

## Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

\* Call to Worship

God said, "Let there be light,"  
**and there was light.**  
God's speech  
**is God's action.**  
When God creates,  
**the creation is good.**  
God our maker has done it again.  
**God has brought us to a new dawn.**  
**Let us worship God!**

Prayer of the Day

\* Hymn 664

### *Morning Has Broken*

*1 Morning has broken  
like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken  
like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing!  
Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing  
fresh from the Word!*

*2 Sweet the rain's new fall  
sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall  
on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness  
where God's feet pass.*

*3 Mine is the sunlight!  
Mine is the morning,  
born of the one light  
Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation;  
praise every morning,  
God's re-creation  
of the new day!*

Prayer of Confession

**God whose spirit moved over the waters,  
you have washed us in your mercy,**

**claimed us as your own,  
bound us in community,  
and called us to lives of baptismal grace.  
Forgive us, O God, for we have not lived  
as if we were your baptized people.  
We stumble over opportunities for forgiveness.  
We prioritize our own selfish interests.  
We are slow to disrupt the status quo,  
even when it means ignoring our neighbors' suffering.  
Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness,  
lead us back to your waters of transformation...**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

\* Passing of the Peace    May the Peace of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you!**

\* Hymn 582

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

*1 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

*2 World without end, without end. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

## Word

Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Genesis 1:1–5

**1** In the beginning when God created<sup>[a]</sup> the heavens and the earth, **2** the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God<sup>[b]</sup> swept over the face of the waters. **3** Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Second Reading

Acts 19:1-7

**19** While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. **2** He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." **3** Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They

answered, "Into John's baptism." **4** Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." **5** On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6** When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— **7** altogether there were about twelve of them.

Anthem

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:4-11

**4** John the baptizer appeared<sup>[a]</sup> in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. **5** And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. **6** Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. **7** He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. **8** I have baptized you with<sup>[b]</sup> water; but he will baptize you with<sup>[c]</sup> the Holy Spirit."

**9** In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. **10** And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. **11** And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved;<sup>[d]</sup> with you I am well pleased."

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

\* Hymn 490

Wash, O God, Your Precious Children

*1 Wash, O God, your precious children,  
newborn creatures of your womb.  
Number them among your people,  
raised like Christ from death and tomb.  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;  
compass them with love and light.  
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,  
holy dove and heart's delight.*

*2 Every day we need your nurture;  
by your milk may we be fed.  
Let us join your feast, partaking  
cup of blessing, living bread.  
God, renew us; guide our footsteps,  
free from sin and all its snares,  
one with Christ in living, dying,  
by your Spirit, children, heirs.*

*3 O how deep your holy wisdom!  
Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor!  
With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you,*

*water-washed and Spirit-born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer.  
Re-create us; God, transform!*

## Responding

### Installation of Elders and Deacons

*We joyfully install those whom God has called and the congregation has elected to serve in roles of leadership at LoveJoy United. Sandy Blackford, Jennifer Hooker, Richard Sisk, and Tom Wyatt will be installed as Ruling Elders. Pat Cooper, Susie Musgrave, Barb Pitt, Kathy Steinmann, and Linda Welch will be installed as Deacons.*

### Sentences of Scripture

There are varieties of gifts,  
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**There are different ways of serving God,  
but it is the same Lord who is served.**

God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.

**To each is given a gift of the Spirit  
to be used for the common good.**

Together we are the body of Christ,  
and individually members of it.

### \* Affirmation of Faith

*The Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Constitutional questions, prayer of installation, & charge to new officers

### Announcements

### Offering our Gifts

*Give at [lovejoyupc.org/give](https://lovejoyupc.org/give)*

*Loose cash offerings benefit our Good Samaritan fund, which helps our neighbors with essential needs on an emergency basis.*

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Sung call to Prayer

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Hymn 469

*Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.*

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Sanctus Hymn 552

*Holy, Holy, Holy  
1 Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
2 Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.*

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.**

Communion

*Please come down the center aisle and receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice. If you wish to receive bread in your pew, the servers will assist you. If you're joining us online, please have bread and juice/wine available to celebrate with us. All who wish to know Jesus more deeply are invited to the table.*

Communion Meditation

Prayer After Communion

## Sending

\* Hymn 634

*To God Be the Glory*

*1 To God be the glory;  
great things he has done!  
So loved he the world  
that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life  
an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate  
that all may go in.*

*Refrain:*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;  
let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord;  
let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father  
through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory:  
great things he has done!*

*2 Great things he has taught us;  
great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing  
through Jesus the Son;  
but purer and higher  
and greater will be  
our wonder, our transport,  
when Jesus we see. (Refrain)*

\* Charge & Benediction

\* Postlude

## Worship Notes

Ann French is our Director of Music. Thanks to Michael & Robert Musgrave-Perkins and Alice Buzzard for their technology gifts. Thanks also to our liturgist for the day. Parts of today's service are adapted from *The Book of Common Worship* and *Call to Worship*.

