

✦ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Praise God

Livingston

* Call to Worship

We sing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recount all of God's wonderful deeds.

Michael Musgrave-Perkins

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

And also with you.

Let us worship God.

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 720

Jesus Calls Us

*1 Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth
saying, "Christian, follow me."*

*2 Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."*

*3 In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."*

*4 Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thy obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.*

Prayer of Confession

**Sometimes it sounds too hard:
deny ourselves, take up our crosses,
lose our lives?
Forgive us, Savior,
but we'd rather you do it for us.**

**Forgive us, Christ,
but we are overwhelmed with what you ask of us.
We long to see you come in glory,
but fear the road we must take.
Have mercy on our weakness.
Be patient with our stumbling.
Do not leave us behind, even when we are slow to follow,
and lead us in your ways of peace...**

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 & Blessing of the Backpacks, Prayer Shawls, and Sleeping Mat

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God,^[b] for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Special Music

Seek Ye First

Alice Buzzard & John Rain

Second Reading

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

✦ Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from *The Brief Statement of Faith*

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.**

**We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen**

* Hymn 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

*1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!*

*2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down
beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!*

*3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!*

*4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.*

Announcements

Offering our Gifts

Give at lovejoyupc.org/give

*Loose cash offerings benefit our Good Samaritan fund, which helps our neighbors,
particularly through Riverbend Family Ministries*

Prayer of Dedication

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*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 692

Spirit, Open My Heart

*1 God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender.*

Refrain:

*Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.*

*2 Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. (Refrain)*

*3 May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. (Refrain)*

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Verset

Kerckhoven

✦ Announcements

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



RUMMAGE Sale!

This sale supports various mission projects of our church and assists our local community.

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church
2550 Rock Hill Road - Wood River, IL
618-254-5880

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2ND & 3RD
8:00 A.M. - NOON

PRESALE - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1ST
5:00 - 7:00 P.M.
\$3 ENTRY FEE

SHOP DONATE MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



Food Pantry Item Needed

Peanut Butter (16oz)

Whom do you know who is struggling with grief?

Artful Expressions of Grief, a 6-retreat series that uses art as a primary process and incorporates other spiritual practices as well, begins September 9th. At Von Dell Gallery and Studios in Wood River. Register by August 31st with a \$25 materials fee to reserve a spot!

Register here: <https://www.aplaceofgrace-juliegillo.net/upcoming-events.html>



LOVEJOY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT ALTON PRIDE FESTIVAL

Now more than ever, we need to show up and show there is a space and love for LGBTQ+ folks in God's family.

Join us as we celebrate and share our inclusive spirit!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE

Alton Pride Festival
September 12 | 11am - 7pm
For more information: altonpride.com



Office Closed Monday, September 7

We are thankful for all who keep this nation running. You are seen and appreciated.

🔔 🎵 🔔 Calling All Singers & Ringers 🔔 🎵 🔔

🎵 The new church music season is almost here! All new and returning singers are invited to join our choir. Choir rehearsals will begin on

Sunday, September 6, at 8:45 am in the sanctuary. Even though it's Labor Day weekend, if you're in town, come help us shake off the cobwebs and warm up those vocal cords!!! 🎵

🔔 The bell choir is also welcoming new ringers! 🔔

If interested, please contact **Ann French** by call, text, or in person. Bell choir rehearsals begin **Tuesday, September 8 at**

❖ Calendar and Prayer Requests

❖ This Week at LoveJoy United

THIS Sunday, August 30

- 9 am** Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
9 am The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
10:15 am Worship (Sanctuary & Zoom)
Blessing of the Backpacks
11:30 am Coffee Hour (Narthex)

Monday, August 31

- 10 am** Mat Weaving (Hope Room)
Noon Worship Committee Workday

Tuesday, September 1

- 6 pm** Mission & Outreach Committee Mtg

Wednesday, September 2

- 10:15 am** Lectionary Bible Study (FH & Zoom)
11:30 am Lunch Bunch/Mary Barnes Birthday
1 pm Stewardship Committee Mtg (Love Rm)
7 pm Evening Prayer (Zoom)

NEXT Sunday, September 6

- 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 Fellowship Hour (FH)

Nursing and Retirement Home Residents

Liberty Village, Maryville – Shirley Martin
Villa Rose, Bethalto – Mary Barnes, Betty Langenwalter
Stearns in Granite City – Beth Forrester
Cedarhurst, Bethalto – Linda Duncan
Liberty Village, Jerseyville – Shirley Burris
Villas of Holly Brook – Jeane Slayden
Cedarhurst, Des Pares – Winnie Whittaker

❖ In our Prayers

Amy Camie
Barb (Linda Smith's daughter)
Becky Pontieri (Friend of Deb Goskie)
Bill Lester
Brittany
Carol Reed (Hershel Henson's sister)
Cathy Lister (Karen Auston's sister)
Cindy Chauvin (Mike & Mag Paddock's daughter)
Connie Anderson (College Avenue)
David Hemphill
David Norris
Donna Kay (Family of Carol Hanold)
Forrest
Gary Chappell (Family of Edie Chappell)
Huey (Sandy Franke's Son)
Jane Heppner
Jeane Slayden
Jo Carter
JoAnn Lamar
JoAnn Moss
Joe Phillips
John Kennedy
Joya Freeman (Valerie and Joe Freeman's DIL)
Joyce Melton (Faye Buerk's Friend)
Julie Spurgeon
Kenny Slayden
Laurie Chappell (Family of Edie Chappell)
Linda Duncan
Pat Fletcher
Renee Lynn
Sue Harris
Terrye Mock (Joe Freeman's Sister)
Tom Cunningham (Friend of Paula Blair)
Tom and Jupiter
Winnie Whittaker
Gremi Family
Trans Folks
Chris Allen (Stepson of Linda Allen)
James Bradley (Son of Cindy Mayhew)



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

Hollie Brandstatter, Admin | admin@lovejoyupc.org

Ann French, Director of Music

Joshua Bryant, Custodian & Groundskeeper