

✠ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

The Heavens Declare

Marcello

* Call to Worship

Through God's miracle of grace,
we have come through the night
and arrived at this glorious dawn.
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Tom Wyatt

All doors are open, all creation sings,
all that was broken is made whole,
and we have new life.
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 248

*Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!
1 Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
all creation is amazed.
In the desert all-surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
bring a taste of love unknown.*

*2 Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning.
See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection,
not a servant, but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion.
Joy and peace shall never end.*

*3 Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
"Christ is risen! Get you gone!"*

*God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!*

Prayer of Confession

**Resurrected Christ,
there is nothing we can do
to deserve the grace you give us.
There is no way we can earn your love,
there is no way we can be worthy
of your forgiveness.
And yet you shower these mercies on us.
You, who have taken away the sting of death,
meet us where we are,
in our doubt and fear,
in our regrets and shame,
in our delight and awe.
Meet us here in this place,
and call us once again to trust in you...**

Assurance of Forgiveness

* Passing of the Peace

May the Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

* Response

Christ Is Risen

Vladimir Morosan
In American Folk Style

*Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by death,
and upon those in the tombs
bestowing life.*

✦ Word

Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:1-6

At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

2 Thus says the Lord:

The people who survived the sword
found grace in the wilderness;

when Israel sought for rest,

3 the Lord appeared to him[a] from far away.[b]

I have loved you with an everlasting love;

therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

4 Again I will build you, and you shall be built,

O virgin Israel!

Again you shall take[c] your tambourines,

and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.
5 Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria;
the planters shall plant,
and shall enjoy the fruit.
6 For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim:
“Come, let us go up to Zion,
to the Lord our God.”

Anthem

Jubilate!

Bell Choir

Second Reading

Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he[a] lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead,[b] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” 8 So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

✦ Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

From the Confession of 1967

Life in Christ is life eternal.

**The resurrection of Jesus is the sign
that God will consummate the work
of creation and reconciliation beyond death
and bring to fulfillment
the new life begun in Christ.**

* Hymn 504

We Come as Guests Invited

*I We come as guests invited
when Jesus bids us dine,*

*his friends on earth united
to share the bread and wine;
the bread of life is broken;
the wine is freely poured
for us, in solemn token
of Christ our dying Lord.*

*2 We eat and drink, receiving
from Christ the grace we need,
and in our hearts believing
on him by faith we feed;
with wonder and thanksgiving
for love that knows no end,
we find in Jesus living
our ever-present friend.*

*3 One bread is ours for sharing,
one single fruitful vine,
our fellowship declaring
renewed in bread and wine:
renewed, sustained, and given
by token, sign, and word,
the pledge and seal of heaven,
the love of Christ our Lord.*

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 470

*There is a Longing in Our Hearts
There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord,
for you to reveal yourself to us.
There is a longing in our hearts for love
we only find in you, our God.*

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
I 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

Prayer After Communion

✠ Sending

Anthem

Sound the Trumpet!

Wesley & Peterson

Buzz Ullrich:trumpet

Please stand when invited to join the choir in the final hymn.

* Hymn

Christ the Lord is Ris'n today

Christ the Lord is ris'n today, Alleluia!

Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing ye heav'ns, and earth replay: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Dying once, He all doth save, Alleluia!

Where thy victory, O Grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids Him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened Paradise, Alleluia!

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Chorale on “Christ est Erstanden”

Smith


✦ 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.

Easter Egg Hunt - Join us today after worship for an easter egg hunt!!

 **Blood Drive** It's that time again. We will be hosting our next **Red Cross blood drive on Thursday, April 9**. If you are able, please donate to improve the quality of life for the donor, or potentially saving a life following an accident or surgery.

 **Food Pantry Needs:** Toilet Tissue

A Place of Grace, Grace at the Gallery - April 7, 2026 7:30 AM

Von Dell Gallery & Studios, 102 E Ferguson, Wood River, IL

The next seven weeks of retreats begins at Von Dell Gallery & Studios on Tuesday! Pick your time!

Please RSVP ahead: <https://www.aplaceofgrace-juliegville.net/upcoming-events.html>.

A Place of Grace, Mission Madness Workshop Retreat - April 8, 2026 6PM

LoveJoy United Fellowship Hall - Come get your craft on! Bring scissors. Bring friends. Come craft with a purpose! juliegville.aplaceofgrace@gmail.com

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 Gremli & the Gremli Family, JoAnn Lamar, Trans folks, Kenny Slayden, Connie, Mark Carter, Tom and Jupiter, Shelly Devore (Brenda and Deb’s niece), Brittany, Bill Lester, Lanny Harris, John Kennedy, Renee Lynn, Forrest, David Hemphill, Linda Duncan, 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, 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), Chad Cox (friend of Mike Paddock) Joyce Melton (Faye Buerk's friend), Joe Phillips, Hughie (Sandy Franke's Son).

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

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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