HOCKESSIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday, Continued.

A weekly guide for living the message

OCTOBER 25, 2026 | PASTOR VERN BRYANT



This Week in Scripture

SERMON TEXT

Ephesians 4:32

GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

The Message in Brief

The Apostles' Creed proclaims the forgiveness of sins—not a faith centered on guilt, but one grounded in grace. We all miss the mark in what we do and in what we fail to do, and all of us need forgiveness. God is rich in mercy and invites us to turn from sin and release the guilt that weighs us down. Because Christ forgives us, we are called to forgive others. Forgiveness does not excuse the hurt; it frees us from being ruled by it. The Creed also affirms the resurrection of the body: Christ's resurrection gives believers hope that death is not the end.

The emphasis is not on guilt, but grace.

Questions to Carry

1. Where am I carrying guilt that God invites me to release?
2. Whom do I need to forgive, even if healing takes time?
3. How does the promise of resurrection shape my hope?

Live It This Week

Offer grace in one concrete way this week. Reach out to someone with kindness, or take a step toward forgiveness without denying the hurt. Pray for the courage to release resentment and live in the hope Christ gives.

Prayer for the Week

Merciful God, thank You that Your love is greater than our failures. Forgive us when we miss the mark, and help us accept Your grace. Give us courage to forgive others without minimizing the pain we have known. Free us from bitterness, renew our hope in Christ's resurrection, and teach us to share the grace we have received. Amen.