

(Portions of today's liturgy were adapted from "The Book of Common Worship," Westminster John Knox Press, 2018. We are also grateful to Imani Fellowship (Vallejo, CA) and West Cincinnati Presbyterian Church for access to past worship resources, courtesy of Rev. Tinsley. The Charge is taken from Rev. Thom Shuman's Sending Words in his Lectionary Liturgies for this Sunday in the lectionary cycle. Used by permission. Daily Readings from Vanderbilt Lectionary. Cover art: Created using AI 082526)

**College Hill Community Church
(Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.)
1547 Philadelphia Dr.
Dayton, OH 45406
937-278-4203**

On the web at collegehillcommunitychurch.org and on Facebook

Daily Lectionary Readings

- **Monday, September 07, 2026:**
[Psalm 119:65-72](#); [Leviticus 4:27-31](#); [5:14-16](#); [1 Peter 2:11-17](#);
- **Tuesday, September 08, 2026:**
[Psalm 119:65-72](#); [Deuteronomy 17:2-13](#); [Romans 13:1-7](#);
- **Wednesday, September 09, 2026:**
[Psalm 119:65-72](#); [Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-28](#); [Matthew 21:18-22](#);
- **Thursday, September 10, 2026:**
[Psalm 103:8-13](#); [Genesis 37:12-36](#); [1 John 3:11-16](#);
- **Friday, September 11, 2026:**
[Psalm 103:8-13](#); [Genesis 41:53-42:17](#); [Acts 7:9-16](#);
- **Saturday, September 12, 2026:**
[Psalm 103:8-13](#); [Genesis 45:1-20](#); [Matthew 6:7-15](#);

Land Acknowledgement

We are on land that was faithfully stewarded and kept by indigenous people for countless generations. We honor and acknowledge that the following Nations and Tribes were present in the area now known as Montgomery County: Chippewa; Delaware; Eel River (Miami); Kaskaskia (Miami, Peoria); Kickapoo; Miami; Ottawa; Piankishaw (Miami, Peoria); Potawatomi; Shawnee; Wea (Peoria); and Wyandot. We acknowledge that the land was taken from these people with violence and without treaty. We recognize, too, that this was often done under cover of Christianity and the doctrine of discovery, which we renounce. We lament the misuse of our religion to oppress and kill. We honor the Indigenous people's ongoing work for recognition and their fight to recover that relationship with the land that has been so damaged by centuries of violence and oppression. We also want to acknowledge that as we continue to honor the land and her people, we have amongst us who are indigenous people displaced from other places. We care and acknowledge them in this statement of joy.



COLLEGE HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

(PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U.S.A.)

1547 Philadelphia Drive Dayton, Ohio 45406

“Serving the God who loves and values all.”

ORDER OF SERVICE

September 6, 2026

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE José LaMont Jones **ACOLYTE** Emilia Zagal

GATHERING PRAYER: In Unison

Lord our God, we thank you today for the hope, the wonder, and the awesome nature of another day of life. We thank you too for your great goodness and grace. We praise you for your love and mercy. O God, we are just shouting and lifting your name up in adoration because you have so graciously chosen to walk with us and you have seen fit to call us together, in unity and in community, as your people, the sheep of your flock. Please join today in this worship space. May your Spirit fall fresh on us, and give us your peace. For we pray all this in the powerful name of our Savior and Liberator, Jesus. Amen and Asé.

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN *We’ve Come This Far by Faith (insert)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,

People: who turns the rock into a pool of water, the flint into a spring of water. (Ps. 114:7, 8)

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

People: the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

Leader: the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

All: the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes. (Ps.19 7, 8) Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time on and forevermore. (Ps. 113:2)

ANOUNCEMENTS

Leader: College Hill Community Church seeks to serve God in all that we do, and in how we live our lives. These are weekly announcements describing some of our faithful actions as God’s people.

PCUSA Restructures, Lays Off 12 Staff Amid Membership Loss



PCUSA Headquarters Building in Louisville, Kentucky.
photo credit: PCUSA

The Presbyterian Church (USA) has undertaken significant restructuring, resulting in the termination of 12 national staff members, due to ongoing challenges with declining membership and donations. The PCUSA, like many religious groups in the United States, has faced significant membership decline over the past two decades. According to the PCUSA Office of the General Assembly's annual statistics report released in May last year, the denomination had approximately 1.140 million members in 2022, a sharp decline from around 2.5 million members in 2000. It first dropped below 2 million members in 2011. In a bid to address its future positioning, the A Corporation board, serving as the corporate entity for the PCUSA General Assembly, considered the option of selling the denomination's headquarters located in downtown Louisville, Kentucky. The Presbyterian Center, as it's known, became home to the PCUSA leadership following a merger in 1983. Communications Director Rick Jones previously informed The Christian Post that the potential sale is part of “a conversation about the long-term future” of the Church, noting, however, that “no decision has been made about what the future might be” for the Center. <https://www.christianitydaily.com/news/pcusa-restructures-lays-off-12-staff-amid-membership-loss.html>

Session		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Stan Hirtle	Larry Hollar	José Jones
Jacqueline McKenzie	Obie Harris	Ivy Young
Board of Deacons		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Marcus Johnson	Pat Townsel	Bernetha Pulliam
Diann Harris	Marjorie Baker	MacArthur Lakes
Clerk of Session		
Ivy Young		

Refrain: We've come this far by faith,
Leaning on the Lord;
Trusting in His holy word,
He's never failed us yet.
Oh, can't turn around,
We've come this far by faith.

