

*The United Methodist Church  
12 Commerce Street  
Clinton, CT*



**February 8, 2026  
Annual Meeting**

## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

\*Please stand in body, and/or spirit

*We are blessed to have our District Superintendent, Rev. Heather A.M. Sinclair with us this morning. Continued prayers for Rev. Sinclair and her family (Husband Skip, and daughters Grace and Sophia). The altar flowers today are for Rev. Sinclair from the congregation.*

Welcome, Acknowledgements of first-time visitors and announcements

*Words to Ponder:*

*In the beginning God brought forth light out of the darkness. This light has shown throughout the centuries in the lives of prophets and teachers, young and old, and in the life of Christ. This light still shines today in you. Let your light shine!*

Introit

Chancel Choir

\*Call to Worship (Responsively)

Praise the Lord!

**Happy are those who delight in the Lord!**

We come to this place, where generations before us have gathered.

**Here we remember the light of God that shines in our lives.**

Here we allow God's light to shine through us.

**Let us worship our radiant God.**

Praise the Lord!

**Happy are we who delight in the Lord!**

\*Opening Hymn

“Guide Me, O thou Great Jehovah”

No. 127

Opening Prayer (Unison)

**Amazing God, you have gathered us from many places to come together and praise you this day. For this we are grateful!**

**As we worship today, may our minds be opened to learn your wisdom.**

**May our eyes be opened to places that need healing.**

**May our hands be opened to do your good work.**

**May our hearts be opened to your Holy Spirit, who gifts us and guides us.**

**In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.**

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, forgive us when we ignore you or your lessons for our lives.**

**Forgive us for allowing oppression and discord to flourish.**

**Forgive us for not feeding those who are hungry.**

**Forgive us for not providing shelter to those who have no place to lay down at night. Forgive us for not repairing the broken places in our community.**

**O Lord, forgive us and then help us do your work of bringing about justice and healing. Shine your light through us, so that all may come to know your abundant love.**

*Brief moment of silent confession*

Words of Assurance

When we call out to God, God is there to hear us. Know that your prayers have been heard. Now, receive the grace of God and live in God's abundant mercy.

1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading (New Testament)

1Corinthians 2:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Chancel Choir

Children's Moment

Rev. Heather A.M. Sinclair

\*2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading (Gospel)

Matthew 5:13-20

Leader: This is the Word of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

\*Hymn

"Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

No. 581

Sermon

"Be Briny and Bright"

Rev. Heather A.M. Sinclair

Offertory

\*Doxology

#95

\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**Liberating God, you call us to a fast not of silence, but of service; not of hiding, but of healing. You ask that our worship be more than words, that our offerings be more than ritual. Receive these gifts as signs of our willingness to share bread with the hungry, to break chains of injustice, to repair what is broken. May our generosity reflect your mercy and our living mirror your love. Use us and these gifts, so that light might rise in the darkness and hope take root where despair has reigned. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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.**

\*Closing Hymn

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

No. 664

Benediction/Going Forth

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

\*Response

“Bless Us Now”

Frank Milnes

Bless us now as we depart, watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again. Amen

Postlude



**Please join us after service for our Annual Meeting and Souper Bowl.**

**SUNDAY, FEB 8-Souper Bowl Sunday (Annual Meeting)**

9:00 Sunday School  
10:00 Worship  
11:00 Souper Bowl Sunday

**TUESDAY, FEB 10**

10:00 Clever Crafters  
7:00 Bible Study Online

**WEDNESDAY, FEB 11**

9:30 TOPS  
5:00 Community Supper  
7:00 Church Council Meeting Online

**THURSDAY, FEB 12**

10:00 Bible Study  
7:30 Choir

**FRIDAY, FEB 13**

5:30 AA meeting

***February 8th***

Ushers: Lyle Cubberly, Lynn Sellers, David Moore, Brian Piezcko

Camera Operator: Lisa Sutherland

Video Coordinator: Karin Thelin

Worship Leader: Jill Hale

Counters: Robin Patten and Wilda Lohutko

Lectionary scriptures: Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12), Psalm 112:1-9 (10) (UM833), 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16), Matthew 5:13-20

Sermon: DS Rev. Heather A.M. Sinclair

Annual Meeting Soup Luncheon (Souper Bowl)

Music/Choir Director: Bob Hale

Organist: Patty Hurlburt

***Office Staff***

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Treasurer: Carol Bell