

**Order of Service at the United Reformed Church**  
**May 3, 2026 9:30 a.m.**

**APPROACHING GOD**

Prelude                      Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing                      setting: Krapf  
*(A time of silence to prepare our hearts to worship; please silence your cell phone)*

Word for 2026: **Practice.**

**People:** *May we practice becoming.*

Salutation

Grace and peace from God the Father and Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

Call to Worship

We gather in a world that rushes—  
rushes to speak,  
rushes to act,  
rushes to move on.

But the Risen Christ stands among us  
and speaks a different word:

**Stay.**

Stay long enough to understand.

Stay long enough to be changed.

Stay long enough to be made ready.

**We come not as those who have it all together,  
but as those still being formed.**

So come—

not to perform,

but to be present.

**Let us worship the One**

**who meets us here**

**and refuses to rush us past what matters.**

\*Opening Hymn (#365 Red LUYH Book)

I Serve A Risen Savior

Call to Confession

If we are honest, we do not like to stay. We prefer movement over reflection, certainty over understanding, activity over formation. We have spoken too quickly, moved too soon, and trusted our instincts more than God's instruction. Let us confess the ways we have rushed ahead—and the ways we have resisted being formed.

Prayer of Confession

**God of patience and truth, we confess that we have not stayed. We have hurried past what we did not understand. We have named things too quickly and misread our own lives. We have called endings what You were still unfolding. We have called silence absence when You were still speaking. We have moved without clarity, spoken without wisdom, and acted without power. Slow us down. Open our minds. Reorder our thinking. Teach us to wait without fear and to trust without rushing. Forgive us for choosing movement over maturity. And form us—until we are ready. Amen.** (a moment for silent confession)

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: The Risen Christ does not abandon us in our confusion. Christ meets us—in locked rooms, in restless minds, in unfinished understanding—and gently, faithfully, opens us to truth. God is not in a hurry to discard you. God is committed to forming you. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, we are being shaped, and we are not alone.

**Thanks be to God.**

Passing the Peace

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

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Song of Preparation (#289 Blue Book verses 2,3,6 use projection)

Christ the Lord is Risen Today Alleluia!

*Please Remain Seated*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:44-50

The Word of God, for the People of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Stay Until

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

Offertory

Savior, Thy Dying Love

tune: "Something for Jesus"

*(Savior, Thy dying love, Thou gavest me, nothing should I withhold, dear Lord, from Thee. In love my soul would bow, my heart fulfill its vow, some offering bring Thee now, something for Thee.)*

\*Doxology Tune (Old Hundreth)

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Affirmation of Faith (Belhar Confession)

Communion Hymn (#166 Red Praise Book) We Remember You  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper  
Communion Prayer, Prayers of The People, and The Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn (#686 Blue Book) Christ For the World We Sing

\*Benediction

Postlude Thine is the Glory setting: Jones

### Our Invitation

Welcome to United Reformed Church! As we join together in prayer, song, and praise to God, we pray that the blessings and fellowship you find here will enrich your life. *If you are physically able, an asterisk (\*) indicates an invitation to stand.* Bold text signifies opportunities for the congregation to read and respond responsively.

**Pastor Office Hours: Wednesday 5-7 PM; Sunday 10:30 AM-12:30 PM**

**Church Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thurs 9AM-2PM; Wed 3-7 PM**

#### Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Lillian Hines [pastorlillianhines@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlillianhines@gmail.com)

Director of Music: Jeffrey Kunick

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