1. Don't be discouraged when trouble's in your life,
He'll bear your burdens and move all misery and strife.

That's why we've...

(Repeat Refrain above)

2. Just the other day I heard someone say
He didn't believe in God's word;
But I can truly say that God had made a way,
And He's never failed us yet.

That's why we've...

(Repeat Refrain above, and then repeat ending drawing from
Refrain)



1 I once was lost in sin but Jesus took me in,
And then a little light from heaven filled my soul;
It bathed my heart in love and wrote my name above,
And just a little talk with Jesus made me whole.
Refrain: (Now let us) Have a little talk with Jesus,
(Let us) Tell him all about our troubles,
(He will) Hear our faintest cry,
(And he will) answer by and by;

(Now when you) Feel a little prayer wheel turning,
(And you) know a little fire is burning,
(You will) Find a little talk with Jesus
Makes it right (makes it right).

2. Sometimes my path seems drear, without a ray of cheer,
And then a cloud of doubt may hide the light of day;
The mists of sin may rise and hide the starry skies,
But just a little talk with Jesus clears the way.
(Repeat Refrain above)

3. I may have doubts and fears, my eyes be filled with tears,
But Jesus is a friend who watches day and night;
I go to him in prayer, He knows my ev'ry care,
And just a little talk with Jesus makes it right.
(Repeat Refrain above, twice)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION LEADERS ANNOUNCE PLANS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHOIR ANTHEM *Lord, Help Me to Hold Out*

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: *The proof of God's amazing love is this: while we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Christ, we dare to approach God with confidence. (Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16) Let us admit our sins before God.*

All: Holy and merciful God, we acknowledge and confess before you our sinful nature and our shortcomings. You alone know how often we have sinned, in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, and in forgetting your love. Lord, have mercy on us. We are sorry and ashamed for all we have done to displease you. Teach us to hate our errors. Cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins. Help us, O God, to live in your light and walk in your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A moment of silent reflection is kept

Leader: *Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ reigns in power for us. Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is gone, a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.*

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI PH 579

WELCOME TO ALL WORSHIPPING WITH US

Leader: *College Hill Community Church welcomes diversity in our worship and above all in the works of ministry that we do in our community and throughout the world. We welcome everyone to join in serving God and neighbor.*

Líder: *La Iglesia Comunitaria de College Hill acoge la diversidad en nuestro culto y, sobre todo, en las obras ministeriales que realizamos en nuestra comunidad y en todo el mundo. Invitamos a todos a unirse al servicio de Dios y al prójimo.*

Leader: *If you are worshipping with us for the first time today—or are back with us after a long time away—please share your name with us so we can welcome you.*

Lider: *Si usted está participando hoy en este servicio con nosotros por primera vez--o está de regreso con nosotros después de un largo tiempo fuera--por favor comparta su nombre con nosotros para que podamos darle la bienvenida.*

COLLECT PRAYER SHEETS AND PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: *If you have written out prayer requests on the sheets in your pews, the ushers will collect those requests now and they will be read during our prayer time.*

Lider: *Si usted ha preparado una oración escrita en los papeles en su banco, en este momento los ujieres vienen para recogerlas, y serán leídas durante el tiempo de oración.*

Leader: *Please stand now in body or in spirit and share the peace of Christ by saying: "The peace of Christ be with you." And in Spanish we say:*

Líder: "La paz de Cristo esté contigo."

Kiongozi: *And in Swahili we say: "Amani ya Kristo iwe nanyi."*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Exodus 12:1-14; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

SERMON: *"Love does no wrong to a neighbor"*

Rev. Dr. Charles D. Tinsley, IV

HYMN *Just a Little Talk with Jesus* (insert)

TOGETHER WE CONFIRM THE MISSION OF THIS CHURCH:

All: The mission of College Hill Community Church is
"Serving the God who loves and values all."

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right

hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY AND LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY PH 592

OFFERTORY PRAYER

CHOIR COMMUNION HYMN *Let Us Break Bread Together* PH513

THE LORD'S SUPPER

CHARGE

Líder: *Envíanos ahora, oh Dios, de dos en dos y de tres en tres, para ser la gracia y la compassion que el mundo necesita. Envíanos ahora, oh Jesús, solos y unidos, a trabajar por la justicia para todos los olvidados. Envíanos ahora, oh Espíritu, como tu pueblo, para llevar paz a las heridas que nos rodean.*

Todos: Amén.

Leader: *Send us out now, O God, in twos and threes to be the grace and compassion the world needs. Send us out now, O Jesus, alone and together, to work for justice for all the forgotten. Send us out now, O Spirit, as your people to bring peace to the brokenness around us.*

All: Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN *GO WITH GOD LBH 138*

POSTLUDE

"It is your concern when your neighbor's wall is on fire" --Horace