

✦ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

*Awesome God & Almighty*

Mullins/Watson/Cota  
Handbell Choir

\* Call to Worship

Thirsty, our hearts crave living water.  
**Hungry, our souls ache to be satisfied.**  
Weary, our minds are tired by thoughts  
**that do not come from God.**  
Thirsty, hungry, and weary,  
**let us worship the God of love.**

\* Prayer of the Day

\* Hymn 509

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

*1 All who hunger, gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering.  
Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.*

*2 All who hunger, never strangers,  
seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming.  
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
We that once were lost and scattered  
in communion's love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.*

*3 All who hunger, sing together;  
Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing.  
Here, in peace, we have been led.  
Blest are those who from this table  
live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.*

Prayer of Confession

**God our deliverer,  
when we were held captive to sin and death,  
you led us into the promised land of salvation,  
where there is abundance and joy and peace for all.  
Even though it was you who rescued us, we do not always trust  
your providing hand.  
When we are afraid, we take more than we need,  
leaving less for our neighbors.  
When we are satisfied, we forget that it is you  
who has filled our cup to the brim.  
Help us to see the ‘daily bread’ of your grace,  
so that we never lose sight  
of the abundance we have in you...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

\* Passing of the Peace

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

\* Hymn 447

*We Are Forgiven*  
*We are forgiven.*  
*We are forgiven.*  
*Thanks be to God.*  
*Thanks be to God.*

## ✦ Word

Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Luke 9:12–17

12 The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, ‘Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside, to lodge and get provisions; for we are here in a deserted place.’<sup>13</sup> But he said to them, ‘You give them something to eat.’ They said, ‘We have no more than five loaves and two fish— unless we are to go and buy food for all these people.’<sup>14</sup> For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, ‘Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each.’<sup>15</sup> They did so and made them all sit down.<sup>16</sup> And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd.<sup>17</sup> And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

## Second Reading

Exodus 16:2–18

<sup>2</sup>The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, ‘If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.’

<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. <sup>5</sup>On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.’ <sup>6</sup>So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, ‘In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, <sup>7</sup>and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?’ <sup>8</sup>And Moses said, ‘When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.’

<sup>9</sup> Then Moses said to Aaron, ‘Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, “Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.”’ <sup>10</sup>And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked towards the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>The LORD spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>‘I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, “At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.”’

<sup>13</sup> In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, ‘What is it?’ For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, ‘It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. <sup>16</sup>This is what the LORD has commanded: “Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.”’ <sup>17</sup>The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less. <sup>18</sup>But when they measured it with an omer, those who gathered much had nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered as much as each of them needed.

## ✦ Responding

\* 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 694

*Great God of Every Blessing*

*1 Great God of every blessing,  
 of faithful, loving care,  
 you are the fount of goodness,  
 the daily bread we share.  
 How can we hope to thank you?  
 Our praise is but a start:  
 sincerely and completely  
 I offer you my heart.*

*2 Your Word is our salvation,  
 the source of endless grace,  
 in death and life extending  
 your covenant embrace.  
 In Christ we are one body;  
 each member has a part:  
 sincerely and completely  
 I offer you my heart.*

*3 Your Spirit is our teacher,  
 the light that guides our search,  
 transforming broken people  
 into the holy church.  
 For feeding us with mercy,*

*for wisdom you impart:  
sincerely and completely  
I offer you my heart.*

## 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 primarily through our partners at Riverbend Family Ministries. Checks for offering are processed on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.*

### Prayer of Dedication

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns

### Sung call to Prayer

*Be Still and Know That I Am God  
Be still and know that I am God.  
Be still and know that I am God.*

Hymn 414

### 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.  
Amen.**

## ✦ Sending

### \* Hymn 852

*When the Lord Redeems the Very Least*

*1 When the Lord redeems the very least,  
we will rejoice.  
When the hungry gather for the feast,  
we will rejoice.*

*Refrain:*

*We will rejoice with gladness.  
We will rejoice.*

*All our days we'll sing to God in praise.  
We will rejoice!*

*2 When the Lord restores the sick and weak,*

*we will rejoice.  
When the earth is given to the meek,  
we will rejoice. (Refrain)*

*3 When the Lord revives the world from death,  
we will rejoice.  
When the word of God fills every breath,  
we will rejoice. (Refrain)*

*4 When the Lord returns in victory,  
we will rejoice.  
When we live in glorious liberty,  
we will rejoice. (Refrain)*

\* Charge & Benediction

\* Postlude

Voluntary

Stanley


## ✦ 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*. During the season of Lent, we are following *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church, Year C* by Wilda C. Gafney.

## ✦ 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.

### **Lenten Supper Church: pLENTiful: Tending to the Book of Nature**

Join us at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays during Lent for a shared meal, worship, and conversation, as we explore connections between faith, creation, and spiritual renewal. Through scripture, reflection, and hands-on practices, we will learn how tending to God's earth deepens our faith and invites us into God's abundance.


 **Game Day!** Saturday, March 29 at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your favorite game and join us!!

 **Blood Drive** - We will be hosting a blood drive Thursday, April 10th in the Fellowship Hall. Go to [lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps](http://lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps) to sign up.

### **Help us Compost!**

The Garden Committee is looking for church members to save some select scraps of food and other waste for our garden. Details are on the table in the narthex or you can find them at [lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps](http://lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps).

 **Food Pantry Needs:** Peanut butter and pasta sauce, your donations are always appreciated.

 **Adult Christian Education on Sunday Mornings at 9 AM**

- **Sunday Morning Live led by Richard Sisk**, is an informal, conversational class that seeks to connect scripture, theology, and faith to our lives and world. They meet in the Love Room and on Zoom. They are currently discussing The Revelation of John. Sign up at [lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps](http://lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps).

- **Spring Adult Bible Class**

On Sunday, March 2, the adult Bible class will begin “Embracing Life.” The spring quarter will begin with a study of the Beatitudes during Lent, and the theme of Living Water will take us through the Easter Season. The study leader for spring will be Sandy Monroe. **Join us at 9:00 a.m. in fellowship hall**, and bring your Bible!

 **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** will be on hiatus until Easter.

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

JoAnn Moss, Pat Fletcher, Katie Davis, John Gremler & the Gremler Family, Connor, JoAnn Lamar, Trans folks, Kenny Slayden, Connie, Ched, Mark Carter, Abby Cotter, Tom and Jupiter, Kristi Doering, Shelly Devore (Brenda and Deb’s niece), Brittany, Bill Lester, Lanny Harris, Paula Blair, John Kennedy, Renee Lynn, Kathie Luke (Julie Spurgeon’s Sister), Forrest, David Hemphill, Linda Duncan, JoJo, Terrye Mock (Valerie Freeman’s Sister-In-Law), Mike Montague & Ken Webster.

**NURSING & RETIREMENT HOME RESIDENTS**

Integrity Healthcare, Wood River – Herbert Peel  
The Cottages of Carlinville, Carlinville – Shirley Martin  
Villa Rose, Bethalto – Beth Forrester  
Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Mary Barnes  
Liberty Village, Jerseyville – Shirley Burris  
Villas of Holly Brook – Jeane Slayden



**NEXT STEPS  
& SIGNUPS**

**LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church**

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

Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper