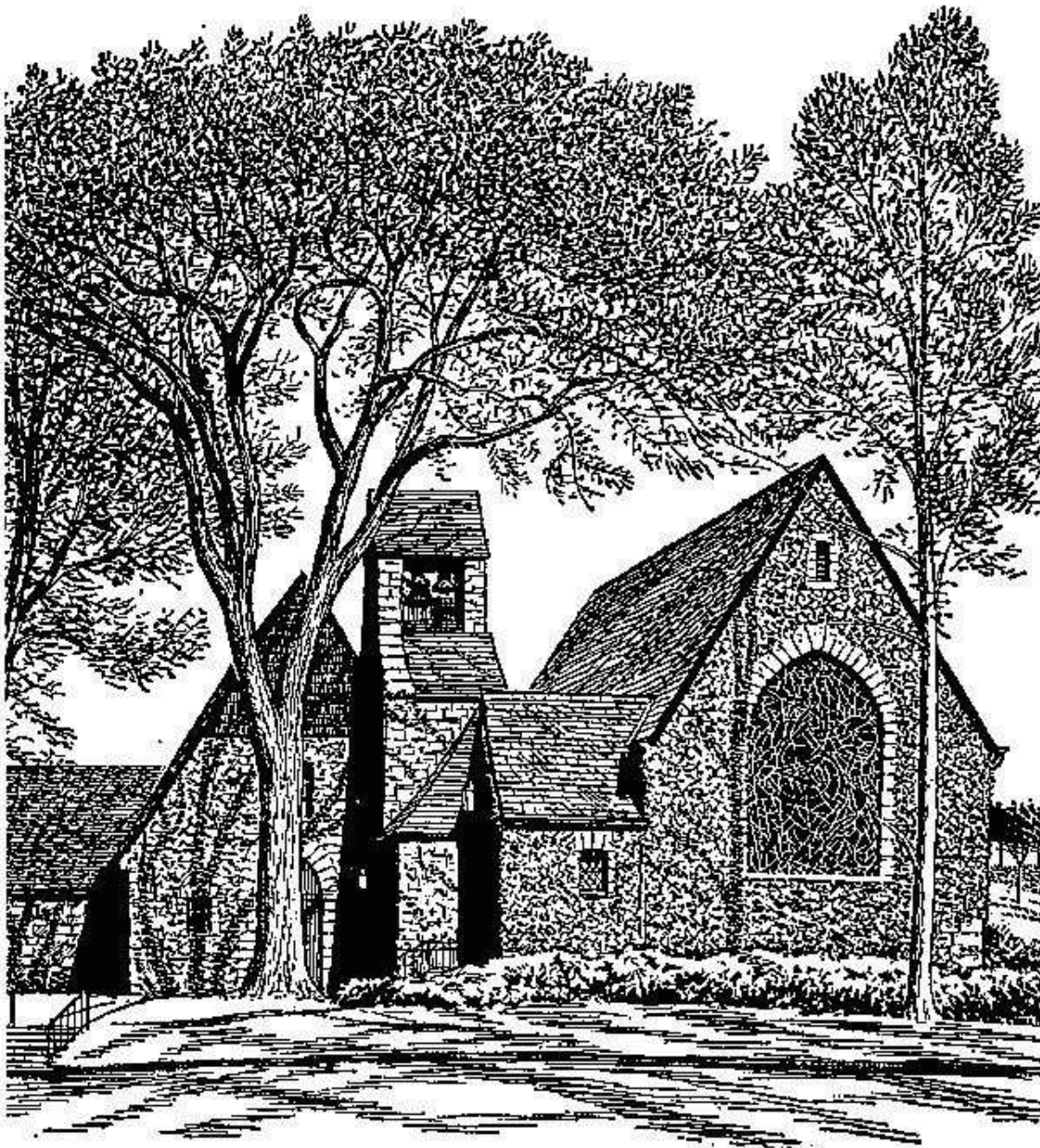


Union Church of Pocantico Hills

OCTOBER 25, 2026

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



REV. PATRICIA CALAHAN - *PASTOR*

DR. KATIA KRAVITZ - *MUSIC DIRECTOR & ORGANIST*

SARAH RODRIQUEZ - *DEACON*

BETH COFFMAN - *USHER*

KIM AND GREG PERRY - *HOSTS*



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.

GOSPEL = GOOD NEWS!

The word “Gospel” actually means “Good News!” Christianity begins with good news about what God has done and an invitation to live within the future God is bringing. This fall, we will explore some of the questions at the heart of Christian faith:

- Who is the God Jesus reveals?
- Why did Jesus die?
- What does resurrection mean?
- What are we saved for?
- Why church?
- What about “the others?”

