

# UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

555 Bedford Road  
Tarrytown, NY 10591  
914-631-2069  
www.ucph.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Monday– Friday

## The Mission of Union Church:

.... To provide a home where all are welcome  
to worship God,  
to learn and grow as Christians, and  
to share our love, friendship and support  
with all those whose lives we touch.

## Staff

Lindley DeGarmo, *Interim Pastor*  
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Richard Coffey, *Organist and Music Director*  
Cell: 860-670-1366  
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Jennifer Gill, *Business Administrator*  
unionchurchph@optonline.net

## Clerk of the Congregation

David Bartholomew  
282-3631

## Board of Deacons

Sharon Dorzbacher, *President* – 769-4374

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Karen Garibaldi	843-2944	Melissa Share	610-1016
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Catherine Pollock	747-3671	Byron Weaver	564-1993

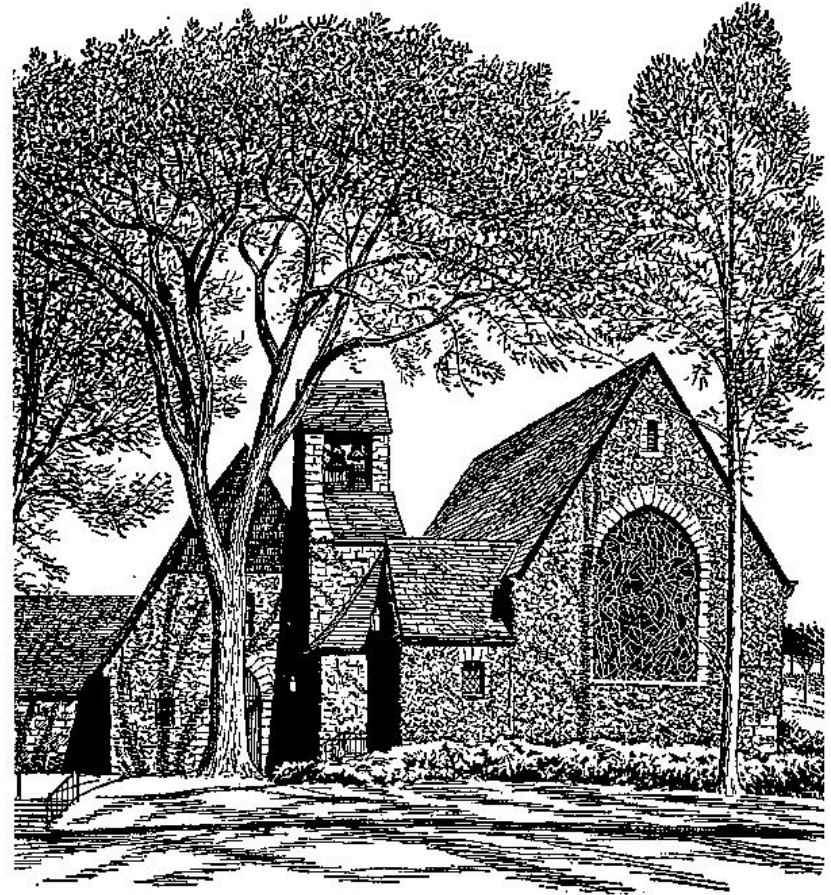
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# 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021  
10:00 a.m.



## Union Church of Pocantico Hills

The Rev. Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo—*Interim Pastor*  
Richard Coffey—*Organist and Music Director*  
Byron Weaver—*Deacon*



\* Hymn 126

“Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove”

*St. Agnes*

Prayers of Intercession

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.**

Invitation to the Offering

*Access online giving by texting “UCPH” to 77977 on your smartphone and  
following the link that will appear.*

Offertory Anthem

“He Watching over Israel” (from *Elijah*)

Words from Psalm 121  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

*He watching over Israel slumbers not nor sleeps.  
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish  
He will quicken\* thee.*

(\* “enliven”)

\* Doxology—Hymnal No. 592

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host.  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

\* Prayer of Dedication

## SENDING

\* Hymn 435

*Es flog ein kleins Waldvogelein*  
“We All Are One in Mission”

\* Prayer of Confession

**Let the words of our mouths and  
the meditation of our hearts  
be acceptable to you, O Lord,  
our rock and our redeemer.  
For you are our rock,  
and yet we place our faith in sinking sand.  
You are our redeemer,  
and yet we are convinced that we must save ourselves.  
You are our source of unity,  
and yet we isolate ourselves in every way we can.  
You are our fount of forgiveness,  
and yet we fear that we will be condemned.  
Forgive us, O Rock.  
Forgive us, O Redeemer,  
and show us what it means to forgive one another.**

\* Prayers of Silent and Individual Confession

\* Words of Assurance

Listen, so that you may live:  
the steadfast love of the Lord never fails.  
I declare you in the name of Jesus Christ,  
we are forgiven!  
**Thanks be to God.**

\* Congregational Response—Hymnal No. 417 (stanza four)

“Laud and Honor to the Father ” *Regent Square*

**Laud and honor to the Father,  
Laud and honor to the Son,  
Laud and honor to the Spirit,  
Ever three and ever one;  
One in might and one in glory  
While unending ages run.**

Welcome and Community Celebrations and Concerns

## WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us! . . .

You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.  
 You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land. The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;  
 it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River.  
 Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?  
 The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.  
 Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,  
 the stock that your right hand planted.  
 They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.  
 But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.  
 Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.  
 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Solo

Text from Psalm 27

“The Lord Is My Light”

Setting: Frances Allitsen (1848-1912)

Adam Goldstein, tenor

*The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom, then, shall I fear?  
 The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?  
 Though a host of men were laid against me,  
 And though there rose up war against me  
 Yet shall not my heart be afraid;  
 Yet will I put my trust in Him.*

*For in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in his tabernacle.  
 Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me,  
 And set me up upon a rock of stone.*

*The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom, then, shall I fear?  
 The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?*

Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were

drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Sermon

“The Great Cloud of Witnesses”

Dr. DeGarmo

**RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

\*Affirmation of Faith

*Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39*

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**