



Sunday, October 4, 2026

19th Sunday After Pentecost
World Communion Sunday



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

"And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God." — John 3:19-21

Opening Prayer (Unison Prayer)

God of truth and mercy, we come before you in a world that often feels broken, divided, and far from what you desire. Yet Micah reminds us that our world is not the first to wander from your ways. Open our hearts to hear your word, even when it challenges us. Give us courage to face what must be laid bare, faith to receive your judgment, and hope to trust that your mercy is still at work among us. Amen.

* Praise Video *"Lord, I Need You"* Matt Maher

*Prayer of Confession (Unison Prayer)

Merciful God, we confess that we are not simply victims of a broken world; we have sometimes helped to break it. We have ignored injustice, overlooked our neighbors, protected our own comfort, and remained silent when we should have spoken. We confess the ways our hearts have wandered from your justice and mercy. Lay bare what we would rather hide, and lead us toward repentance. 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 *"Softly and Tenderly"* verses 1,2,4 (UMH #348)

Scripture Micah 1:1-7a

Sermon *"Laid Bare"*

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

Offering

*Doxology (UMH #95)

*Prayer of Dedication

World Communion Sunday Celebration

Sending Forth

*Hymn *"Just as I Am"* verses 1,3,5,6 (UMH #357)

*Benediction

Postlude

* Please stand if able

In Our Prayers

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

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."