

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS
555 Bedford Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591
914-631-2069
www.ucph.org

3RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
 June 26, 2022
 10:00 a.m.

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*
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Clerk of the Congregation

David Bartholomew
 282-3631

Board of Deacons

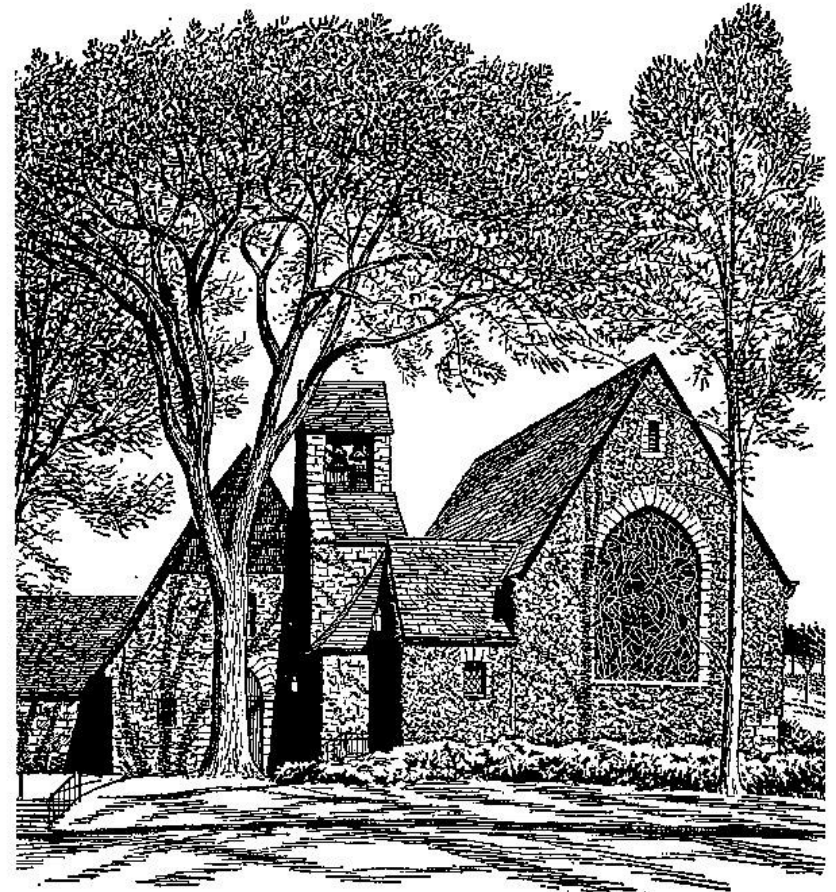
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Union Church of Pocantico Hills
 The Rev. Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo—*Interim Pastor*
 Richard Coffey—*Organist and Music Director*
 Yvette Lin—*Deacon*
 Joan Coffman—*Usher*
 Sarah Finlayson—*Videographer*

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

The service of worship begins with the prelude; quiet is requested as you enter the sanctuary and prepare for worship.

*Words spoken or sung by the congregation are noted in **bold** type.*

** Please stand as you are able.*

GATHERING

Gathering Music: Improvisation on Service Music Themes

The Striking of the Hour

Prelude for Organ Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Sonata III: Andante Tranquillo

Call to Worship

God, who rules the universe, calls us;
Christ, who took up his cross, calls us;
Holy Spirit, who frees us body and soul, calls us.
**Let us faithfully answer
by worshipping the triune God.**

* Hymn 420

Cwm Rhondda

“God of Grace, and God of Glory”

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

**God of mercy,
We confess that we too often give in to the
yearnings of the flesh.
We have impure thoughts.
We idolize those who misuse power.
We harbor jealousies and are quick to anger.
We neglect to care for others and gratify our
own desires.
Forgive us, O God,
and cleanse us of our sin.
Lead us to ways of love, joy, and peace.
Send your Spirit to engender patience,
kindness, and generosity,**

Postlude for Organ Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)
Sonata II: Allegro Maestoso



The walking stick in the chancel was presented to Dr. DeGarmo by his previous congregation. It has served as a reminder that he has been accompanying Union Church on its journey through this transition period between permanent pastors.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAREWELL BRUNCH—As Dr. DeGarmo's interim pastorate at Union Church concludes today, all are invited to the parish hall immediately following the service for fellowship and a meal hosted by the church officers in honor of Lindley and his wife, Sarah Finlayson.

PRAYER REQUESTS—Rosalyn DeHoff, Mary T. Johnson, Barbara Smith and Emma Thaler.

HEARING ASSISTANCE—The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Please ask an usher for a receiver.

Invitation to the Offering

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

Offertory Solo Text: George Herbert (1593-1633)
“The God of Love My Shepherd Is”
Setting: Eric H. Thiman (1900-1975)

Jonathan Mildner, baritone

*The God of love my Shepherd is,
And He that doth me feed;
While He is mine and I am His,
What can I want or need?*

*He leads me to the tender grass,
Where I both feed and rest;
Then to the streams that gently pass:
In both I have the best.*

*Or if I stray, He doth convert,
And bring my mind in frame,
And all this not for my desert,
But for His holy Name.*

*Surely Thy sweet and wondrous love
Shall measure all my days;
And as it never shall remove,
So neither shall my praise.*

* Presentation of Gifts—Hymn 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 540 *Randolph*
“God Be with You ‘Till We Meet Again”

* Charge and Blessing

**and lead us to be gentle in our care for all of
your people.**

* Silent Prayer and Confession

* Words of Assurance

Sisters and brothers, we are all called to freedom.
Amidst thunderous storms and rocky waters,
God reaches out to us in love.
In 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 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel...

Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan.” But he said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you.” Elisha said, “Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit.” He responded, “You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not.” As they continued walking

and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Spiritual

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

Setting: K. Lee Scott (2014)

Nancy Schellhas, soprano

*I want Jesus to walk with me
All along my pilgrim journey.
In my trials, Lord, walk with me.
When my heart is almost breaking,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.
When I'm in trouble, Lord, walk with me.
When my head is bowed in sorrow,
Lord, I want Jesus to walk with me.*

Second Lesson

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery....

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have

crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Holy wisdom, holy word.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

"Called to Freedom"

Dr. DeGarmo

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith

The Confession of 1967

**Jesus Christ is God with humankind.
He is the eternal Son of the Father,
who became human and lived among us
to fulfill the work of reconciliation.
He is present in the church
by the power of the Holy Spirit
to continue and complete his mission.
This work of God,
the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
is the foundation of all confessional statements
about God, humanity, and the world.
Therefore, the church calls all people
to be reconciled to God and to one another.**

* Hymn 325

Nun danket

"Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers"

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.**