

**Order of Service at the United Reformed Church  
July 12, 2026 9:30 a.m.  
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

**APPROACHING GOD**

Prelude                      Andante (Interlude)                      Goodwin  
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 come from many places this morning—some full of confidence, some carrying questions, some weary from waiting.  
**Yet we come seeking the presence of God.**  
The centurion trusted Jesus before he saw the miracle.  
**Teach us to trust when we cannot see.**  
The widow met Jesus in the middle of her grief.  
**Teach us to hope when our hearts are heavy.**  
John the Baptist asked hard questions from a prison cell.  
**Teach us to bring our doubts honestly before You.**  
Come, let us worship the One who is faithful in every season.  
**We will trust in the Lord and worship God's holy name.**

\*Opening Hymn (#107 Blue Book)                      Amazing Grace

Call to Confession  
Trusting God sounds beautiful until life becomes uncertain. When prayers seem unanswered, when grief lingers, when circumstances refuse to change, we often place our trust in our own plans, our own understanding, and our own timelines. Let us confess before God the places where fear has become greater than faith and where worry has become louder than trust.

Prayer of Confession  
Holy and Merciful God, We confess that we want certainty more than faith. We want answers before obedience, proof before trust, and clarity before commitment. Like the crowds, we often seek You only when we need something. Like John, we sometimes wonder if You are truly at work when life does not unfold as we expected. Forgive us for the ways we allow disappointment to become despair, fear to become control, and waiting to become doubt. Teach us to trust Your presence when we cannot trace Your hand. Give us courage to believe that You are still working, still healing, still restoring, and still making all things new. Strengthen our faith. Deepen our trust. Draw us closer to You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. (a moment for silent confession)

Words of Assurance  
Hear the good news. Jesus did not reject the centurion's faith. Jesus did not ignore the widow's grief. Jesus did not condemn John's questions. Instead, Jesus met each of them with compassion, mercy, and grace. The same Christ who welcomed them welcomes us. In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. In Jesus Christ, our fears need not define us. In Jesus Christ, grace is greater than our doubts. Believe the good news: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free. Amen.**

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

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Hymn of Preparation (#48 Blue Book)                      There is a Balm in Gilead  
*\*Please remain seated*

Prayer for Illumination  
Scripture Reading                      Luke 7:1-23

The Word of God, for the People of God!  
**Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

**RESPONDING TO GOD**

Offertory                      My Shepherd Will Supply My Need                      arr. Gilbert Martin  
*(My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is His name:  
in pastures green He makes me feed beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake His ways;*

and leads me for His mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.)

Elizabeth Hyde, flute

\*Doxology  
\*Prayer of Dedication

Tune (Old Hundreth)

\*Affirmation of Faith

Communion Hymn (Insert) Bread of Heaven, On Thee We Feed  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper  
Communion Prayer, Prayers of The People, and The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

\*Closing Hymn (#417 Blue Book) Just As I Am, Without One Plea  
\*Benediction

Postlude Diapason Movement (from a voluntary) Green  
**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

Office Administrator: Kimberly Rembis [urc352@verizon.net](mailto:urc352@verizon.net)

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