

October 11, 2026



federated

live your faith

Sharing the Hum of Love

Romans 12:9-21

The Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins

Conference Minister, Heartland Conference

With the Installation of

The Rev. Michael A. Howard as Pastor and Teacher

**Gathered at Federated Church: 76 Bell Street
Chagrin Falls, OH 44022**

Also streaming live at [YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch](https://www.YouTube.com/TheFederatedChurch)



October 11, 2026

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

10 AM

Chimes indicate the service is starting, and silence is appreciated to prepare for worship.

Prelude *Be Thou My Vision (E. Whitsett)* Marcia Snavelly, Organ

Announcements & Welcome Rev. Michael A. Howard

Introit *How Beautiful the Feet of Those (Joseph Martin)*
Federated Choir; Brass Quartet; Marcia Snavelly, piano

*** Call to Worship** Karen Wright

One: Come with the gifts you have and the questions you carry.

All: We come to listen for God and to learn from one another.

One: Christ calls us to love sincerely and to make room for our neighbors.

All: We bring our hands to serve and our hearts to welcome.

One: The Spirit gathers our different voices into a life of shared ministry.

All: Together, we will worship God and practice the love of Christ.

*** Opening Hymn** *Christ Has Called Us to New Visions (arr. Richard Proulx)* [words on screen]

Message for the Young at Heart Rev. Howard

*** Passing of Christ's Peace**

*** Praise Response** *This is the Day* No. 286

Scripture Reading Romans 12:9-21 (*The Message*) Karen Wright

Sermon *Sharing the Hum of Love* Rev. David Long-Higgins

Responsive Hymn *Goodness is Stronger than Evil (D. Tutu/J. Bell)* [Words on Screen]

The Charge William Fenton-Jones

Congregational Prayer Rev. Howard

Invitation to Generosity Terry Rounds

Anthem *All Things New (by Elaine Hagenberg)*
Federated Choir; Marcia Snavelly, piano

*** Doxology**

OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, whose love is strong and true;
Praise Christ, who's making all things new;
Praise Spirit, binding life and love;
One God, who sends us forth to serve.**

Prayer of Dedication

Rev. Howard

Liturgy of Covenant

Greetings from Living Water Association

Rev. Dr. Elena Larssen

Call and Covenant

Karen Wright, Church Moderator

Moderator: With Jesus as our guide,

All: We continue to seek the Spirit's guidance for our Community of Faith.

Moderator: Surrounded by the saints who have gone before us,

All: We offer our praise for God's faithfulness, and celebrate Christ in our midst.

Moderator: The Community of The Federated Church of Chagrin Falls, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has called the Rev. Michael Anthony Howard as its pastor and teacher, and respectfully requests that the Living Water Association install him in this ministry with and among us, according to the faith and order of the United Church of Christ.

Association Minister: In his baptism, Michael began his journey in Christ. Through the years he responded to his call, and today we celebrate his call to the ministry of Word and Sacrament at The Federated Church. Living Water Association in prayerful support of both this congregation and your chosen pastor, is pleased to celebrate the blessing of this covenant.

Association Minister: Hear these words from the apostle Paul: There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

Moderator: We are Christ's body, and each of us is a part of it.

All: We have different gifts according to the grace God has given us.

Moderator: If your gift is service...

All: Then we will live to serve others.

Moderator: If your gift is the heart of a teacher...

All: Then we will teach what is true.

Moderator: Let preachers preach with conviction. Let givers give freely. Let those who serve the poor, serve with glad and generous hearts.

All: Let leaders work diligently for the people, cultivating good stewardship of all the gifts God has given us as we follow Jesus.

Moderator: Let us not lack for enthusiasm, but be ardent in Spirit, serving God, rejoicing in hope, praying regularly, supporting one another, and welcoming all.

Association Minister: Rev. Michael Anthony Howard, in the presence of this gathered community, will you commit yourself to the tasks of ministry in this congregation, and enter this covenant with its members who are one in Christ and with the Living Water Association?

Minister: I promise.

