

## Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

\* Call to Worship

Christ's gift of salvation prepares us with strength.

**Jesus goes before us and is lifted up,  
the hope of the world.**

Your divine ministry spurs us on  
to share the good news.

**We wait in anticipation  
for the comfort of your promises,  
always giving thanks.**

\* Prayer of the Day

\* Hymn 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

*1 Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.*

*2 Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.*

*3 Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end;  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.*

*4 Crown him the Lord of years,  
the potentate of time;*

*creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.*

Prayer of Confession

**O God, in Christ you bore the suffering of the world  
and made us witnesses to your grace.  
In your Word you showed us your vision of peace  
and made us witnesses to your promises.  
Forgive us, O God, when we fail to work for your reign,  
forgetting that you have called us to bear your truth.  
Forgive us, O God, when we gaze up toward heaven,  
forgetting that you have called us to do your work on earth.  
Forgive us, O God, and by your forgiveness,  
enlighten us to recognize the resurrection all around us...**

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

Luke 24:44-53

**44** Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." **45** Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, **46** and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day **47** and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48** You are witnesses of these things. **49** And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised, so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

**50** Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. **51** While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. **52** And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, **53** and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

## Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

**15** I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love<sup>[a]</sup> toward all the saints, and for this reason **16** I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. **17** I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, **18** so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, **19** and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. **20** God<sup>[b]</sup> put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, **21** far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. **22** And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, **23** which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

## Special Music

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*

Rayford Raby and Julie Gvillo

## Third Reading

Acts 1:1-11

**1** In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning **2** until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3** After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. **4** While staying<sup>[a]</sup> with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with<sup>[b]</sup> the Holy Spirit not many days from now." **6** So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" **7** He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. **8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." **9** When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. **11** They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

## Responding

\* Affirmation of Faith      Adapted from the *Confession of 1967*  
**New life in Christ takes shape in a community  
 in which people know  
 that God loves and accepts them  
 in spite of what they are.  
 They therefore accept themselves  
 and love others,  
 knowing that no one has any ground  
 on which to stand,  
 except God's grace.  
 Amen**

\* Hymn 722      *Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak*  
*1 Lord, speak to me that I may speak  
 in living echoes of your tone.  
 As you have sought, so let me seek  
 your erring children lost and lone.*

*2 O lead me, Lord, that I may lead  
 the wandering and the wavering feet.  
 O feed me, Lord, that I may feed  
 your hungering ones with manna sweet.*

*3 O teach me, Lord, that I may teach  
 the precious truths which you impart.  
 And wing my words that they may reach  
 the hidden depths of many a heart.*

*4 O fill me with your fullness, Lord,  
 until my very heart o'erflow  
 in kindling thought and glowing word,  
 your love to tell, your praise to show.*

*5 O use me, Lord, use even me,  
 just as you will, and when, and where  
 until your blessed face I see,  
 your rest, your joy, your glory share.*

Announcements

Offering our Gifts      *Give at [lovejoyupc.org/give](http://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.*

## Prayers of the People

### 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.**

## Sending

### \* Hymn 462

#### *I Love to Tell the Story*

*1 I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story,  
because I know 'tis true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else could do.*

#### *Refrain:*

*I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.*

*2 I love to tell the story;  
'tis pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy Word. (Refrain)*

*3 I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it, like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
'twill be the old, old story*

*that I have loved so long. (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.


### **Poverty Simulation - Thank You!**

Thanks to all who helped to make last week's poverty simulation a success – as a host or a participant. We had a great turnout for this powerful experience and meaningful discussion. Thanks especially to Julie Gvillo for leading us, and for all who prepared lunch.

**Deacon's Meeting** – May 19th at 11:30am.

**Reception for Graduates** – May 19th at 11:30am.

 **Food Pantry** - The Food Pantry needs toilet paper and spaghetti sauce. Your donations are always appreciated.

 **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, John Gremli & the Gremli Family, Connor, JoAnn Lamar, Trans folks in KY, TN, FL, MO, ID, 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), Becky (friend of Mary Trudell), Kathy Walker (Jack & Dottie Kleinert's daughter), Abby Cotter, Linda Andrus, Jenny Brueggeman (friend of Lisa) placed on Hospice, Tom and his father Ralph, Kristi Doering, Shelly Devore (Brenda and Deb's niece), Margarette Trushel.

## **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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Ann French, Director of Music

Lisa Hemphill, Custodian