

✙ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship

In the beginning, when God drew a circle on the face of the deep,
Wisdom was there rejoicing, delighting in the human race.
In the beginning was the Word, with God, and the Word was
God.
**And the Word became flesh and lived among us, full of grace
and truth.**
In every time and place, God's love is poured into our hearts
through the
Holy Spirit that has been given to us.
Blessed are you, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit!

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 11

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud

*I Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud,
Fortress, Fountain, Shelter, Light,
Judge, Defender, Mercy, Might,
Life whose life all life endowed:*

*Refrain: May the church at prayer recall
that no single holy name
but the truth behind them all
is the God whom we proclaim.*

*2 Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine,
Shepherd, Savior, Servant, Lamb,
Well and Water, Bread and Wine,
Way who leads us to I am: (R)*

*3 Storm and Stillness, Breath and Dove,
Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire,
Comfort, Counselor, Presence, Love,
Energies that never tire: (R)*

Prayer of Confession

**Triune God, within your own life there is mutuality, equality,
and unity in diversity.
Though we are made in your image,**

**We confess that we distort the triune life.
Instead of living in equality, justice, and respect,
we construct systems that are unjust.
We devise ways to elevate ourselves over others,
and display disrespectful thoughts words, and deeds.
We allow differences to divide us and lead to brokenness.
Holy God, forgive us.
Restore in us, and in our life together,
the divine image you intend.
Make us tender in mutuality.
Make us generous in equality.
Make us grateful in diversity.
We pray to be one with you and one another,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

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

Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31

8 Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise her voice?
2 On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
3 beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
4 “To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all that live.

22 The Lord created me at the beginning[a] of his work,[b]
the first of his acts of long ago.

23 Ages ago I was set up,
 at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
 24 When there were no depths I was brought forth,
 when there were no springs abounding with water.
 25 Before the mountains had been shaped,
 before the hills, I was brought forth—
 26 when he had not yet made earth and fields,[c]
 or the world's first bits of soil.
 27 When he established the heavens, I was there,
 when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
 28 when he made firm the skies above,
 when he established the fountains of the deep,
 29 when he assigned to the sea its limit,
 so that the waters might not transgress his command,
 when he marked out the foundations of the earth,
 30 then I was beside him, like a master worker;[d]
 and I was daily his[e] delight,
 rejoicing before him always,
 31 rejoicing in his inhabited world
 and delighting in the human race.

Anthem

Flute Duet

Fugato by Stamitz
 Alice Buzzard & Amber Blackmon

Second Reading

Romans 5: 1-5

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we[a] have peace
 with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we
 have obtained access[b] to this grace in which we stand; and
 we[c] boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not
 only that, but we[d] also boast in our sufferings, knowing that
 suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces
 character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not
 disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our
 hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel Reading

John 16: 12-15

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear
 them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you
 into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak
 whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are
 to come. 14 He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine
 and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine. For this
 reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Janet Riley

✦ Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

(see insert)

* Hymn 174

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

*1 Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.*

*2 Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the marketplace.
Hear the Word made flesh among us,
full of glory, truth, and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.*

*3 Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;
nurture all who seek rebirth.
Spirit-guide and close companion,
bring to light our sacred worth.
Free us to become your people,
holy friends of God and earth.*

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

Prayers of the People

**Response: God in your wisdom,
hear our prayer.**

INSERT:

Leader:

As one, let us affirm the faith that ties us together
while lifting up the wisdom of some of our fellow witnesses.

All:

**We believe in the Triune God
whose very existence is relationship.**

**Although this Trinity is the one Being
who *could* be fully self-sufficient
They chose instead to let Their love flow out
into the formless void
and explode emptiness into life.**

**The dance of planets around stars,
stars around galaxies,
each body's gravity tying it to
the bodies spiraling all around,
exemplifies the truth of all created things:
that we are bound to one another.**

**It is as God proclaimed
after fashioning the first human from the earth:
“It is not good for the human to be alone.”**

Leader:

And that is why, trans Jewish Bible scholar Liam Hooper says, God took the lonely first human and split them into two humans who would depend upon each other:

“This earthling now is two. ... So everything is exploded, and re-formed, and re-shaped, and re-imagined for the sole purpose of relationship. ...God is telling us that self-sufficiency, and self-reliance, and self-care alone isn't enough — ...that we need to be in full authentic relationship with each other in order to be in full relationship with God.”

All:

**We believe that this Creator God
so loved and desired relationship with the world They'd made
that They squeezed their infinity into finite flesh
to live among us, share our joy and grief, pleasure and pain.**

**This miracle relied upon the *yes*
of one poor Jewish teenager in Rome-occupied Palestine.
Ever respectful of our free will,
The Sustainer of the Universe asked Mary
if *she* would sustain *Them* with her own body,
conceiving and birthing and nursing her own Creator.**

**Mary's daring *yes* was not the only *yes* in this story!
She would rely on her bonds with others —
Elizabeth and Joseph, Simeon and Anna,
Mary Magdalene and the Beloved Disciple —
to live into God's call.**

**We believe that these are the kinds of bonds
that tie *all* of us together,
and that the Body of Christ is not whole
until all voices are honored, all gifts celebrated.**

Leader:

As Christian writer Rachel Held Evans once wrote,

“My theology is only as rich as the diversity of the people who have contributed to it, and it is a poor theology indeed that considers only the perspectives of those who look, think, and live just like me.”

All:

**We believe that God's gift to us through Jesus
is the restoration of all relationships.
We strive towards that restoration
here and now wherever possible,
and look forward to enjoying it in full
in the world to come.**

Avery Arden wrote this liturgy for a Trinity Sunday service that focused on Mary's visitation to Elizabeth, connecting our relationships with one another to our relationship to God and God's own self-relationship in the Trinity.

The quotation from Liam Hooper comes [from an episode of his *Bible Bash* podcast](#).

The quotation from Rachel Held Evans comes [from a Facebook post she wrote in 2014](#).

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 9

The Play of the Godhead
1 The play of the Godhead,
the Trinity's dance,
embraces the earth in a sacred romance:
with God the Creator,
and Christ the true Son,
entwined with the Spirit, a web daily spun
in spangles of mystery,
the great Three-in-One.

2 The warm mists of summer,
cool waters that flow,
turn crystal as ice when the wintry winds blow.
The taproot that nurtures,
the shoot growing free,
the life-giving fruit, full and ripe on the tree:
more mystic and wondrous,
the great One-in-Three.

3 In God's gracious image
of co-equal parts,
we gather as dancers, uniting our hearts.
Men, women, and children,
and all living things,
we join in the round of bright nature that rings
with rapture and rhythm:
creation now sings!

* 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.

Red Cross Blood Drive, June 19, 2–6 PM

We invite you to give blood at the Red Cross Blood Drive. Sign up at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps

Celebration of Serving Nominations

The Presbytery is celebrating outstanding members whose commitment to the church's ministry serves as an inspiration to all of us. We invite YOU to submit the names of someone you wish to be recognized and celebrated at a Presbytery brunch in September. LoveJoy United's session will choose two of those nominations (one 50 and younger and one 50+) to the Presbytery. Please submit at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps and click Celebration of Serving. The deadline for nominating is June 25.

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.

Food Pantry Needs: Pasta and spaghetti sauce, your donations are always appreciated.

Adult Christian Education on Sunday Mornings at 9 AM

- **Sunday Morning Live:** Is an informal, conversational class that seeks to connect scripture, theology, and faith to our lives and world. Each Sunday at 9:00, they meet in the Love Room and on Zoom. They relate current events to Scripture to create thought-provoking discussions via The Wired Word.
- **Summer Adult Class on the Gospel of Mark**
Pastor Daniel is 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, John Kennedy, Renee Lynn, Kathie Luke (Julie Spurgeon's Sister), Forrest, David Hemphill, Linda Duncan, JoJo, Terrye Mock (Valerie Freeman's Sister-In-Law), Gary Chappell and Laurie Chappell (Edie Chappell's son and her daughter-in-law).

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