



Winchester UMC

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

APOSTLES

Love Boldly | Serve Joyfully | Lead Courageously

Winchester United Methodist Church

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WINCHESTER UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*A Lighthouse of Hope: Reaching, Sharing, Teaching,
Caring: United to Reflect God's Love to All!*

Gathering

Prelude & Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome & Connection

Centering Words

"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

– Joshua 1:9

Opening Prayer (Unison Prayer)

Holy and living God, you are Lord of heaven and earth, not confined to temples made by human hands, yet present with us now. You call us, like Paul, to step into unfamiliar places and speak your truth with courage and grace. Open our hearts and minds in this time of worship. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may see where you are already at work in the world and join you boldly. Send us out as your people, ready to lead courageously, love boldly, and serve joyfully, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Praise Video

"Driven by Love"

Lindy Cofer

*Prayer of Confession (Unison Prayer)

Gracious God, you have created us and called us to seek you, yet we confess we often stay silent when you ask us to speak. We cling to what is comfortable, rather than stepping out in courage. We overlook the places where you are already present, and miss opportunities to share your love. Forgive us our fear and hesitation. Renew us by your Spirit, that we may turn from our idols and follow you with boldness and trust. Lead us to live as your sent people, bearing witness to your grace in all we do. In silence, we confess the ways we have turned aside from your call...

*Silent Prayer & Assurance of Pardon

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Proclaiming God's Word

Children's Sermon

*Hymn *"God of Grace and God of Glory"* (UMH #577)

Scripture Acts 17:16-31

Sermon *"Lead Courageously"*

Responding to God's Word

Pastoral Prayer and

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us, not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Minute for Mission / Miracle Sunday Video

Offering

*Doxology (UMH #95)

*Prayer of Dedication

Living into God's Word

*Statement of Faith *"The Apostles Creed"* (UMH #882)

Celebration of Holy Communion

Sending Forth

*Hymn *"One Bread, One Body"* (UMH #620)

*Benediction

* Please stand if able

In Our Prayers

Terry Aossey, Michael Cody, Jade, Grandma Marta, Jackie Barber, Eric Gregory, Lanise Kirk, Jack Kunz, Braylee Littig, Megan Long Little, Pam Lower, Michael Ryan, Samara White, Friends in Area Nursing Centers, Friends who are Homebound, Those in the Military: Blake Clayton, Chris Dukett, Haley Westermayer, Kale Pollard, Christian Wells, and All who are Looking for Work.

Winchester UMC expresses their prayers of Sympathy to the Lyons Family in the Homecoming into heaven of Jo Lyons.

Worship Online

Our Sunday worship services can be viewed online:

- Website: winchesterilumc.org/multimedia
- YouTube: youtube.com/@winchesterillinoisunitedme213
- Facebook: facebook.com/winchesterumc

Online Giving



“If you’d like to make an offering electronically, you’re welcome to use the QR code provided. Regardless of how you choose to participate today, we’re grateful for your presence in worship.”