

✦ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Rejoice Greatly
Geschke

Bell Choir

* Call to Worship

Though finite human minds
cannot fathom God's fullness,
**God gives us glimpses of glory every day
in the night sky's depths
and in the simplest flower,**
in shared meals, shared stories,
and shared struggles.
**In the face of every person made in God's image,
God's beauty glows like sunlight behind clouds.**
We share God's sacred longing to be known,
to be truly seen and loved for all we are
**But to be fully known,
we must risk vulnerability.**
When we dare to share ourselves with one another,
when we work to understand a friend or stranger,
**we come closer to catch a glimpse
of God's presence.
Let us worship God together.**

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 12

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise
1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.*

*3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.*

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.

*Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

Prayer of Confession

**God of compassion,
in Jesus Christ you reveal the light of your glory,
but we turn away, distracted by our own plans.
We confess that we speak when we should listen,
and act when we should wait.
Forgive our aimless enthusiasms.
Grant us wisdom to live in your light
and to follow in the way of your beloved Son,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior...**

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
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.*

*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

Exodus 24:12-18

12 The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14 To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them." 15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. 17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18

Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Anthem

Jesus, What a Beautiful Name

Riches

Second Reading

Matthew 17:1-9

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. 2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. 3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. 4 Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I[a] will make three dwellings[b] here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." 5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Son, the Beloved;[c] with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" 6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. 7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." 8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. 9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

✚ Responding

* 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.

Reception of New Members

* 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 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.**

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 Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer 471

O Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

When we call, answer us.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

O Lord, hear our prayer.

Come and listen to us.

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 192

Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining
1 Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.

Refrain
Shine, Jesus, shine;
fill this land with the Father's glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.

2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me. (Refrain)

3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. (Refrain)

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Song of Joy

Hughes

✠ 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.

Congregational Meeting is Rescheduled for Today after Worship!

The annual meeting of the congregation will be February 15 after worship. The purpose of the meeting will be for the congregation to vote on the Session's recommended changes to the pastor's terms of call. They will also present the 2026 budget to the congregation.

Italian Luncheon - We will be having an Italian Luncheon Today after the congregational meeting. We welcome a free will offering to help offset the cost of the meal.

Ash Wednesday Service is February 18 at 7 PM

Join us in this service of confessions and repentance as we receive ashes as a sign of our mortality.

 **Lenten Small Groups begin the week of Feb. 22.** This Lent, we are hosting several small groups to deepen our relationships and love for one another through the practice of conversation. Part fellowship and part formation, these gatherings will ready us to better love one another as we serve Christ in community at LoveJoy United. Sign up in the Narthex or at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps.

Hope, Health, and Healing Series: February 22, 2026 after worship

Debbie Dyle, a resident of Moro, Illinois, will recount her recovery after surviving a heart attack and describe how she now lives a "second life" filled with new goals and impressive physical accomplishments.

Church Women United Lenten Services & Lunches

Starting Ash Wednesday and continuing through Good Friday, community members are invited to attend 30 minute Lenten Services every Wednesday from 12–12:30pm, followed by a \$5 lunch, at area churches. A free will offering will benefit Oasis Women's Center and Crisis Food Center. For dates and locations: <https://bit.ly/3ZoX0S5>.

Food Pantry Needs: Soup and Peanut Butter

Walk to Jerusalem Wednesday, February 18th, the Walk to Jerusalem will begin with daily meditations/spiritual practices via email and Facebook group and podcast, daily check-ins, and our communal effort to walk the 6415 miles to Jerusalem. Register today, and invite friends!! Please RSVP via the form at <https://www.aplaceofgrace-juliegville.net/upcoming-events.html>.

Place of Grace Boomwhacker Choir Retreat February 25, 2026 at 6 PM Von Dell Gallery & Studios, 102 E Ferguson, Wood River, IL If you've never played Boomwhackers, you don't know how much fun you're missing! Join us for these monthly retreats to reflect on the lyrics to hymns of faith and then learn how to play them with others! IT'S SO FUN!! Visit: <https://www.aplaceofgrace-juliegville.net/upcoming-events.html>

Adult Christian Education on Sunday Mornings at 9 AM

- **Sunday Morning Live (Love Room & Zoom)** Is an informal, conversational class that seeks to connect scripture, theology, and faith to our lives and world. They relate current events to Scripture to create thought-provoking discussions via *The Wired Word*.
- **The Bible Class (Fellowship Hall & Zoom)**, led by Sandra Monroe, is exploring the lectionary readings using the curriculum, *Feasting on the Word*.

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.

PRAYER CONCERNS

JoAnn Moss, Pat Fletcher, John Gremling & the Gremling Family, JoAnn Lamar, Trans folks, Kenny Slayden, Connie, 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), David Norris, Jo Carter, Julie Spurgeon, Becky & Rich Davis and Ray Bently (Friends of Linda Allen), Tom Cunningham (friend of Paula Blair), Connie Anderson (member of College Avenue), Steve Burton & Sean Boston (relatives of Lynn Boston), Gary Cooper (Kathi's brother), Chad Cox (friend of Mike Paddock).

NURSING & RETIREMENT HOME RESIDENTS

Liberty Village, Maryville – Shirley Martin
 Villa Rose, Bethalto – Beth Forrester
 Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Mary Barnes, Linda Duncan, Lee McCoy
 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