

✙ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Jesu, Word of God Incarnate

Saint-Saens

Call to Worship

Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
praise God on high!
Praise God, sun and moon.
Praise God, all you shining stars!
Praise God from the earth,
you sea monsters and ocean depths!
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars,
praise the Lord!
Kings and all peoples of the earth,
princes and all rulers of the earth,
praise the Lord!
Old and young together;
all people praise the Lord!
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

**Holy God,
you command us to love one another,
yet we hold grudges
and refuse to work for peace.
You command us to care for all of creation,
yet we neglect the earth
and abuse nature through carelessness.
You command us to walk in the ways of Jesus,
yet we too often walk our own way.
Forgive us, O God.
Guide us as we work toward
a new heaven here on earth.
Lead us to reconciliation
and a vision for your beloved community,
as we share your love
with your people everywhere...**

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

John 13:31–35
31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has

been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. **32** If God has been glorified in him,^[a] God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. **33** Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ **34** I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. **35** By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Anthem

Come Build a Church

Medema

Second Reading

Revelation 21:1–6

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. **2** And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. **3** And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home^[a] of God is among mortals.
He will dwell^[b] with them;
they will be his peoples,^[c]
and God himself will be with them and be their God;^[d]

4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes.
Death will be no more;
mourning and crying and pain will be no more,
for^[e] the first things have passed away.”

5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” **6** Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Sermon

Resurrection to Revelation

Rev. Daniel Ervin

❖ Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

**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 on 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 374

O Holy City, Seen of John

*1 O holy city, seen of John,
where Christ, the Lamb, does reign,
within whose four-square walls shall come
no night, nor need, nor pain,
and where the tears are wiped from eyes
that shall not weep again!*

*2 O shame to us who rest content
while lust and greed for gain
in street and shop and tenement
wring gold from human pain,
and bitter lips in deep despair
cry, "Christ has died in vain!"*

*3 Give us, O God, the strength to build
the city that has stood
too long a dream; whose laws are love,
whose ways are servanthood,
and where the sun that shines becomes
your grace for human good.*

*4 Already in the mind of God
that city rises fair.
Lo, how its splendor challenges
the souls that greatly dare,
and bids us seize the whole of life
and build its glory there.*

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

*Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

Hymn 606

*Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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 248

Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

*1 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.*

*2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.*

*3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!*

* Charge & Benediction


✦ 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.

Thank you to all who participated in our clean up day!

We are so grateful for the time and energy of all those who work to make our church home an inviting and hospitable place to encounter God and community.

Hope, Health, and Healing Series: Mental Health and Recovery, Sunday, May 25 after worship (~11:30)

In the first session of this new series, we'll welcome Chris Keck, a Recovery Support Specialist for the State of Illinois. Around half of the population will experience mental health challenges at some point in the course of their lives, meaning that it affects all of us in one way or another. Join us as we work to break the stigma, learn how to find health for ourselves and neighbors, and identify resources available.

Save the Date: Family Fun with Furry Friends Festival, Saturday, June 28, 2-4PM

Part party and part pet blessing, you're invited to enjoy some fellowship with all ages and all manner of (leashed) critters. We'll have hotdogs for the people, treats for the animals, and activities for children and families. Join us as we open our church home to our neighbors, human and otherwise.

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: Canned soup, 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.
- **Summer Adult Class on the Gospel of Mark**
Pastor Daniel will begin leading a class on the Gospel of Mark on June 1 at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Using curriculum by Amy-Jill Levine, we'll be exploring what scholars believe was the first Gospel to be written. Please sign up so we can order materials for you. Sign up on the table in the Narthex or at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps.

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** on Wednesday nights at 7 PM.

PRAYER CONCERNS

JoAnn Moss, Pat Fletcher, Katie Davis, John Gremli & the Gremli 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, Terry Mock (Valerie Freeman's Sister-In-Law), Mike Montague & Ken Webster, Gary Chappell (Edie Chappell's son).

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

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

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper