

✚ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Peace Within

Paxton

* Call to Worship

To the bath and the table,
to the prayers and the Word,
Come every seeking soul.

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 401

Here in This Place

*1 Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*2 We are the young; our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.*

*3 Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;*

*now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.
Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.
The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor
and nation against nation.
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.
Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ...**

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

Special Music

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Bev Kowalewich, Karen Wilson, & John Rain

Wilson

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 96

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
2 Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
3 Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.
4 For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.
5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.
6 Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

7 Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
8 Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts.
9 Worship the Lord in holy splendor;
tremble before him, all the earth.

10 Say among the nations, “The Lord is king!
The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
He will judge the peoples with equity.”
11 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
12 let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
13 before the Lord; for he is coming,
for he is coming to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with his truth.

Second Reading

Romans 12:1–2

12 I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters,[a] by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual[b] worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world,[c] but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect

Sermon

Worship as Resistance

Rev. Daniel Ervin

* Affirmation of Faith

The Shorter Catechism, Qs 45–47

Which is the First Commandment?

The First Commandment is, “Thou shall have no other gods before me.

What is required in the First Commandment?

The First Commandment requires us to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God, and our God; and to worship and glorify God accordingly.

What is forbidden in the First Commandment?

The First Commandment forbids the denying, or not worshipping and glorifying, the true God as God, and our God; and the giving of that worship and glory to any other which is due to God alone.

Amen.

* 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.*

Announcements

✦ Table

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

*Come to the Table of Grace
Come to the table of grace.
Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.
Come to the Table of grace.*

Hymn 507

*Come to the table of peace.
Come to the table of peace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.
Come to the table of peace.*

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Sanctus Hymn 552

*Holy, Holy, Holy
1 Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
2 Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest,
hosanna in the highest.*

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.

Communion

Please come down the center aisle and receive a piece of bread and a cup of juice. If you wish to receive bread in your pew, the servers will assist you. If you're joining us online, please have bread and juice/wine available to celebrate with us. All who wish to know Jesus more deeply are invited to the table.

Communion Meditation

Pastorale

Lackey

Prayer After Communion

✙ Sending

*Hymn 729

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

*1 Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart, in my heart;*

*Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart.*

In my heart, in my heart,

*Lord, I want to be a Christian
in my heart.*

*2 Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart, in my heart;*

*Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart.*

In my heart, in my heart,

*Lord, I want to be more loving
in my heart.*

*3 Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart, in my heart;*

*Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart.*

In my heart, in my heart,

*Lord, I want to be more holy
in my heart.*

*4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart, in my heart;*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus
in my heart.*

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus

in my heart.

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Not Alone for Mighty Empire

Chesterton

✝️ 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*. Today's call to worship comes from a poem inscribed on a church bell in Wisconsin. The bell calls the community to worship: to the bath and the table, to the prayer and the Word.

✝️ 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.

Help Needed: Fellowship Hall Cleaning - August 4th - 6th

The Building & Grounds committee are leading an effort to clean, strip, and wax our Fellowship Hall floors August 4–6. We'll need additional help to clean items out of the room and help with the re-waxing. Talk to Marilyn or Larry King, or Alice Carter if you're able to help. The Fellowship Hall will not be available for use during those days.

All-Church Pool Party! Join us on August 10, 5–7 PM at River Aire Swim Club in Godfrey for fun, food, and fellowship. The address of the pool is: 5316 Dixon Drive, Godfrey, IL 62035.

Blessing of the Backpacks - August 10

Come join the church in starting the school year off strong. Bring your work bag, your backpack, your notebook, anything you need to do your job. We will bless these so we can start the school year off right.

 **Blood Drive - August 14, 1pm - 6pm** - go to <https://lovejoyupc.org/> next steps & signups to register. Our recent blood donations were distributed to patients at: Barnes Jewish Hospital — St. Louis, Christian Hospital North East, Missouri Baptist Medical Center — St. Louis, Lee Summit Medical Center (Near Kansas City, MO)

 **Food Pantry Needs:** Canned Vegetables your donations are always appreciated.

A Place of Grace Boomwhacker Choir Retreat - August 19, 2025 4:30 - 6:00 PM

A Place of Grace has started monthly BOOMWHACKER CHOIR Retreats at Maeva's Coffee, 1320 Milton Road, Alton, IL, in the small banquet room! Do you enjoy making music? Are you interested in learning more about worship hymns and leaning into the music of faith as you work with others to play it? Join our Boomwhacker Choir! No previous musical experience is necessary. Please RSVP to Julie Gvillo by Friday, August 15th.

A Place of Grace Mission Madness Workshop Retreat - August 20, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Help us help others! If you are looking for a place to plug in with local mission agencies, but are not available during their weekday hours or need sit down jobs, Mission Madness Workshop Retreats are perfect! Crafters will work

together to create gifts for RFM, Community Hope Center, and Hoyleton Youth & Family Services during a time of purposeful fellowship. Join us! Contact Julie Gvillo for details.

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 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, John Gremler & the Gremler Family, Connor, JoAnn Lamar, Trans folks, Kenny Slayden, Connie, Ched, Mark Carter, 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 (Eddie Chappell's son and her daughter-in-law), Cathy Lister (Karen Auston's sister).

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