner@gmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/FAITH FORMATION CLASSES START SEPTEMBER 7 AT 9:15 A.M.

We are approaching the start of Sunday School for children & youth, Spiritual Growth Class, Faith & Family, Community Forums, and more! Our Faith Formation time is scheduled for 9:15 a.m. before worship each Sunday, so don't forget to arrive early next week.

Faith Formation at 9:15 a.m. next Sunday:

Youth Ministry breakfast in the Youth Room (for 6th-12th graders)

Children's Sunday School begins (for children between Pre-K and 5th grade)

Community Forum in the Fellowship Hall: Aly Breisch and Peter Schay will share their experiences at the UCC General Synod

Spanish Language Bible Study in the library Spiritual Growth Class in room 229 Faith & Family in the Family Parlor

After worship:

UCCH 101 in the church library Fiber & Faith in the Family Parlor

UCCH YOUTH NEWS

Register youth for Sunday School by September 3! Labor Day Staycation TODAY: All youth and their families are invited to join Pastor Jackson at Chapel Chill from 2-3 p.m. on Sunday, August 31. This is a time to get to know the new Minister to Youth and Families.

All youth will receive a free scoop of ice cream!

Also, mark your calendars for a Fall Welcome Cookout at the Carters' on Saturday, September 13, 5-8 p.m. A cookout signup form is linked in the Youth Ministry Calendar. (Scan the attached QR code to view).

MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN ENEWS

Our e-newsletter is sent weekly on Tuesdays (in English) and Fridays (in Spanish). Sign up at unitedchurch.org.

GIFTS OF TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE NEEDED FOR THE GOD'S BIDDING ONLINE AUCTION

God's Bidding Online Auction is part of the Alternative Gift Market, where you can donate gifts of time, service, or goods to be auctioned online. Examples: house sitting, lawn mowing, iPhone lessons, rides to the airport or doctor, loaves of bread, handmade goods, unique household items. All proceeds support Church World Service, Inter-Faith Council, and Orange County Habitat for Humanity. Please consider making a contribution to this year's online auction. If you have an idea you would like to discuss, contact Henry Lister, AGM Coordinator, at 919-215-9030 (halister@bellsouth.net).

UCCH YOGA: SEPTEMBER CLASSES

Join Melanie Joiner for an all-levels yoga class focused on building resilience and community on Fridays, September 5, 12 (chair yoga), and 19, at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall. Questions? Contact Melanie (melanie. spence@gmail.com).

FALL FIESTAS 5:45 p.m. dinners, 6:15 p.m. programs Fall Fiestas are a series of Friday evening fellowship events providing fun, learning, and connection for all ages. Each event is also a fundraiser for causes including the UCCH Immigrant Legal Assistance Fund, Board of Multicultural Ministries, Board of Justice, Outreach, and Service, Youth Ministries, and Rise Against Hunger.

- ★ **September 12:** Hispanic Heritage Month celebration with dance lessons and Latin food.
- ★ September 19: Intergenerational justice-oriented activity with a New Orleans-inspired dinner.
- ★ **September 26:** Youth-inspired activities and games, with a full spaghetti dinner.
- ★ October 3: Hispanic Heritage Month celebration with cultural/historical exhibits, games, & Latin food.

FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

- ★ González, K. Mi casa es su casa: The hospitality of Jesus. In "Beyond Welcome: Centering Immigrants in Our Christian Response to Immigration," p70-84. 261.82 Gon B
- ★ Heyward, C. The second call: Embodying humility. In "The 7 Deadly Sins of White Christian Nationalism: A Call to Action," p157-164. 261.7 Hey S
- ★ Smith, J.K.A. You might not love what you think: Leaning to read "secular" liturgies. In "You Are What You Love," p27-55. 264 Smi Y
- ★ Guyton, M. Worship, not performance: How we love God. In "How Jesus Saves the World from Us," p6-18. 248.4 Guy H

These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. A volunteer, Linda Sellars, will be in the library after the worship services, to assist you in finding library materials.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

SERVICE NOTES

MUSIC: Summer Drop-in Choir; Nan de Andrade, harp;

Julie Mitchell, organ

LEAD DEACON: Ashley Arthur

READERS: Nan de Andrade & Jack Tanner

LIVESTREAM: Peter Schay

ALTAR FLOWERS: Given by the Youth Leadership Team

COFFEE HOST: Youth Leadership Team

COVER ART: Illustration from *Airopaidia* by

Thomas Baldwin, 1786.

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UNITED CHURCH STAFF

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Cameron Barr

ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY &

BELONGING: Caleb Wolf

MINISTER TO CHILDREN: Anitra Grove

MINISTER TO YOUTH AND FAMILIES: Jackson Ringley

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Jennifer Anderson MINISTER OF MUSIC: Reyna Alston LA MESA MUSIC LEADER: Andrés Santos

ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF: Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Nan de Andrade (Handbell

Director)

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR: Kati Ruark BUSINESS MANAGER: Duane Gilbert

COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER: Marisa Mee

SEXTON: Bruce Thomas

KITCHEN STEWARDS: Hser Nay Htoo & Zoila

Fonseca

NURSERY DIRECTOR: Alison Robertson NURSERY ASSISTANTS: Alex Tanner, Colin Tanner, Harper Gray, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves,

Anna Grove, Jack Tanner, & Josh Hart

Bienvenido. Welcome. Visitors are invited to take a contact card from the Narthex or Sanctuary pew pockets to fill out and place in the offering plate. / Se invita a los visitantes a coger una tarjeta de contacto de los bolsillos de los bancos del Nártex o del Santuario para rellenarla y depositarla en el plato de las ofrendas.

Or complete the form online: *O* rellene el formulario en línea:



Your support of UCCH makes our worship and ministry possible. Give online: onrealm.org/ucch/give/now | Venmo: @UCCHNC

WEBSITE unitedchurch.org

FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM, & YOUTUBE

PHONE 919-942-3540

/unitedchurchofchapelhill