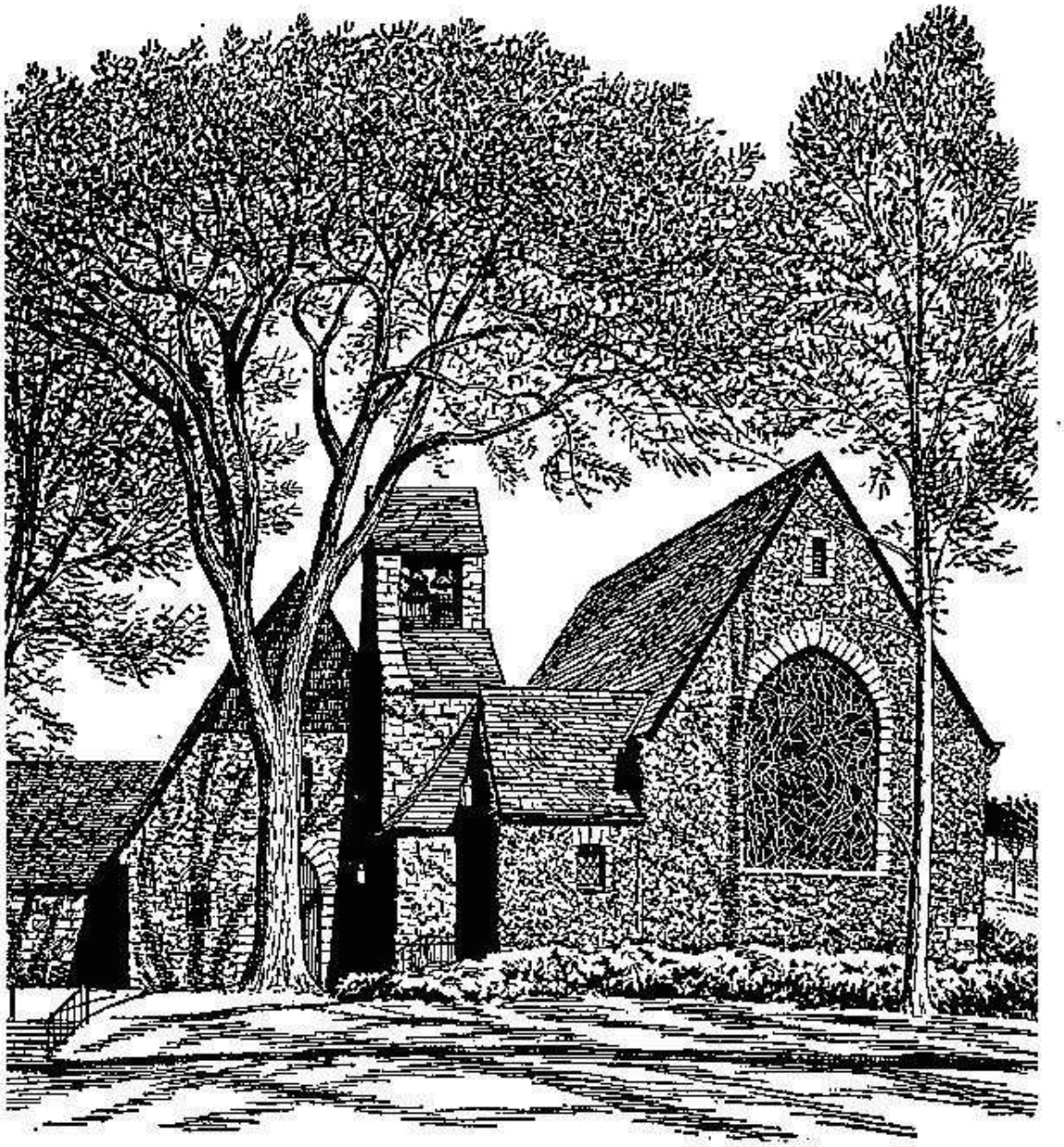
Union Church of Pocantico Hills

NOVEMBER 15, 2026

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



REV. PATRICIA CALAHAN - *PASTOR*

DR. KATIA KRAVITZ – *MUSIC DIRECTOR & ORGANIST*

KIM PERRY - *DEACON*

GREG PERRY – *USHER*

ROBIN & ROBERT LYNCH

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."

