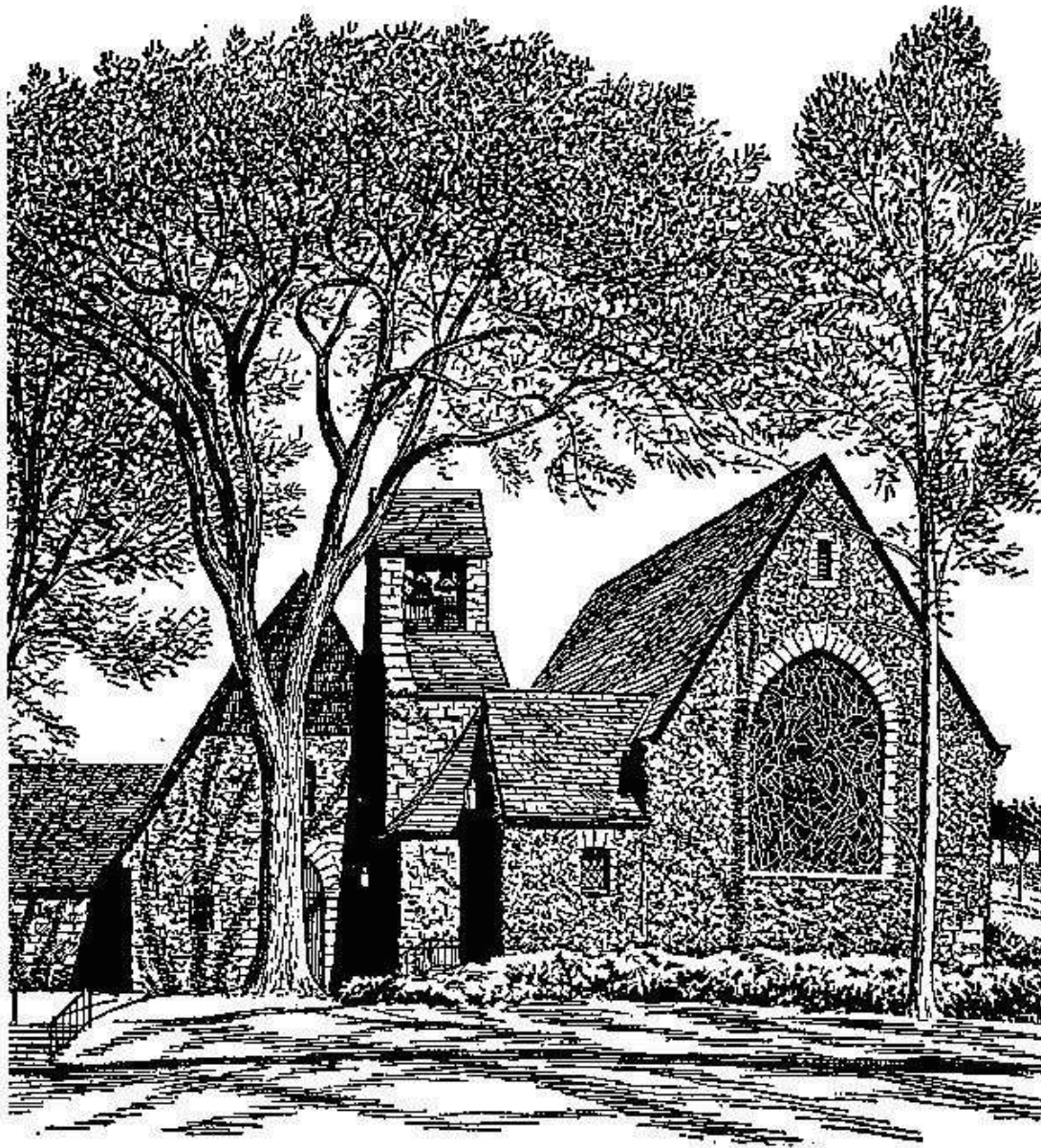


Union Church of Pocantico Hills

AUGUST 23, 2026

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



REV. PATRICIA CALAHAN - *PASTOR*
VICTORIA SHIELDS - *GUEST ORGANIST*
SARAH NELSON - *DEACON*
BETH COFFMAN - *USHER*
LIZ STRASSER - *HOST*



WELCOME TO UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

We are delighted to welcome all new guests today! – May your time in worship today be enriching and uplifting. We would like to get to know you better. Please help us by completing the welcome card and placing it on the offering plate. We look forward to welcoming you later in the week.

We offer programs for all children, ensuring there is a way for everyone to connect and feel at home. We provide Childcare services for younger children and Sunday School for children ages 5 to 12.

Please ask an usher to direct you to our childcare team.

Communion is served on the first Sunday and select services. All children will join us for communion.

As our worship is streamed online, we encourage thoughtful discretion when submitting prayer intentions.

Devotionals available – Daily devotionals by Upper Room are available on the literature rack in the Parish Hall. Please pick one up for your own spiritual practice.

Hearing assistance devices are available – please speak with an usher and they will be happy to assist with providing one for you.

FISH STORIES

Have you ever noticed that the Gospel stories are a little “fishy?” They aren’t fishy in the sense of smelling a little funny or carrying other “fishy” overtones. The Gospels simply contain many significant stories involving fish. In fact, the fish became an early symbol of Christianity. Join us for a fun series featuring Gospel stories involving fish!

We invite you to stay after the service for Fellowship Hour and join us for coffee/tea in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to share, connect, and enjoy the refreshments.

Scan or Touch the QR Code



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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.