Together, we will listen for the ways Scripture unsettles inherited answers, enlarges our understanding, and invites us into lives of grace, hope, reconciliation, and love.

Ephesians 2:8-10

“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”

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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

Georg Friederich Kaufmann (1679-1735)

Nun danket alle Gott

INTROIT

MADRID

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP (BOLD IN UNISON)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

We come to find courage and hope in God.

God's love frees us to meet each day with faith.

Open our eyes to the possibilities before us.

God's love frees us to care for one another.

Open our hearts to our neighbors, near and far.

Come, let us worship the God who sets us free.

With grateful hearts, we lift our voices in praise.

*HYMN 260

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

EIN FESTE BURG

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you have freed us to love you and one another. Yet we so often live as though we are still captive. Fear governs our choices. Resentment holds our attention. We follow familiar patterns that hurt our neighbors and diminish our own lives.

Forgive us, Lord. Open our eyes to the freedom you have already given us. Help us see ourselves and our neighbors as people you love. Loosen our grip on old grievances. Give us courage to act with compassion, to seek justice, and to delight in one another.

Reform your church, and renew our trust in your grace, that we may live freely and joyfully in your love. Through Jesus Christ. 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**

For the Beauty of the Earth

Hymn 473 (vs. 1)

DIX

**For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies
Lord of all to Thee we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 116:1-9 (NRSVUE)

- ¹ I love the Lord because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.
- ² Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
- ³ The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
- ⁴ Then I called on the name of the Lord,
"O Lord, I pray, save my life!"
- ⁵ Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is merciful.
- ⁶ The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
- ⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.
- ⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling.
- ⁹ I walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.

SECOND LESSON

1 John 4: 7-21 (NRSVUE)

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹ God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴ And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. ¹⁵ God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. ¹⁶ So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. ¹⁷ Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸ There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹ We love because he first loved us. ²⁰ Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. ²¹ The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

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

"Saved for What?"

Rev. Patricia Calahan

***HYMN 335**

"Though I May Speak"

O WALY WALY

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Dawn Lorenz

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Digital plate offering is available on page two (2)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

We Stand in Righteousness

Music by Rachel Currea text by Ed Baker

***THE PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS**

Festal Doxology

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**

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**

"We are Called"

INSERT

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott

**Congregation standing*



Stewardship Celebration and Luncheon Sunday, November 8 With All • 2027 Stewardship Campaign

Join us on Sunday, November 8, for our Stewardship Celebration and Luncheon! During worship, we will present our pledge cards together as an offering of gratitude and commitment to the ministry we share. Afterward, we will gather for a luncheon to celebrate the life of Union Church and all that our gifts make possible.

Please prayerfully consider your pledge for 2027 and bring your completed card on November 8. Every pledge helps us plan for the year ahead and sustain our worship, music, children's programs, and service to our neighbors. There is a place for everyone to participate.

You are welcome to return your card early. We will include it in the presentation on your behalf so that all our pledges are offered together.

Let's celebrate the gifts we bring and the ministry we make possible together!

749 Come! Live in the Light! We Are Called

G C D G

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that

C D Em

joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
great day when all will be one! God will reign,

Em7 C G Am7

to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and

G C Dsus D

free - dom of the cit - y of God.
vio - lence will be no more.
broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain G C D C D G C

We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to

D Em Em7 C D

love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -

C D G C D C G

oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"



UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

This Week

October 25 – 31, 2026



SUN
OCT 25

Worship Service

10:00 AM

Sunday School

Chagall's Closet Annual Sale

11:30 AM – 3:00 PM

WED
OCT 28

Zoom Bible Study

7:00 – 8:00 PM

We study the scripture text that will be used in worship the following Sunday. Email Natasha to be added to the email list.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, November 1 – All Saints' Day

We will honor those in our church family who have passed between now and November 2025.

Sunday, November 8 – Stewardship Celebration & Lunch

Bring your pledge cards to worship or mail them in and with all we will celebrate.

Saturday, November 14 – Encaustic Painting, Level I

11:30 AM – 3:00 PM. An introduction to Encaustic Painting through playful, guided exercises. \$175, all materials included. To register:

Sarah@radicallyhuman.com

Sunday, November 15 – Johnny Gandelsman Concert

3:00 PM. Tickets are available on our website.

Questions? Contact the church office at office@unionchurchph.org



LUMINA ARTS PRESENTS

Johnny Gandelsman

Solo Concert · Violin

SUN, NOV 15, 2026 • 3 PM • \$25 / \$30

Union Church of Pocantico Hill

Get tickets:

lumina-arts-union-church-of-pocantico-hill.square.site



UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

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(Pastor's Day off – Monday)

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Childcare Aides

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LUMINA ARTS AT

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

Lumina Arts Committee

LuminaArts@UnionChurchPH.org

www.instagram.com/luminaartspocantico/

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