Scan or Touch the QR Code

GIVE

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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 Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Schmücke dich, O liebe Seele

INTROIT
Blessed Jesu, At Your Word

WELCOME

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (BOLD IN UNISON) Psalm 100 NRSVUE

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.

[5]For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever
and his faithfulness to all generations.

***HYMN** "What Is This Place" INSERT

CHILDREN'S TIME
Children will now be escorted by our Children's Ministry Staff

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God,
You call us together and make us your people.
You welcome us into your household
and invite us to make room for one another.
Yet we confess that we often prefer to go our own way.
We build walls where you would open doors.
We are quick to notice our differences
and slow to recognize your image in one another.
We forget that you have called us not only to receive your love,
but to embody that love in the world.

Forgive us, O God.
Open our hearts to one another.
Teach us to welcome as you welcome,
to forgive as you forgive,
and to love as you love.
Continue your good work among us,
until we become, together,
a dwelling place for your Spirit.
In Jesus' name we pray. 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

Hymn 473 (vs. 1)

For the Beauty of the Earth 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 Mark 3:13-19 (NRSVUE)

13 He went up the mountain and called to him those whom he wanted, and they came to him. 14 And
he appointed twelve to be with him and to be sent out to preach 15 and to have authority to cast out
demons. 16 So he appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), 17 James son of
Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of
Thunder), 18 and Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son
of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Cananaean, 19 and Judas Iscariot, who handed him over.

SECOND LESSON Ephesians 2:19-22 (NRSVUE)

19 So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also
members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with
Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; 21 in him the whole structure is joined together and grows
into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place
for God.

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 "Why Church?" Rev. Patricia Calahan

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN 438** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" DENNIS

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Digital plate offering is available on page two (2)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Christopher Tye