* Please stand as you are able. *

THE GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

Improvisation of Service Music Themes

THE STRIKING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Florence Price

"Adoration" from *Short Organ Works, Vol. 2*

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (BOLD IN UNISON)

Rejoice, people of God! Jesus is in our midst.

Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.

Be glad, friends! Jesus has bread and fish to spare.

**Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food
that does not satisfy.**

Sing for joy, God's Beloved!

**God gathers up the pieces of our lives,
that nothing may be lost.**

Thanks be to God!

*HYMN 482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty!

LOBE DEN HERREN

CHILDREN'S TIME

Children will now be escorted by our Children's Ministry Staff

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Leo John Garcia, son of Amanda and Jonathan Garcia

Godparents: Brianna and Thomas Cunningham

PRAYER AFTER BAPTISM

Almighty God, Giver of Life: you have called us by name and promised to love us faithfully. Watch over this, your child, and guide him as he grows in faith. Help him to grow in love and concern for all people and enable him to become a true disciple of Jesus Christ. We pray also for his parents, Amanda and Jonathan. Help them to love this child with your love and to raise him to faithfully live out that love, keeping ever before them the example of Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abundant grace,
you set a table wider than the ones we would set for ourselves.

**You see people we overlook,
welcome people we keep at a distance,
and cross boundaries we have learned not to cross.**

Forgive us when we imagine your gifts are meant only for us.
**Forgive us when we worry that welcoming others will leave too little,
when we guard what we have rather than asking whom it might nourish,
and when we forget the wideness of your compassion.**

Open our eyes to the people around us.
**Teach us to trust your abundance,
to share what has been placed in our hands,
and to make room at the table until all are fed.**
Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The good news is that even if we at first do not hear the divine word addressed to us, God calls again and again. Friends, believe good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymnal 464 (stanza one)

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

**Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the gloom of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Mark 8:1-10 (NRSVUE)

8 In those days when there was again a great crowd without anything to eat, he called his disciples and said to them, ² "I have compassion for the crowd because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. ³ If I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way—and some of them have come from a great distance." ⁴ His disciples replied, "How can one feed these people with bread here in the desert?" ⁵ He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven." ⁶ Then he ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground, and he took the seven loaves, and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to his disciples to distribute, and they distributed them to the crowd.

⁷ They had also a few small fish, and after blessing them he ordered that these, too, should be distributed. ⁸ They ate and were filled, and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. ⁹ Now there were about four thousand people. And he sent them away. ¹⁰ And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"A Feast of Leftovers"

Rev. Patricia Calahan

*HYMN 367

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

CHEREPONI

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Digital plate offering is available on page two (2)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Florence Price

Air, from Suite No. 1

*THE PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

Hymn 592

Festal Doxology

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**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

We invite you to pray using words (debts/debtors, trespasses, sins) that feel comfortable to you.

SENDING

***HYMN 376**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Florence Price

"Festal March" from Short Organ Works, Vol. 2

**Congregation standing*



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

www.UnionChurchPH.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TODAY AT CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00AM CHILDCARE 10:00AM – 11:00AM
FELLOWSHIP HOUR AFTER WORSHIP

EVERY THURSDAY

PRIVATE GROUP MEETING 6:30pm - 8:00pm

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

JAZZ SUNDAY & POCANTICO HILLS PICNIC

Sunday, September 13 10:00am to 3:00 pm

Join us for Sunday Service with jazz and original music by Ike Sturm and Arta Jekabsone in the Sanctuary. Followed by a picnic on the church lawn, co-hosted with The Church of the Magdalene.



UNION CHURCH CHILDREN'S CHOIR PROGRAM (NEW)

Open to all children | Grades K-6 | Director: Dr. Katia Kravitz

Rehearsals will be on Fridays from 5:00pm to 5:45pm

(except for the first Friday of the month)

First Rehearsal: Friday, October 9th

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

The new Sunday School year begins on Sunday, September 20! We look forward to welcoming our children back and meeting some new faces. Whether you are a returning family or joining us for the first time, please register your child for the upcoming Sunday School year. We can't wait to learn and grow together!



BENEFIT CONCERT TO SUPPORT YOUNG MUSICIANS

Sunday, September 27, 2026, 3 PM

A special Jazz Performance by Musicians from the SUNY Purchase Music Conservatory

Zen Lee, bass | **William Hsu**, drums | **Eric Waters**, tenor saxophone | **Coyne Connolly**, piano

A concert for a great cause!

Enjoy an afternoon of jazz while helping talented students from Sleepy Hollow High School receive musical instruction and opportunities.

Please consider including an additional donation with your ticket purchase.



UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

555 Bedford Road Tarrytown, NY 10591 | 914.631.2069 | www.UnionChurchPH.org

Office Hours: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM (Tuesday to Friday)

(Pastor's Day off – Monday)

Rev. Patricia Calahan, Pastor

Cell: 914.984.9135

Pastor@UnionChurchPH.org

CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Katia Kravitz

Music Director & Organist

Music@UnionChurchPH.org

Gerianne Bittlingmaier

Bookkeeper

Accounting@UnionChurchPH.org

Natasha Krishnani,

Office Manager & Director of Events

Office@UnionChurchPH.org

Benjamin Unger

Livestream

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Nancy Demirci, *Sunday School Teacher*

Childcare Aides

Caitlin Chiong and Adele Dziugelis

SundaySchool@UnionChurchPH.org

LUMINA ARTS AT

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

Lumina Arts Committee

LuminaArts@UnionChurchPH.org

www.instagram.com/luminaartspocantico/

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