



August 23, 2026
COLGATE ROCHESTER CROZER
DIVINITY SCHOOL SUNDAY



UNITED CHURCH
of **PITTSFORD**

American Baptist & United Methodist

Pastor: Reverend Julius David Jackson, Jr. (Pastor JD)
Special Guest: CRCDS President Rev. Dr. Angela Sims
Musical Guests: Marvin Rogers, pianist
Joan Lane, vocalist
Liturgist: Les Johnson

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

** Those who are able may stand.*

PRELUDE *Musical Selection*

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***HYMN #89 (1-4)**

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

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

Praise, honor, glory, and thanksgiving, we praise today for the grit you have given in each heart, in each voice, through every hand, with every aim and aspiration, for you have created us individually, blessing us with different gifts which, when combined, make for the whole body of Christ. May we, transformed by your Spirit, cherish each other as we are, so we may cease to seek to be conformed to some nonexistent standard, but be set free to worship you as a blessed people of peace. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: If God had not been on our side, let the people now say,

ALL: If God had not been on our side, we would have been swallowed up alive by the storms of life all around us.

ONE: Like a flood, we would have been swept away, the torrent would have gone over us, the raging waters would have washed us away.

ALL: Blessed be God, who has made the heavens. Our help is in the name of God, who created the earth! Let us gather in worship! Let us, as one fellowship, praise God!

***UNISON READING**

Hear our prayer, which we offer together, confessing individually how profoundly we are tempted to live by the ways of our society. You have called us, not to conform to the world around us, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds in Christ Jesus. May we give more than lip service to the life of discipleship to which we are called. May we truly be blessed as peacemakers, as the humble, as those persecuted for righteousness' sake, and may our lives, transformed by faith, shine as emblems of hope to those who walk, by choice, in darkness. Lead us, guide us, guard us. Amen.

Musical Selection

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 1:8-2:10 NRSV

Musical Selection

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

Sing Hallelujah - ALL

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20 NRSV

MORNING MESSAGE

"A UNITED STATE" - PSALM 133

GUEST SPEAKER: REV. ANGELA D. SIMS. PH.D.,

President and John Price Crozer Professor of Social Ethics,
Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School

Musical Selection

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

GIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *Musical Selection*

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

***Response:** #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 of Dedication for Offering**

Musical Selection

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

BENEDICTION

Musical Selection

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

POSTLUDE *Musical Selection*

Marvin Rogers, accompanied by Joan Lane

~ *Those who are able may stand!* ~

Today's Special Guest

Rev. Angela D. Sims, Ph.D.

**President and John Price Crozer Professor of Social Ethics
Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School**



The Rev. Angela D. Sims, Ph.D. is the thirteenth president of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School (CRCDS). She is the seminary's first woman president and the first Black woman President to lead any Rochester-area college. An ordained Baptist clergywoman, Dr. Sims takes seriously the prophetic imperative "to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God." A womanist social ethicist, her research examines connections between faith, race, and violence with specific attention to historical and contemporary ethical implications of lynching and a culture of lynching in the United States. Dr. Sims is the author of *Lynched: The Power of Memory in a Culture of Terror* (2016) and co-editor with Emilie M. Townes, Stacey Floyd-Thomas, and Alison P. Gise Johnson of *Walking Through the Valley: Womanist Explorations in the Spirit of Katie Geneva Cannon* (2022). An active member of several academic guilds and faith-based community organizations, Dr. Sims was elected in 2024 to the presidential line of the American Academy of Religion. She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

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Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School:**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us outside for lemonade on the lawn.

Calendar

August - *Canned meals and healthy snacks for food pantry*

TODAY

Deadline for School Supply Drive

Sun., August 30

Hymn Sing Sunday

September - *Pasta and pasta sauce for food pantry*

Tues., Sept. 22

John Williams "Fabulous Fifties" - 7 pm

Sun., Sept. 27

Hispanic Heritage Sunday

Back Door and Elevator Lobby Closed 8/27 and 8/28

The back door entry **hallway** and the elevator **lobby** floors (off Howard Hall) will be stripped and waxed on Thursday, August 27th. **Back door and elevator access will be closed on August 27th and August 28th.** Questions? See Logan Hazen.

Pastor JD Selected to the MCC Alumni Hall of Fame

Congratulations to Pastor JD for being selected to the Monroe Community College's Alumni Hall of Fame. The MCC Alumni Hall of Fame recognizes alumni who have made exemplary contributions to their professions and communities, while demonstrating support of Monroe Community College and the MCC Foundation. New members are inducted into the MCC Alumni Hall of Fame at the annual Salute to Excellence dinner to be held on November 18, 2026. Stay tuned for more details on the dinner!

From Missions

Do you like to plan ahead? The Missions Committee has news for you! We will be selling **Thanksgiving pies** again this fall. All profits will go to the Habitat Interfaith Partnership. The selections and prices will be the same as last year. We will be holding an **Election Day Bake Sale** on **Tuesday, November 3**. As always, a portion of the proceeds will go to UCP missions. UCP bakers are famous for their goodies. Dust off your favorite recipes! Watch for more information in September. Questions? See Verna Hazen.

LECTIONARY TEXTS FOR NEXT WEEK (August 30, 2026)

HYMN SING SUNDAY:

Exodus 3:1-15

Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28



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:



General Offering
Memorial Fund
Capital Improvements,
Repairs & Replacements
Missions
Music
Christian Education
Fellowship

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