

✦ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Meditation

Bradbury/ Broughton

\* Call to Worship

We are salt for the earth.  
**We are a light for the world.**  
Just as no one hides a lamp away,  
**we will offer the world what only we can give.**  
In shining our lights, we will remember:  
**We are not the only ones with vital wisdom.**  
Grateful for mutual enlightenment,  
**we will not drown out another's beam with ours.**

\* Prayer of the Day

\* Hymn 667

*When Morning Gilds the Skies*  
1 *When morning gilds the skies,*  
*my heart awaking cries:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*  
*Alike at work and prayer*  
*to Jesus I repair:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*

2 *Does sadness fill my mind?*  
*A solace here I find:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*  
*Or fades my earthly bliss?*  
*My comfort still is this:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*

3 *Let earth's wide circle round*  
*in joyful notes resound:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*  
*Let air and sea and sky*  
*from depth to height reply:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*

4 *Be this, while life is mine,*  
*my canticle divine:*  
*may Jesus Christ be praised!*

*Be this the eternal song  
through all the ages long:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!*

Prayer of Confession

**Patient God,  
it is so easy for us to miss the point.  
We know how to perform righteousness;  
we go to church, we donate, we volunteer,  
but we care more about how we are seen  
than our faithfulness to you.  
We show off our piousness,  
instead of actually sharing our food,  
our homes, our resources  
with those in the most need.  
Have mercy on us for the ways we serve ourselves,  
and teach us your way,  
the way that leads to justice and peace...**

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

Isaiah 58:1-9a  
Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
2 Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practised righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;

they ask of me righteous judgements,  
they delight to draw near to God.

3 'Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?'  
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast-day,  
and oppress all your workers.

4 Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

5 Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the Lord?

6 Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

8 Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator[a] shall go before you,  
the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.

9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

Anthem

I Have Felt the Touch of God

Larson

Second Reading

Matthew 5:13-20

13 'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

14 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

17 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter,[a] not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is

accomplished. 19 Therefore, whoever breaks[b] one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

## ✦ Responding

\* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from the Confession of 1967  
**In Jesus of Nazareth,  
true humanity was realized once for all.  
Jesus, a Palestinian Jew,  
lived among his own people  
and shared their needs, temptations,  
joys, and sorrows.  
He expressed the love of God  
in word and deed  
and became a brother  
to all kinds of sinful people.  
But his complete obedience  
led him into conflict with his people.  
His life and teaching judged their goodness,  
religious aspirations, and national hopes.  
Many rejected him and demanded his death.  
In giving himself freely for them,  
he took upon himself the judgment  
under which everyone stands convicted.  
God raised him from the dead,  
vindicating him as Messiah and Lord.  
The victim of sin became victor,  
and won the victory  
over sin and death for all. Amen.**

\* Hymn 314

*Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*  
*I Longing for light, we wait in darkness.*  
*Longing for truth, we turn to you.*  
*Make us your own, your holy people,*  
*light for the world to see.*

*Refrain:*

*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.*  
*Christ, be our light!*  
*Shine in your church gathered today.*

*2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice. (Refrain)*

*3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. (Refrain)*

*4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone. (Refrain)*

*5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come. (Refrain)*

## 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

## 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 744

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!  
1 Arise, your light is come!  
The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God,  
which shines on you today.*

*2 Arise, your light is come!  
Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captives' liberty,  
good tidings to the poor.*

*3 Arise, your light is come!  
All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the brokenhearted ones  
and comfort those who mourn.*

*4 Arise, your light is come!  
The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing;  
God's power will make us strong.*

\* Charge & Benediction

\* Postlude

Trumpet Tune

Johnson

## ✦ 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.

 **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](http://lovejoyupc.org/pledge).

 **Congregational Meeting is Rescheduled for February 15**

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 on **Sunday, February 15th after worship**. Food will be provided. Please sign up via the sign up sheet in the narthex.

 **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.

**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.

 **Per Capita Giving in the Presbyterian Church**

LoveJoy United will pay \$40 per member in 2026 to fund the work of the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy, and the churches under its care. A portion also goes to the PC(USA), which serves the church's mission around the country and the world. To help the congregation meet this financial obligation, many members of LoveJoy United choose to help offset the cost of Per Capita for themselves or family members. Per Capita for 2026 is \$40/person. You can send a check or pay online at [lovejoyupc.org/give](http://lovejoyupc.org/give). Thank you for your generosity.

 **Food Pantry Needs: Toilet Tissue**

**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 Rev. Dr. Linda Shugert**, 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 Gremlı & the Gremlı 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), 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).

#### **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

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

Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper