

Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

God gathers us together in this place.

Let us sing praise to the Lord.

God heals the brokenhearted
and binds up our wounds.

Let us sing praise to the Lord.

God lifts the downtrodden
and casts out wickedness.

Let us sing praise to the Lord.

We sing to God with thanksgiving.

Let us worship God!

Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 402

How Lovely, Lord

*1 How lovely, Lord, how lovely
is your abiding place;*

*my soul is longing, fainting,
to feast upon your grace.*

*The sparrow finds a shelter,
a place to build her nest;*

*and so your temple calls us
within its walls to rest.*

2 In your blest courts to worship,

O God, a single day

is better than a thousand

if I from you should stray.

I'd rather keep the entrance

and claim you as my Lord

than revel in the riches

the ways of sin afford.

3 A sun and shield forever

are you, O Lord Most High;

you shower us with blessings;

no good will you deny.

The saints, your grace receiving,

from strength to strength shall go,

and from their life shall rivers

of blessing overflow.

Prayer of Confession

**O God you bring healing to our lives
and comfort to our hearts.
Forgive us, O Lord, when we contribute
to the things that break your heart.
You would have us share our gifts with the world,
but we keep our resources close and our minds closed.
You would have us live in faithful community,
but we isolate ourselves and eye our neighbors with mistrust.
You would have us see all people as our siblings,
but we try to separate ourselves from anyone
whose existence challenges our comfort.
Forgive us, O God, by your grace,
and free us to be agents of your healing...**

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

Psalm 126

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,^[a]
we were like those who dream.

2 Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;

then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."

3 The LORD has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

4 Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.

5 May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

6 Those who go out weeping,

bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Anthem

Second Reading

John 12:1–8

12 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. **2** There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. **3** Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them^[a] with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. **4** But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, **5** "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii^[b] and the money given to the poor?" **6** (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) **7** Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it^[c] so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. **8** You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from the Confession of 1967

**In Jesus of Nazareth,
true humanity was realized once for all.
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew,
lived among his own people
and shared their needs, temptations,
joys, and sorrows.
He expressed the love of God
in word and deed
and became a brother
to all kinds of sinful people.
But his complete obedience
led him into conflict with his people.
His life and teaching judged their goodness,
religious aspirations, and national hopes.
Many rejected him and demanded his death.
In giving himself freely for them,
he took upon himself the judgment
under which everyone stands convicted.
God raised him from the dead,
vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.
The victim of sin became victor,
and won the victory
over sin and death for all. Amen**

* Hymn 201

A Prophet-Woman Broke a Jar

1 A prophet-woman broke a jar,
by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
presiding and anointing.
A prophet-woman broke a jar,
the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
preparing Christ for dying.

2 A faithful woman left a tomb
by Love's divine commission.
She saw; she heard; she preached the Word,
arising from submission.
A faithful woman left a tomb,
with resurrection gospel.
She saw; she heard; she preached the Word,
apostle to apostles.

3 Though woman-wisdom, woman-truth,
for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten, and unheard,
derided and forbidden,
the Spirit's breath, the Spirit's fire,
on free and slave descending,
can tumble our dividing walls,
our shame and sadness mending.

4 The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls,
by Love's divine ordaining,
the friends we need, to serve and lead,
their powers and gifts unchaining.
The Spirit knows; the Spirit calls,
from women, men and children,
the friends we need, to serve and lead.
Rejoice, and make them welcome!

Responding

Announcements

Sacred Calling Testimony

Karen Wilson

Offering our Gifts

Give at 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 762

When the Poor Ones

1 When the poor ones who have nothing share with strangers,

when the thirsty water give unto us all,

when the crippled in their weakness strengthen others,

Refrain:

*then we know that God still goes that road with us,
then we know that God still goes that road with us.*

*2 When at last all those who suffer find their comfort,
when they hope though even hope seems hopelessness,
when we love though hate at times seems all around us, (Refrain)*

*3 When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,
when our lips can speak no words other than true,
when we know that love for simple things is better, (Refrain)*

*4 When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,
when we learn how to make peace instead of war,
when each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor, (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.



Adult Ed. Information Session for our Lenten focus on Poverty.

Join us for a brief conversation about eradicating systemic poverty in our world. We'll meet in Fellowship Hall.

Directory Updates

Tabitha will be printing the 2024 Directory in the next few weeks. Please have all updates turned in by February 9th.



Souper Bowl of Caring Meal to Support LoveJoy United's Food Pantry - Feb. 11 after worship.

After worship on February 11th come eat a bowl of soup to support the food pantry. A donation of money or food items will be accepted for the LoveJoy United Food Pantry. In 1990, Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group: **“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”** Since then, more than \$170 million has been generated for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that transforms the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and caring for those in need. Through this mission, people learn they can make a positive difference in the world as they collect food, raise money, serve at hunger-relief charities, and show caring and compassion in local communities nationwide. Share in God's love for our neighbors in need and give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday. All of the donations collected will go directly to the LoveJoy United Food Pantry.

Birthday Celebration for Edie Chappell - February 18 after worship.

The five Chappell siblings—Mary, John, Vickie, Gary and Kate—hope you'll join us to help celebrate our mom's 90th Birthday!

Edie Chappell is becoming 90 on February 23rd. Throughout her life, her church family has been an important centerpiece of engagement, support, friendships and love.

For this milestone birthday, she'd be pleased if the LoveJoy church family would gather after service with her and us at 11:30 on February 18th to make the occasion special.

We've planned sweets, coffee, tea and cold drinks. Your taking part with toasts or words of friendship is welcome! Please no gifts!

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 last half on 02/21 @ 7:15p. Our next book is THE AGE OF AI by Henry Kissinger. We ZOOM it on 03/20 @ 6:15p.

Instantchurch Online Directory

You can access the church directory online through the church website or by scanning the QR Code below.



Scan the following QR Code below for instructions on installing the member app.



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").

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, 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, Brandy Cunningham (The King's granddaughter), Bob Vandalia, First Baptist Church of Edwardsville.

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 Burriss and Mary Barnes



**NEXT STEPS
& SIGNUPS**

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church

2550 Rock Hill Rd, Wood River, IL 62095

www.lovejoyupc.org | (618) 254-5880

Rev. Daniel Ervin, Pastor | daniel@lovejoyupc.org

Tabitha Nail, Admin | admin@lovejoyupc.org

Ann French, Director of Music

Lisa Hemphill, Custodian