## Land Acknowledgment

The LoveJoy United community gathers on the traditional land of the Tamaroa People, who have been its faithful stewards for generations. We acknowledge and honor the past, present, and future of the Tamaroa and other Indigenous peoples who have been displaced from their ancestral homelands.

## Announcements

Announcements marked with  are opportunities that relate to our Matthew 25 commitment.

## **Gathering to celebrate the life of Marian Twigg - Wednesday, Jan 10 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall**

The family of Marian Twigg invites the congregation to join in a simple celebration in her memory. Marian was a long-time faithful church member who died on November 19, 2023.

### **Thank-you**

Hershel and Lucille Henson want to express their gratitude and appreciation to our church community for all their food, cards and expressions of concern as Lucille is recovering from the injury to her ankle.

**DISMANTLING STRUCTURAL RACISM** is one of the foci of being a Matthew 25 congregation, which LoveJoy United is. Recognizing and honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. is one way we can do this. On Sunday, January 14, at 3 pm, several of us will participate in a service at the Greater St. James Baptist Church in Alton. Please sign up in the narthex so we know who will be joining us. We will meet at the old College Avenue PC at 2:30 pm to carpool.



### **Food Pantry**

The food pantry needs canned soups and chili. Your donations are always appreciated.

### **Administrative Announcements**

Please turn your 2023 Annual Reports in to Tabitha at [admin@lovejoyupc.org](mailto:admin@lovejoyupc.org) by Friday, January 19.

Tabitha will be printing the 2024 Directory in the next few weeks. Please let the office know if any changes are needed to the directory, or you may log in to the online directory and make changes to your address if you prefer.

### **LoveJoy Lyceum Book Club**

Lyceum Book Club's current book is THE COVENANT OF WATER by Abraham Verghese. It is a 2-month read therefore we ZOOM the first half on 01/17 @ 7:15p.



### **Sunday Morning Live (Adult Christian Education), Sundays at 9 AM in-person and on Zoom.**

Pour yourself a cup of coffee and join a group of adults in an informal conversation around the themes of Christian Practices. Join in the Fellowship Hall or via Zoom (<https://lovejoyupc.org/live> and click "connect via Zoom").

### **Sewing and Craft Circle**

Join our new social gathering on Wednesday afternoons from 2–4 p.m. We have a lot of talented people in our church. Let's get together and work on our projects in a relaxing environment. You can bring your own drink and snacks if desired. If you have any questions, ask Paula Blair or Janet Barringer. We'll be moderating this fellowship time to make sure we don't get off track.



### **Wednesdays at LoveJoy United**

- **Lectionary Bible Study In-Person or Zoom at 10:15 AM** - Join pastor Daniel and a number of others as we discuss the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday.
- **Lunch Bunch gathers on Wednesdays at 11:30 AM**
- **Zoom Evening Prayer at 7 PM**

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

JoAnn Moss, Pat Fletcher, Katie Davis, Jessica Elledge, John Gremler & the Gremler Family, Connor, JoAnn Lamar, Trans folks in KY, TN, FL, MO, Mason Inlow, Kenny Slayden, Connie, Ched, Carol Foraker, Shelly Devore, Landon Stockhoff, Annabel Gibson, Mark Carter (Alice Carter's husband, back surgery), Spencer Slayden (Jack and Dottie Kleinert's grandson, Scott and Kelly Slayden's oldest son, deployed to Middle East), Wendy Shugert (John and Linda Shugert's Sister-in-Law), Jack Jenkins (Friend of Linda Allen - Surgery), Paula Blair.

### **NURSING & RETIREMENT HOME RESIDENTS**

**Integrity Healthcare, Wood River – Herbert Peel**

**The Cottages of Carlinville, Carlinville – Shirley Martin**

**Villa Rose, Bethalto – Beth Forrester**

**Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Shirley Burris and Mary Barnes**



**NEXT STEPS  
& SIGNUPS**

## LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church

2550 Rock Hill Rd, Wood River, IL 62095

[www.lovejoyupc.org](http://www.lovejoyupc.org) | (618) 254-5880

Rev. Daniel Ervin, Pastor | [daniel@lovejoyupc.org](mailto:daniel@lovejoyupc.org)

Tabitha Nail, Admin | [admin@lovejoyupc.org](mailto:admin@lovejoyupc.org)

Ann French, Director of Music

Lisa Hemphill, Custodian