O come, ye servants of the Lord

***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

SENDING

***HYMN 343** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" BEECHER

BLESSING

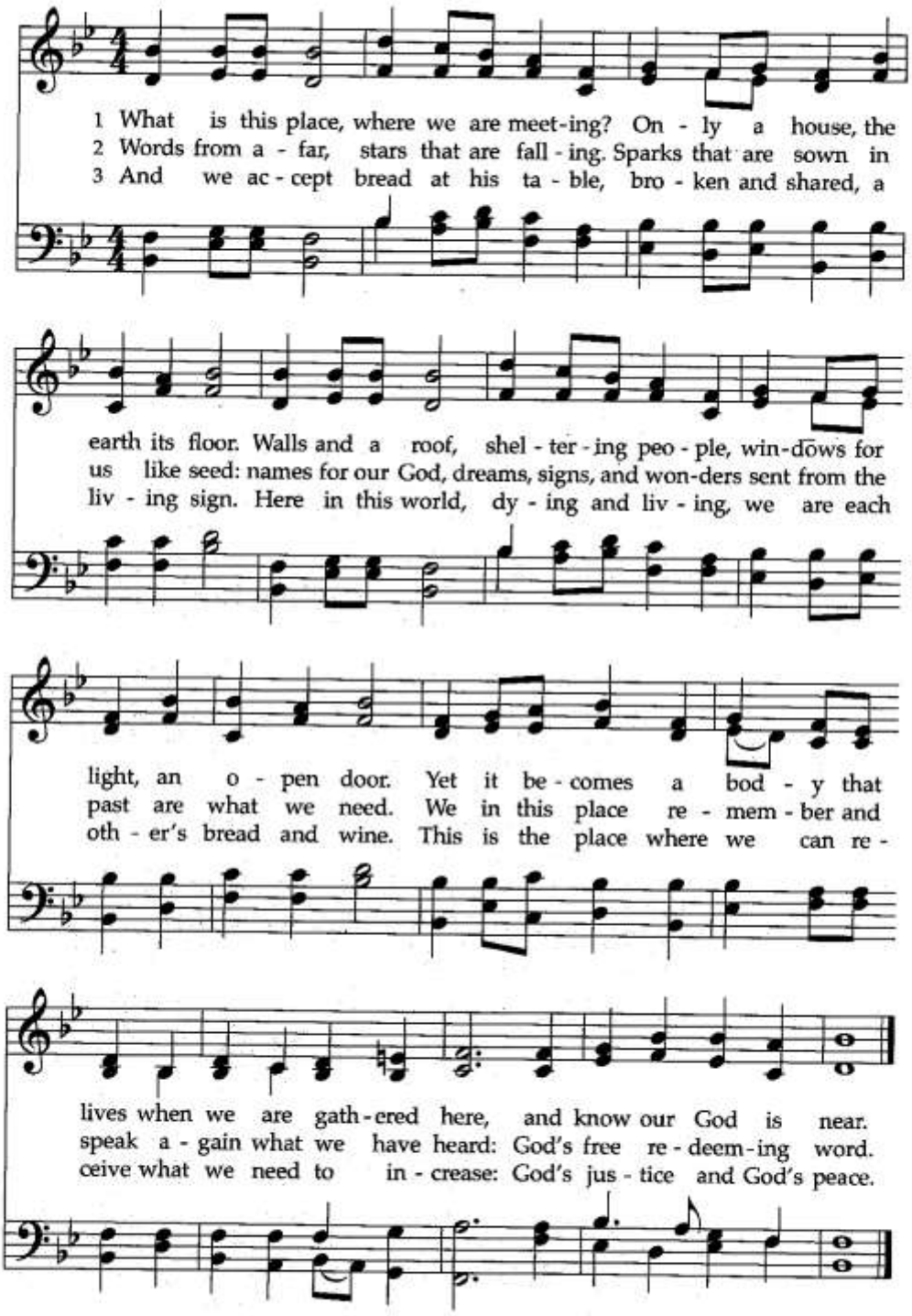
POSTLUDE William Hine (1687-1730)

Flute Piece

**Congregation standing*

GATHERING

404 What Is This Place



This text by a 20th-century Jesuit beautifully captures the fundamental truth that "church" is not primarily the building but the people who come together in order to be nourished by Word and Table so that they may show forth Christ's redeeming presence in the world.

TEXT: Huub Oosterhuis, 1968; trans. David Smith, 1970
MUSIC: *Neder-landtsch Gedenck-Clanck*, 1626; harm. Bernard Huijbers, 1968
KOMT NU MET ZANG
9.8.9.8.9.6.6
Text and Music Harm. © 1967 Gool En Stichl, Bv, Baarn, The Netherlands (admin. OCP for English-language countries)

UNION CHURCH OF POCANTICO HILLS

This Week

November 15 – 21, 2026

SUN NOV 15

Worship Service and Sunday School

10:00 AM

Johnny Gandelsman Concert

3:00 PM

Doors open 2:30 PM. Tickets $25 advance purchase / $30 at the door. Scan the QR code to purchase tickets.

WED NOV 18

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chagall's Closet

Saturday & Sunday, November 21 & 22, 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Inviting all Treasure Hunters for the last weekend at Chagall's Closet Thrift Boutique Sale.

Holy Dreams, Visions and Imaginations

Begin Advent together on Sunday, Nov. 29

Join Joe Fusaro, Artist in Residence, after worship for a collage-making workshop during Fellowship Hour.

Questions? Contact the church office: 914-631-2069 | 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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LUMINA ARTS AT
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Lumina Arts Committee
LuminaArts@UnionChurchPH.org
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