



JANUARY 4, 2026
COMMUNION SUNDAY



UNITED CHURCH
of **PITTSFORD**

American Baptist & United Methodist

Liturgist: Charlie Page

Music Director: Alan Murphy

Pastor: Reverend Julius David Jackson, Jr. (Pastor JD)

*A hearing loop is available for the hearing impaired.
Please ask the ushers if you need assistance.*

** Indicates: Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE

Musical Selection

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Acknowledgement of January Birthdays

***HYMN #64 (ALL)** Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

***PRAYER OF GATHERING** (*in unison*)

Gracious God, we commune with you as people gifted beyond imagination. Unfortunately, some gifts here in our realm have been hoarded, and the discovery of the missing gift has been kept a secret from those who weren't around when it was found under the tree skirt, in the wood pile stacked beside the fireplace, under the chair impossible to move, and often, therefore, ignored even during spring cleaning. So, not only does our bountiful world produce enough food to feed all people year by year, much of it misused. That all people on the face of the earth are not only your people but your chosen people loved unconditionally is a secret many prefer not to share; we keep some people in the dark spiritually because we hoard the news of the misplaced gift. May the path ahead for us be as clear as the crystal surrounding your throne. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE & ALL (*in unison*):

God showers each of us, and humanity as a whole, with and abundance of gifts. For eons, many of God's people lived as if only one group, one people, by chance designated "God's chosen people," were the intended primary recipients of divine love. We gather today to celebrate the world-changing realization that God's love in Christ is for all people everywhere. Oh come, let us adore him.

***UNISON PRAYER**

Gracious God, we confess that we have enjoyed being the insiders. Unbind our reluctance to share all things with all people. Thank you, loving God, for the privilege of changing our failings at any second. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1-6 NRSV

***MEDITATION HYMN#254 (1,2)**

We Three Kings

SCRIPTURE/MORNING MESSAGE

Matthew 2:1-12 NRSV

"FEAST OF THE KING"

Pastor Rev. Julius David Jackson, Jr.

***INVITATION HYMN#254 (3,4,5)**

We Three Kings

COMMUNION

***HYMN #491 (ALL)**

Remember Me

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

ONE: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

ONE: In remembrance of the mighty acts of Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

ALL: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

ONE: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

ONE: By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

ONE: And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

The Lord's Prayer (*Sung*)

***ALL ARE INVITED TO COME FORWARD TO
RECEIVE COMMUNION**

COMMUNION HYMN #618 (ALL)
Let Us Break Bread Together

***Response: Sing Hymn #71**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.

**MORNING PRAYERS/
SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Pastoral Prayer

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory *Musical Selection*

***Response: Sing Hymn #95**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Prayer: Dedication of Offering**

***UNISON READING of THE COVENANT OF THE
UNITED CHURCH OF PITTSFORD** *(Front Cover of Hymnal)*

***HYMN #557 (1 only)** Blest Be The Tie That Binds

***HYMN** AMEN

POSTLUDE *Musical Selection*

~ Those who are able may stand! ~

Announcements

Please join us for coffee hour in Howard Hall.

Today's Offering

Today's Communion offering goes to UCP's Pastor Emergency Fund.

- **What is the Pastor's Emergency Fund?**

People in need of emergency assistance come to UCP throughout the year. We most often help them with gas for their cars or with food not available at the Pittsford Food Cupboard. They sometimes have other needs which we can help with only in small amounts (rent, utilities, prescriptions, for instance). The only funds available for this emergency assistance come from the congregation's monthly offerings on Communion Sunday.

- **Do you give cash?**

We never give cash. We provide gift cards or write checks directly to a landlord, for instance (always arranged by phone first).

- **How do funds get handed out?**

The pastor makes these decisions. Confidential records are kept to account for how these funds are used.

Thank you for your generous spirit and desire to help people in need in our community.

Lectionary Texts for next week (January 11, 2026)

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalms 29

Acts 10:34 – 43

Matthew 3:13-17

CALENDAR

Wed., Jan. 14	MLK Event at UCP – 7 pm
Thurs., Jan. 15	UCP Council Meeting *New Date!
Thurs., Jan. 15	Pastor JD at Trillium “Lunch & Learn”
Fri., Jan. 16	Pastor JD Sermon at Temple Sinai
Sun., Jan. 18	UCP Annual Budget Meeting
Sun., Jan. 18	Rabbi Zohar and Temple Sinai Visit UCP
Mon., Jan. 19	King Day Celebration at Eastman 10 am
Wed, Jan. 21	MLK Event at UCP – 7 pm
Sun., Jan. 25	MLK Event at UCP – 3 pm
Sat., Jan. 31	Pastor JD Speaks at Nazareth Univ.
Sat., Jan. 31	PUNS Cleaning Day – 8 am to 5 pm
Sun., Feb 1	Annual Congregational Meeting



UNITED CHURCH
of PITTSFORD

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7



Scan this QR code with your cell phone to access UCP's secure giving page at ucpittsford.org/give. Once there, choose from the following funds:

For more ways to give, please see the **WAYS TO GIVE** card in the seatback.
Thank you for your support.

14 **7PM**
Jan

Mobile Museum of
Tolerance
Short Films & Discussion

21 **7PM**
Jan

Spoken Word
Performance & Open
Mic/Poetry Slam

25 **3PM**
Jan

Interfaith
Family Service

MLK Living the Dream Series



Presented by Pittsford COMMUNITY
All events held at:
123 S Main. Pittsford NY
pittsfordcommunity.org for more info

