

United Presbyterian Church

August 30, 2026

14th Sunday after Pentecost



"Turn around and believe that the good news that we are loved is better than we ever dared hope, and that to believe in that good news, to live out of it and toward it, to be in love with that good news, is of all glad things in this world the gladdest thing of all." ~Frederick Buechner

Sunday Worship

10:00 am

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

330 Fifth Avenue Southwest, Albany, OR 97321

Phone: (541) 926-5551

www.upcalbany.org

We Gather in God's Name

Prelude

"Fantasy in A Minor"

by J.S. Bach

*You are invited to make the transition from getting here to being here. Be still and know that God is God.
We are claimed by Christ in the waters of baptism; the light of Christ shines in our lives and in the world.*

**Welcome &
Announcements**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

+ Invitation to Worship

However far we have wandered from God,
God finds us and gathers us in love.
However broken we have become,
God heals us and makes us whole in hope.
However empty our spirits may be,
God feeds us until we are filled with grace.
Let us draw near by faith,
And let us worship God.

+ Gathering Song 366

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

We Offer Our Gratitude

Community Prayer

We give you thanks and praise, O God, for the greatness of your love.
Like a potter at the wheel, you created every part of us, shaping us in
secret in the hidden depths. You read our inmost thoughts and desires
and keep your hand upon us, reshaping us whenever we allow ourselves
to become misshapen through our allegiance to those who do not walk
in your ways. Loving and creative God, make us the people you want us
to be and help us to follow in the path of Christ Jesus each day,
proclaiming your saving love in all that we say and do. Amen.

*Silent prayer and reflection***Sung Response 627**

"I love You, Lord"

**+ Sharing the Peace
of Christ**

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

As you are willing and able, please greet one another with signs of peace.

We Listen & Receive

Time with Children

*Children of all ages are invited to come forward.
Nursery and Children's Worship info is on the back of the bulletin.*

Scripture Reading

1 John 3:11-24
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Stick with What's Good"

Brandon Lewis

We Respond to God's Grace

Hymn 630

"Fairest Lord Jesus"

Invitation to Give

*We are grateful for the gifts of time, talent, and treasure that you share.
We offer each person an opportunity to connect with giving by placing at least one \$1 in the offering plate.
As we give faithfully, each faithful \$1 will bless the ministry of UPC.*

Offertory

"His Eye is on the Sparrow"

by Mark Hayes

Presentation of Gifts & Hymn 628

"Praise, I Will Praise You, Lord" (Verses 1-2)

Sharing Joys & Concerns

*At the conclusion of spoken joys and concerns, let us pray together:
God, in your grace,
Hear our prayer.*

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

We Are Sent in God's Love

+ Closing Song 547

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

+ Benediction

Postlude

"Taccatina"

by G. Landelli

Welcome

We are delighted that you have added to the joy of worship this morning at United Presbyterian Church. We proclaim that ALL people are created in the image of God and affirm that each person is a beloved child of God, worthy of God's love and grace. We welcome all, celebrating our differences while finding unity in Jesus Christ. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey - whatever grief, joy, or doubts you may bring today—you are welcome here.

Announcements

August's Shopping Cart Mission: Our mission again this month is for the **The Children's Place**. They have made out their wish list with a QR code so watch for all the items they listed on the slides this morning. Please place the items in the shopping cart next to the elevator. **Thank you!!!**

Upcoming Events

Sunday	August 30
10:00 a.m.	Worship
11:15 a.m.	Deacons Meeting
Monday	August 31
6:00 p.m.	ACT Practice
Wednesday	September 2
6:00 p.m.	Family Aging Support Group
Friday	September 4
9:00 a.m.	Tabitha's Sewing Society

Serving Today

Thank you to all who served in worship today.

Liturgist — Jim Cole

Ushers — Colleen and Andy Nelson, Peter Troedsson and Jackie Deeds.

Coffee Hour—Dessert Potluck

Children's Programs—Logan Breese, Denise Alejandre and Aleena Chapell

Children's Programs

We are thrilled that you have chosen to bring your family to worship with ours! We believe children soak up the love of God even when they draw and color, read and create, or rest their head in your lap. Please feel welcome to visit our Children's Space located in the Round Room in the back of the sanctuary.

Children's Nursery (Age 0 – 4 yrs)

This is open for infants to 4 years old. In this age, we help guide these curious minds in play and encourage exploration in their environment.

Godly Play (Age 5 – 9 yrs)

Godly play is for children 5 - 9 years old. This is where the children learn about God through stories and explore their own thoughts by having free choice of activities that include a variety of crafts, art, song, and games.

Creative Minds (10 yrs +)

This program is for the youth 10 years old and up. Creative minds uses a combination of technology, art media, games, and service projects to explore our relationship with God, and to encourage one another to grow in our faith, spirituality, and community.

Local Outreach / Ways to Serve

Linn Benton Food Share—Packing boxes of food for families who suffer from food insecurities. The next time will be **Thursday, September 24th at 5:00 - 7:00 pm** at the Linn Benton Food Share Warehouse, 33900 Looney Ln., Tangent, OR 97389.

Prayers & Praise

Please send prayers of comfort and healing for:

*Greg and Linda Anable
Beverly Beckendorf and her daughter, Emily
Nancy Goode
Nancy Lochner
Linda Kleven*

CHURCH STAFF

Brandon Lewis, Pastor
Tami Van Ras, Pastoral Assistant
Sienna Bogart, Director of The Children's Place
Meredith Hanson, Children's Ministries Director
Deborah Beier, Office Manager
Kason Stevens, Facilities-Manager
Andrea Recek, Pianist
Tao Li, Organist
Logan Breese and Greg Sutton, Bus Drivers