



**God calls us onward, together.**

So let us worship the One who does not leave us standing still.  
We will sing, we will pray, and we will move forward in hope.

\*HYMN "Come o Fount of Every Blessing" 459

\*INVOCATION

Holy God, you have always been a God of movement. You have led your people through deserts and waters, through endings and beginnings, through grief and joy alike. Gather us now in courage, gratitude, and hope, that we may be people who do not simply stand gazing upward, but who step faithfully into the work of love before us. In the presence of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 68: 1-10, 32-35

MUSIC TO INSPIRE "The Lord Bless You and Keep You" Rutter

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SCRIPTURE Acts 1: 6-14

MEDITATION "Forward"

HYMN OF MEDITATION "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" 286

A TIME FOR PRAYER

Silent Prayer  
Lord's Prayer

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

We give this day not only from gratitude for what has been, but from hope for what still will be. May our gifts help carry the Spirit's work forward.

OFFERTORY MUSIC "Clair de Lune/ Blessed Assurance" Lord

*\*Doxology: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, you heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of every new chapter, bless these gifts and the hands that offer them. Use them to strengthen the weary, welcome the stranger, nourish hope, and continue the work of your church in this place. Keep us from fear that clings too tightly to the past, and guide us instead into faithful participation in the future you are still unfolding. Amen.

LITURGY OF FAREWELL Led by Elaine Miller and Katey Ulrich *(Green insert)*

\*CLOSING HYMN "My Life Flows On in Endless Song" 476

BENEDICTION

Why do you stand looking up toward heaven?  
Christ has gone ahead of you, into neighborhoods and homes, into acts of mercy and courage, into the work that still remains.  
So let us go now, not clinging to what has been, but trusting the Spirit who still moves among God's people.  
Go in gratitude.  
Go in hope.  
Go forward together.  
And may the love of God,  
the peace of Christ,  
and the power of the Holy Spirit  
go with you now and always.  
Amen.

POSTLUDE "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" Hayes

\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*

USHERS: Jon and Dawn Reuvers, Andy Hill

DEACON OF THE DAY: Ben Quail

NURSERY: Haksgaard Family

COFFEE HI: Kacie Hall and Sara Gregg

## Liturgy of Farewell

From the UCC Book of Worship

### GREETING

*Church Leader:* Our church community is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, growing toward new places, new experiences, new opportunities. It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. Today we share a farewell with our pastor, Rev. Katie Miller.

### ENDING OF AUTHORIZED MINISTRY

*Association Rep.:* In February 2023, this congregation called Rev. Katie Miller to serve as Pastor and Teacher.

*Pastor:* I thank Vermillion United Church of Christ Congregational, its members and friends, for the love, kindness and support shown me in our time together. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been encouraged and accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

*Congregation:* **We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that your time with us is ending. We express our gratitude for your ministry among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

*Pastor:* I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

### VOWS OF RELEASE

*Association Rep.:* Do, you, the members and friends of Vermillion United Church of Christ Congregational, release the Rev. Katie Miller from the duties of Pastor and Teacher?

*Congregation:* **We do, with the help of God.**

*Association Rep.:* Do you offer her your encouragement as her life and ministry unfold in new ways?

*Congregation:* **We do, with the help of God.**

*Association Rep.:* Do you, Rev. Katie Miller, release Vermillion United Church of Christ Congregational from turning to you and depending on you?

*Pastor:* I do, with the help of God.

*Association Rep.:* Do you offer your encouragement for the continuing ministry here and on the relationship with another who will come to serve?

*Pastor:* I do, with the help of God.

*Association Rep.:* On behalf of the Two Rivers Association of the South Dakota Conference of the United Church of Christ and the wider church, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness and release. The member churches of our association and conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

### PRAYER

*Church Leader:* Let us pray

*All:* **O God, we give thanks for remembered times, when we, together, have shared this life of faith. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Rev. Katie Miller in worship, in prayer, and in presence. We pray that Rev. Katie Miller will always be aware of your Spirit's guidance in her life and ministry. Help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

# HELLO

My Name Is:

VBS 2026  
**WHAT IS IN A  
NAME?**

**More than you think!**

**Come explore Bible stories, fun activities,  
and the powerful reminder that God knows  
and loves you by name.**

**Open to all kids PreK- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**9-11 am**

**May 26-29**

**@ UCC- 226 E. Main St.**

**SIGN UP TODAY, SCAN CODE  
OR EMAIL**

**UCCV@UCCVERMILLION.ORG**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL FOR USHERS

We are seeking volunteers for the **4th Sunday of the month and backup ushers** as our schedule has recently changed. Please contact the church office if you're interested.

If you would like to donate to the Vermillion United Church of Christ, Congregational using PayPal, please scan this QR code with your phone.

