

✚ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Recognizing our Veterans

Prelude

*Count Your Blessings*

Linda Allen (clarinet)  
Brant Adams

\* Call to Worship

Stand firm and hold fast to your faith.  
**God will strengthen us in word and deed.**  
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us worship God.

\* Prayer of the Day

\* Hymn 79

*Light Dawns on a Weary World*

*1 Light dawns on a weary world  
when eyes begin to see  
all people's dignity.  
Light dawns on a weary world:  
the promised day of justice comes.*

*Refrain:  
The trees shall clap their hands;  
the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!  
We shall go out in joy,  
and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.*

*2 Love grows in a weary world  
when hungry hearts find bread  
and children's dreams are fed.  
Love grows in a weary world:  
the promised feast of plenty comes.*

*3 Hope blooms in a weary world  
when creatures, once forlorn,  
find wilderness reborn.  
Hope blooms in a weary world:  
the promised green of Eden comes.*

Prayer of Confession

**You call us to faithful living,  
giving ourselves to you and to one another  
after the example of Jesus.  
Yet sin prevents us  
from following your directions  
We pursue our own goals,  
worship our own gods,  
and place our hope in things  
that cannot last.  
Wash us anew.  
Forgive us again.  
Give us ears to hear your call  
and faith to follow where Christ leads.**

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

Psalm 145:1–5, 17–21  
I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.  
2 Every day I will bless you,  
and praise your name forever and ever.  
3 Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
his greatness is unsearchable.  
4 One generation shall laud your works to another,  
and shall declare your mighty acts.  
5 On the glorious splendor of your majesty,  
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.  
Anthem  
17 The Lord is just in all his ways,

and kind in all his doings.  
18 The Lord is near to all who call on him,  
to all who call on him in truth.  
19 He fulfills the desire of all who fear him;  
he also hears their cry, and saves them.  
20 The Lord watches over all who love him,  
but all the wicked he will destroy.  
21 My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord,  
and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

Anthem

*Laudamus Te*

Sleeth

Second Reading

Haggai 1:15b—2:9

15 The Future Glory of the Temple

2 In the second year of King Darius, 1 in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: 2 Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, 3 Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? 4 Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, 5 according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. 6 For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; 7 and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts. 8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. 9 The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

Sermon

## ✦ Responding

\* Affirmation of Faith

*From Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39*

**We believe there is no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus;  
for we know that all things work together for good  
for those who love God,  
who are called according to God's purpose.  
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,  
nor angels, nor rulers,  
nor things present, nor things to come,  
nor powers, no height, nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation,**

**will be able to separate us from the love of God  
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

\* Hymn 383

*Dream On, Dream On*

*1 Dream on, dream on, children of peace, Till on earth God's kingdom come. Wolf and lamb will feed together; lions Like oxen will eat straw. Dust shall be the Serpent's food; no one shall destroy Or hurt. Children of earth in all colors. Live in peace and harmony.*

*2 Hope on, hope on, Easter people: beyond The cross, a dawning sun. Christ, our peace, Broke down all barriers: nation, culture, tribe, And clan. Reconciling us to God, Christ made Us one human race, joined in peace and liberation, lead by justice hope and love.*

*3 Mount up, mount up, like an eagle to the heights, beyond the clouds. Strife and sorrow shall not stop you; pain and tears shall lose their power. Even though the young may stumble, God the Lord renews their strength. They shall run and not grow weary; They shall walk and not faint.*

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 Joys and Concerns

Hymn 692

*Spirit, Open My Heart, refrain*

*Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.*

*As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving.*

*Spirit, open my heart.*

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 543

*God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

*1 God, be the love to search and keep me;  
God, be the prayer to move my voice;  
God, be the strength to now uphold me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*2 Bind to myself the Name of Holy,  
great cloud of witnesses enfold;  
prophets, apostles, angels witness:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*3 Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,  
flashing of lightning, strength of wind,  
depth of the sea to soil of planet:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*4 Walking behind to hem my journey,  
going ahead to light my way,  
and from beneath, above, and all ways:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

*5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me,  
Christ in the ears that hear my voice,  
Christ in the hearts of all who know me:  
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.*

\* Charge & Benediction

\* Postlude

*Fugue in B Flat Major*

Bach

## ✠ 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.

**Fellowship Committee Meeting** Today after worship in Fellowship Hall.

 **Joy In Giving: Stewardship for 2026** As our church leaders plan for our ministries next year, we invite you to consider how God is calling you to give. Please return a pledge card in the offering basket, church office, or submit your pledge online at [lovejoyupc.org/pledge](https://lovejoyupc.org/pledge).

**Family Movie Night:** Sunday, November 23 at 6 PM Free dinner followed by a viewing of the hilarious movie at 7pm, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. **Sign-up Sheet is on the table in the narthex!**

 **Red Cross Blood Drive:** December 4th at 2-6pm. Sign up at [lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps](https://lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps).

 **Prayer Buddies:** Come Support a kid for the school year by being their prayer buddy. If you know a kid, a grandkid, anyone in school let us know so we can pair them up with someone not in school so they can have prayer buddy. A sign up sheet is on the table in the Narthex and at [lovejoyupc.org](https://lovejoyupc.org) and click next steps.

 **Food Pantry Needs:** Personal Care Items. Shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, etc. Your donations allow us to help others and are always appreciated.

 **Christmas Boxes** – Please see our Christmas Food Box display in the narthex and take a flier if you'd like to donate.

 **Christmas Bake Sale** – Our Christmas Bake Sale will be December 13th. Save The Date!

**Lunch Bunch** will not be hosting a vaccine clinic this year.

**A Place of Grace Mission Madness Retreat at RFM - November 12, 2025 9AM - 12PM**

We will meet in the parking lot behind RFM at 8:45 for our morning Examen practice. Come help us support the work of this amazing agency in the riverbend community! [RSVP to aplaceofgrace-juliegvillo.net](https://rsvp.to/aplaceofgrace-juliegvillo.net) by 11/5 to let us know you are going!

**A Place of Grace Online Faithbooking Retreat - November 12, 2025 6PM - 8PM (Zoom)**

Online Faithbooking Retreats provide sacred space for paper crafters to reflect on God's activity in their lives through junk journaling. Cutting instructions will go out in the November 3rd Grace Grams. Text Julie at 618-410-5060 for a materials list by 11/5.

 **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](#).
- **The Bible Class: Introduction to the Old Testament with Dr. Ryan Harris**  
If you've ever felt like the Old Testament is hard to understand, unapproachable, or just plain confusing, this class is for you. We will be looking at the Old Testament in a variety of ways, with a focus on giving you new methods and tools for understanding the Old Testament and applying it to life. Class starts at 9 AM on Sunday, September 7. [lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps](https://lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps).

 **Wednesdays at LoveJoy United**

- **Lectionary Bible Study** In-Person or Zoom at 10:15 AM - Join pastor Daniel 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. 3

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

JoAnn Moss, Pat Fletcher, John Gremling & the Gremling 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 (Edie Chappell's son and her daughter-in-law), Cathy Lister (Karen Auston's sister), Barb (Linda Smith's daughter), Paula Blair, Jeane Slayden, Mike Carnes, Eli (The Paddock's grandson).

### **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](http://www.lovejoyupc.org) | (618) 254-5880

Rev. Daniel Ervin, Pastor | [daniel@lovejoyupc.org](mailto:daniel@lovejoyupc.org)

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

Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper