

Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Alleluia, He is Risen. Keller

Bell choir

* Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed

This is the good news we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,
and rose again on the third day.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

He appeared to Peter, and to the twelve,
and to many faithful witnesses.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

At last he came to us, that we might come to believe
and proclaim this good news to the world.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 245

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!

1 "Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!

All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

2 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

3 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

4 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!

Praise to you by both be given, Alleluia!

Every knee to you shall bow, Alleluia!

Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession

**O God, you raised Christ from the tomb
and shattered the powers of sin and evil.**

**Raise us from the tombs of our sin, O Lord,
and bring us to new life in you.**

You bring us good news of Easter joy.

**Forgive us when we cannot hear it.
You send us out to share your love.
Forgive us when we cannot carry it.
You cast a vision for peace and justice.
Forgive us when we cannot imagine it.
Forgive us when we stand in its way.
For you are the God of the empty tomb,
the one who makes all things new...**

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

Acts 10:34-43

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, **35** but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. **36** You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. **37** That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: **38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. **39** We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; **40** but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, **41** not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. **42** He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. **43** All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

15 Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters,^[a] of the good news^[b] that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, **2** through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. **3** For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, **4** and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **6** Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters^[c] at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.^[d] **7** Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. **8** Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. **9** For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. **10** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. **11** Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

Anthem

Jubilate Deo

Sleeth

Gospel Reading

Mark 16:1-8

16 When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. **2** And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. **3** They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” **4** When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. **5** As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. **6** But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. **7** But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” **8** So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

* 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 at 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.**

* 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

Announcements

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

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Hymn 469

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 When I Survey The Wondrous Cross Mason/Whitworth

Prayer After Communion

Sending

* Hymn 238

Thine is the Glory

*1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.*

*Refrain:
Thine is the glory,
risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory
thou o'er death hast won.*

*2 Lo! Jesus meets us,
risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us,
scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting. (Refrain)*

*3 No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. (Refrain)*

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Christ is Arisen

Smith

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.

Easter Egg Hunt - Today after worship!

We need youth to hide the eggs and children to find them! Join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering & Fish Banks

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. We will collect the fish banks on Easter. Other gifts can be made at lovejoyupc.org/give.


Earth Day Youth Mission - Trash Clean up - April 21

Youth are invited to work on picking up trash along the River Road in Alton. Contact Tacoma or Sandy Monroe for details.

Poverty Simulation - May 5 after Worship

Poverty in our world is gravely misunderstood. This simulation will unveil the systemic challenges faced by those in need, challenge our misconceptions, and foster empathy. Don't miss this eye-opening experience. Lunch will be provided. Please register at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES The Christian Education for Children & Youth Committee is gathering the names of High School and College graduates to be honored in May. If you know any graduates who have had a participating connection to LUPC or one of the former merged churches, contact Tabitha Nail, Tacoma Monroe, or Ken Webster.

 **Food Pantry** - The Food Pantry needs shampoo and deodorant. Your donations are always appreciated.

LoveJoy Lyceum Book Club

Lyceum Book Club's current book is THE AGE OF AI by Henry Kissinger. We ZOOM it 03/20 @ 7:15p. Our next book is HORSE by Geraldine Brooks. We ZOOM it on 04/17 @ 7:15p.

Per Capita Giving in the Presbyterian Church

LoveJoy United will pay \$36 per member in 2024 to fund the work of the Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery that serves the churches in its care, the national Office of General Assembly that brings us together to discern the Spirit's leading, the Office of Stated Clerk that provides leadership for Presbyterians nationwide and the Presbyterian Mission Agency that oversees the work of the Presbyterian church for others here and around the world.

To help the congregation meet this financial obligation, many members of LoveJoy United choose to help offset the cost of Per Capita for themselves or family members. **Per Capita for 2024 is \$36/person.** You can send a check or pay online at lovejoyupc.org/give.

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 Gremli & the Gremli 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), Brandy Cunningham (Alice Carter's Daughter), Bob Vandalia, Becky (friend of Mary Trudell), Kathy Walker (Jack & Dottie Kleinert's daughter) starts chemo in April, Abby Cotter, Linda Andrus, Hadley Gvillo (Julie Gvillo's granddaughter), Jenny Brueggeman (friend of Lisa) placed on Hospice, Laura Feltenstein- friend of Deb Goskie, Tom, Kristi Doering.

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

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