

✠ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Tranquility

Jensen

* Call to Worship

The word of the Lord is like fire,
like a hammer that smashes a stone.
Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Jeremiah 23:29

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 409

God is Here!

*1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.*

*2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.*

*3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.*

*4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!*

Prayer of Confession

**O Lord our God,
you call us to proclaim the gospel,
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,
but we are content to live in separation.
You call us to seek the good of all,
but we fail to resist the powers of oppression.
You call us to fight pretensions and injustice,
but we sit idly by,
endangering the lives of people far and near.
Forgive us, O Lord.
Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,
and give us the courage and strength
to be reconciled to others;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior...**

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 10:38–42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister

named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Anthem

Redeemer of My Heart

Martin

Second Reading

Numbers 26:33; 27:1–11

Now Zelophehad son of Hephher had no sons, but daughters: and the names of the daughters of Zelophehad were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. Then the daughters of Zelophehad came forward. Zelophehad was son of Hephher son of Gilead son of Machir son of Manasseh son of Joseph, a member of the Manassite clans. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. They stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders, and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, and they said, "Our father died in the wilderness; he was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin; and he had no sons. Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father's brothers." Moses brought their case before the LORD. And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: The daughters of Zelophehad are right in what they are saying; you shall indeed let them possess an inheritance among their father's brothers and pass the inheritance of their father on to them. You shall also say to the Israelites, "If a man dies, and has no son, then you shall pass his inheritance on to his daughter. If he has no daughter, then you shall give his inheritance to his brothers. If he has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to his father's brothers. And if his father has no brothers, then you shall give his inheritance to the nearest kinsman of his clan, and he shall possess it. It shall be for the Israelites a statute and ordinance, as the LORD commanded Moses."

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

✦ 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 67

*My Song Forever Shall Record
1 My song forever shall record
the tender mercies of the Lord;
your faithful love will I proclaim,
and every age shall know your name.*

*2 I sing of mercies that endure,
forever firm, forever sure,
a strong support that never dies,
established changeless in the skies.*

*3 Almighty God, your lofty throne
has justice for its cornerstone,
and shining bright before your face
are truth and love and boundless grace.*

*4 With blessing is the nation crowned
whose people know the joyful sound;
they in the light, O Lord, shall live,
the light your face and favor give.*

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

*Give at 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 300

We Are One in the Spirit

*1 We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:*

Refrain:

*And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*2 We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)*

*3 We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain)*

*4 All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (Refrain)*

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Festal Piece

Handel/Blake


✠ 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.

 **Blood Drive** - We will be hosting a blood drive Thursday, April 10th in the Fellowship Hall. Go to 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.

 **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.
- **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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Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper