

✦ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

* Call to Worship

The Spirit of the Lord is here;
let us humble ourselves.

Rev. Dr. Linda Shugert, liturgist

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 503

Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation

*¹ Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
yours is the strength that sustains dedication;
ours, a commitment we know never ends.*

*² Here, at your table, confirm our intention;
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
teach us to serve without pride or pretension,
Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.*

*³ When, at your table, each time of returning,
vows are renewed and our courage restored,
may we increasingly glory in learning
all that it means to accept you as Lord.*

Prayer of Confession

Faithful One,
Despite our best efforts,
we have not lived up to what we can do
or who we can be.
Even when our intentions are good,
our actions cause harm.
Even when we want to follow you more closely,
we end up turning away.
We are at war with ourselves,
and only you can bring peace.
Still our souls, order our steps,
guide our feet back to your way...

Assurance of Forgiveness

* Passing of the Peace

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

* Hymn Response 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

- ⁸ The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- ⁹ The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made.
- ¹⁰ All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your faithful shall bless you.
- ¹¹ They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,
- ¹² to make known to all people your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
- ¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and gracious in all his deeds.

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

Special Music

Second Reading

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

- ¹⁶ “But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,
- ¹⁷ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’
- ¹⁸ “For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”
- ²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
- ²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.
- ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

 Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Will You Come and Follow Me

¹ *“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”*

² *“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?”*

³ *“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?”*

⁴ *“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?”*

⁵ *Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

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 of Joys and Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer 465, v. 1 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

*What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!*

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

Prayer After Communion

✦ Sending

* Hymn 339

Lift Every Voice and Sing

*¹ Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies;
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on, till victory is won.*

*² Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died.
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered;
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.*

*³ God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.*


* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude


✦ Worship Notes

Ann French is our Director of Music. Thanks to Michael & Robert Musgrave-Perkins 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*.

✦ Announcements

Announcements marked with  are opportunities that relate to our Matthew 25 commitment.



 **Food Pantry Needs:** Canned Vegetables (any variety)

Summertime Newsletter

Things naturally slow down a bit around here during the summer, so we're combining our July and August newsletters into one resource-saving issue of *The Observer*.

Do you or your committee have upcoming news, events, or updates for the rest of the summer? Please submit your announcements to the church office by Wednesday, July 8th, to ensure they make it into this combined edition!



✦ Calendar and Prayer Requests

✦ This Week at LoveJoy United

NEXT Sunday, July 5

- 9 am** Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
- 9 am** The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
- 10:15 am** Worship WITH COMMUNION (Sanctuary & Zoom)
- 11:15 am** Coffee Break (Narthex)

Monday, July 6

- 10 am** Mat Weaving (Hope Room)

Wednesday, July 8

- 10:15 am** Lectionary Bible Study (FH & Zoom)
- 11:30 am** Lunch Bunch

NEXT Sunday, July 12

- 9 am** Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
- 9 am** The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
- 10:15 am** Worship (Sanctuary & Zoom)
- 11:15 am** Coffee Break (Narthex)

✦ In our Prayers

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| Barb (Linda Smith's daughter) | John Gremlí & the Gremlí Family |
| Becky Pontieri (Friend of Deb Goskie) | John Kennedy |
| Bill Lester | Joyce Melton (Faye Buerk's friend) |
| Brittany | Joya Freeman (Valerie and Joe's DIL) |
| Cathy Lister (Karen Auston's sister) | Julie Spurgeon |
| Chad Cox (friend of Mike Paddock) | Kenny Slayden |
| Connie | Jane Heppner |
| Connie Anderson (College Avenue) | Linda Duncan |
| David Hemphill | Mark Carter |
| David Norris | Pat Fletcher |
| Forrest | Paula Blair |
| Gary Chappell and Laurie Chappell (Edie Chappell's Family) | Renee Lynn |
| Huey (Sandy Franke's Son) | Steve Burton & Sean Boston (Lynn Boston's Family) |
| Jeane Slayden | Terrye Mock (Joe Freeman's Sister) |
| Jo Carter | Tom and Jupiter |
| JoAnn Lamar | Tom Cunningham (friend of Paula Blair) |
| JoAnn Moss | Trans folks |
| Joe Phillips | Winnie Whittaker |

Nursing and Retirement Home Residents

- Liberty Village, Maryville – Shirley Martin
- Villa Rose, Bethalto – Beth Forrester
- Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Mary Barnes, Linda Duncan
- Liberty Village, Jerseyville – Shirley Burris
- Villas of Holly Brook – Jeane Slayden



**NEXT STEPS
& SIGNUPS**

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church

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Hollie Brandstatter, Admin | admin@lovejoyupc.org

Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper