

April 12, 2026

HOLY HILARITY SUNDAY

Williston-Immanuel United Church
Portland, Maine



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Welcome

Rev. Reba Delzell

***Gathering Song**

“Hallelujah”

Traditional

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.

Hallelujah, hallelujah.

Words to ponder

“The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.” ~e.e. cummings

Music for Centering

“A Little Joke”

Kabalevsky

Opening Words

***Hymn**

“Give Me Oil In My Lamp, Keep Me Burning”

A. Sevison

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning

Give me oil in my lamp I pray

Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning

Keep me burning 'til the break of day

Give me gas for my Ford, keep me truckin’

Give me gas for my Ford I pray

Give me gas for my Ford, keep me truckin’

Keep me truckin’ for the Lord I pray!

Give me umption for my gumption, let me function

Give me umption for my gumption I pray

Give me umption for my gumption, let me function

Let me function for the Lord I pray!

Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising

Give me joy in my heart I pray

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**Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

**Give me joy in my heart keep me praising
Keep me praising for the Lord I pray!**

The God Box

Nicole Diroff

Scripture

Genesis 18:1-15

Ted Malette and Jan Warner

Word in Music

“Sweet Church of Mine: Finding a Church Home at WIUC”
Tune: “Sweet Caroline” by Neil Diamond, Words: Brenda Moulton

**How it began, I can't begin to knowin'
But then I know it's growin' strong.
I came in the spring, and watched YouTube in summer,
Who'd have believed I could belong?**

**Hearts,
Touchin' hearts,
Reachin' out,
Touchin' me,
Touching you. Oh...**

Refrain

**Sweet church of mine
No church ever felt so good.
I'd been inclined
To believe it never would.**

**Now I look at the night
And it don't seem so lonely
I've strengthened my faith when I'm with you
And when I hurt
Hurting runs off my shoulders
I know that God is with me, too.**

**Hope
Feelin' hope
Reachin' out**

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Touchin' me,
Touchin' you

(Refrain 2x)

Message

For the Love of God, Keep Laughing

Rev. Reba Delzell

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer *(Please use any name for God you prefer for 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response

“Hear our prayer, O Lord”

769

Ps. 134:1

Music: George Whelpton, 1897

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes.

cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

The second line of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first line. It also consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Invitation to the Offering

Want to give electronically? See the back page. If you are new here and have filled out a "Wanna Do Some Good" form, please place it in the offertory plate so that we might donate \$5 to our special offering. If you give a cash donation, please use an envelope and designate where your offering should go.

***Doxology** Old 100th sung to the tune of "Hernando's Hideaway"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Offertory Prayer**

***Hymn** "Drop Kick Me Jesus (through the goal posts of life)" Bobby Bare

**Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life
End over end, neither left, nor the right
Straight through the heart of them righteous uprights
Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life**

**Make me, oh, make me, Lord, more than I am
Make a piece in your master game plan
Free from the earthly temptation below
I've got the will, Lord, if you've got the toe**

**Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life
End over end, neither left, nor the right
Straight through the heart of them righteous uprights
Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life**

**Bring on the brothers who've gone on before
And all of the sisters who've knocked at your door
All the departed, dear loved ones of mine
And stick 'em up front in the offensive line**

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**Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life
End over end, neither left, nor the right
Straight through the heart of them righteous uprights
Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life**

**Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life
End over end, neither left, nor the right
Straight through the heart of them righteous uprights
Dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life**

**Yeah, dropkick me, Jesus, through the goalposts of life
End over end, neither left, nor the right**

Announcements

Benediction

Postlude

“Scratch my Bach”

Peter Nero

Coming up

Wednesday, April 15

- 8 am **Cafe Conversations** at Coffee by Design on Diamond Street

Wednesday, April 22 & every-other Wednesday (on Zoom)

- 3:30 pm **Spring Book Study: *The Inner Work of Age: Shifting from Role to Soul*** by Connie Zweig

Monday, April 27

- 6:30 pm **Monday Evening Bible Study: *Book of Judges*** (Chapel, or online TBD)

Saturday, May 2

- 9:30 am - 4:30 pm **All Church Retreat at Pilgrim Lodge** in West Gardiner
- 7 pm **Narcotics Anonymous** (Chapel)



SURVEY

New Here?

Fill out our “Wanna do some good?” form in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We will donate \$5 in your name to our Special Offering and get you on our mailing list—or text **WIUC** to **84576** to receive our **All Church Email (ACE)**.

Who are we? WIUC is an inclusive Christian community that promotes faith, fellowship, social justice and love, compassionately reaching out to our broader community, celebrating our diversity, and affirming everyone’s spiritual journey.

*Acceptance without conditions,
affirmation without
discrimination*

these are the goals of Williston-Immanuel United Church.

For more info about us, go to
www.wiuc.org

Music license: CCLI #312373

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Reba Delzell, *Pastor*
Denise Calkins, *Director of Music & Pianist*
Kate McDade, *Church Administrator*
Renée Michaud, *Building Manager*
Breelyn McClernand, *Childcare*

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Our Publications:

**Weekly All Church Email
(ACE)**

Monthly *Insight* Newsletter



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