Moderator: You have been called to be among us to proclaim the Good News of healing and love, and teach us the ways of Jesus. You have been called to lead us to stand for justice, peace and mercy in our world. Will you seek the Holy Spirit's guidance to challenge, comfort and inspire God's people?

Minister: I will, with the help of God.

Moderator: You have been called to be among us as our pastor, to care for us, to baptize us in the faith, to preside and serve at the Lord's Table. Will you welcome all to the Table, that we might know the presence of Christ? Will you do this?

Minister: I will, with the help of God.

Moderator: You have been called to be a faithful witness for Jesus Christ. Will you do this?

Minister: I will, trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Minister: And you, my friends, have been called to participate in the ministries of our church with your prayers, your presence, your gifts and your service. You have been called to live the gospel, to pray for me, and with me, to seek God's voice and will for us in our time. Will you do this?

All: We will, with the help of God.

Association Minister: Will you, members and friends of the Federated Church of Chagrin Falls receive Rev. Michael Anthony Howard as your pastor and teacher, letting go of previous pastoral leadership, and releasing former things that you may embrace new possibilities the Spirit puts before you? Will you respect Rev. Michael as your pastor, honoring his work by compensating him justly, respecting his time for Sabbath and rest, personal and professional boundaries, and embracing his leadership as he guides you in the way of Jesus?

All: We will, with the help of God.

Association Minister: Will you members and friends of the Association receive Pastor Michael as your colleague and partner in ministry, and will you celebrate with Federated Church your covenant and mutual ministry in Christ?

All: We will, with the help of God.

Association Minister: Let us pray. God whom we know as love, as we witness and participate in the covenant made here this day between a pastor and a people, we pray for grace, that we may have the strength, courage and compassion to live out these sacred promises, that in all that we say and do, we may be instruments of peace, love and joy in our broken world. Strengthen and bless this congregation, the Federated Church of Chagrin Falls, the United Church of Christ, and the global Church of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Association Minister: Reverend Michael Anthony Howard, in the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of the United Church of Christ, I declare you duly installed as pastor and teacher of The Federated Church of Chagrin Falls.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God!

*** Closing Hymn**

City of God (Dan Schutte)

[words on screen]

Commission & Benediction

Rev. Long-Higgins

Postlude *Toccata on Austrian Hymn (Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken)*(Haydn/Raney)

Marcia Snively, Organ

Depart in Peace.

Now, go in love to serve.

Guest Musicians

Chuck Rickard, trumpet

Sierra Williamson, trumpet

Zach Warren, trombone

Brett Balika, trombone

John Nichols, percussion

Please Welcome Our Special Guests

Rev. Dr. David Long-Higgins, Conference General Minister

Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ

The Rev. Dr. Dave Long-Higgins has served since 2018 as Conference Minister of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ, supporting its 305 congregations across Ohio, Northern Kentucky, and West Virginia. A graduate of Heidelberg University and United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, Dave is also the author of *Yes, Love, Thank You*, a collection of meditative prayers and photographs.

Rev. Dr. Elena Larssen, Association Minister

Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast

Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ

The Rev. Dr. Elena Larssen serves as Association General Minister of the Living Water Association, ONE, of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ. She supports congregations and clergy through pastoral consultation, leadership development, worship, conflict transformation, and the work of the Committee on Ministry. Elena holds Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Pacific School of Religion and chairs the United Church Board for Ministerial Assistance.

William Fenton-Jones, Director of Multicultural Vitality

The Ohio Episcopal Area, The United Methodist Church

Will Fenton-Jones serves the East and West Ohio Conferences of The United Methodist Church, helping congregations advance racial equity, community engagement, and inclusive ministry. An officer in the U.S. Army Reserve, Will holds a master's degree in urban planning from Cleveland State University.



This Sanctuary is equipped with a Hearing Loop system that works with all Telecoil-equipped hearing aids to amplify sound with excellent clarity.



UPCOMING WORSHIP

October 18, 2026
Celebration of Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner
Rev. Judy Bagley-Bonner preaches

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