

❖ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Fairest Lord Jesus

Sikes

* Call to Worship

Enter God's gates with praise and thanksgiving.
We order our footsteps according to God's word.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.
Let us worship God.

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 2

Come, Thou Almighty King

¹ *Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise:
Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.*

² *Come, thou incarnate Word,
merciful, mighty Lord,
our prayer attend.
Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy word success;
Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.*

³ *Come, holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.*

⁴ *To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be,
hence evermore!
Thy sovereign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.*

Prayer of Confession

Spirit, intercede . . .
**when we fall short of your glory,
when we do not deserve your promises,
when we do not act like those who have been called your family.**
Spirit, intercede . . .
**when our words wound,
when our silence speaks volumes,
when our actions are a far cry from what you would have us do.**
Spirit, intercede . . .
**break forth into our lives,
forming us into the image of your Son,
that we might never feel separate from you again.**

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.*



Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.
¹³⁰ The unfolding of your words gives light;
it imparts understanding to the simple.
¹³¹ With open mouth I pant,
because I long for your commandments.
¹³² Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your custom toward those who love your name.
¹³³ Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.
¹³⁴ Redeem me from human oppression,
that I may keep your precepts.
¹³⁵ Make your face shine upon your servant,
and teach me your statutes.
¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of tears
because your law is not kept.

Special Music

Morning Has Broken

Karen Ullrich

Second Reading

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad.

⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

✦ Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from *The Confession of Belhar*

We believe

- ✦ **That God has revealed God's self as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;**
- ✦ **That God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged**
- ✦ **That God calls the church to follow God in this; for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;**
- ✦ **That the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged.**

Therefore, we reject any ideology which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

Amen.

* Hymn 175

Seek Ye First

*¹ Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!*

*² Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
seek, and you shall find;
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluia!*

*³ You shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Allelu, alleluia!*

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

Give at lovejoyupc.org/give

*Loose cash offerings benefit our Good Samaritan fund, which helps our neighbors.
Through August 16th, this offering will go toward our mission to buy shoes for local kids going back to school.*

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!

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 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 people and liberation,

Led 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 shall not faint.*

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

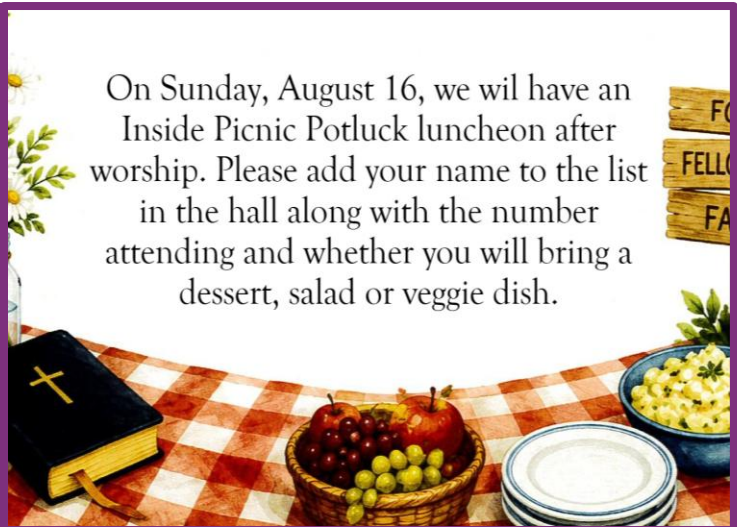
❖ Announcements

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

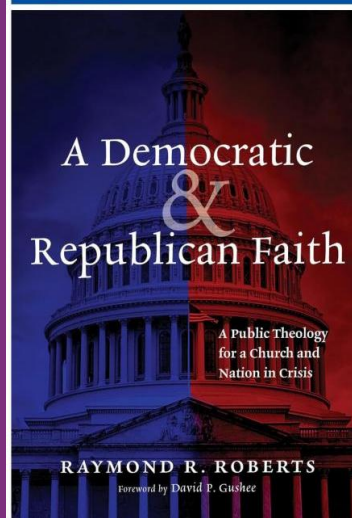


You're invited to the 80th Birthday Celebration for Marilyn King August 2, 1-4 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

Let's celebrate this special day as a family! In lieu of gifts, please consider a donation to the LoveJoy United Food Pantry



The Rev. Dr. Raymond R. Roberts, prominent Presbyterian pastor, author, and health ethicist will speak at the Aug. 8 presbytery meeting at Cote Brillante PC in Ferguson, MO, beginning at 10 am with worship. His most recent book is *A Democratic & Republican Faith*. Let Karen Wilson know if you'd like to go.



Roberts regularly writes thoughtful commentary on faith, community engagement, and social justice for outlets like Presbyterian Outlook.



✦ Calendar and Prayer Requests

✦ This Week at LoveJoy United

Sunday, July 26
9 am Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
9 am The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
10:15 am Worship (Sanctuary & Zoom)
11:30 am Coffee Hour (Narthex)

Monday, July 27
9 am Food Pantry
10 am Mat Weaving (Hope Room)

Wednesday, July 29
10:15 am Lectionary Bible Study (FH & Zoom)
11:30 am Lunch Bunch (FH)
7 pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)

NEXT Sunday, August 2
9 am Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
9 am The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
10:15 am Worship & **Communion** (Sanctuary & Zoom)
11:30 am Coffee Hour (Narthex)
1 pm Marilyn King Birthday Celebration

✦ In our Prayers

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

Nursing and Retirement Home Residents

Liberty Village, Maryville – Shirley Martin
Villa Rose, Bethalto – Mary Barnes (new address), Betty Langenwalter
Stearns in Granite City – Beth Forrester
Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Linda Duncan
Liberty Village, Jerseyville – Shirley Burris
Villas of Holly Brook – Jeane Slayden



LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church

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Hollie Brandstatter, Admin | admin@lovejoyupc.org

Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper