

✦ Gathering

Words of Welcome

Prelude

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Sherman

Bell Choir

* Call to Worship

We gather with hope in our hearts,
**for something happens here
that teaches us God is present.**

Alice Buzzard

We know this place is sacred
**for something happens here,
that teaches us God is our center.**

We gather with joyful praise,
**for something happens here
that teaches us God is forever faithful.**

* Prayer of the Day

* Hymn 515

I Come with Joy

¹ *I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall,
in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.*

² *I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.*

³ *As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.*

⁴ *The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.*

⁵ *Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.*

Prayer of Confession

**God of the law and the prophets,
We do not want to admit
all the commandments we have broken.
We worship idols of money, success, and power.
We use your name to justify whatever we do.
We do not honor each other;
we covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others.
Our sins are too many to name.
Forgive us.
Speak to us and we will listen,
remembering that you are
our freedom and deliverer...**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

* Passing of the Peace

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

* Hymn Response 585

Glory to God, Gloria a Dios

*1 Glory to God, glory to God,
glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God,
glory in the highest!
To God be glory forever!
To God be glory forever!*

Alleluia, Amen!

Alleluia, Amen!

(X3)

*2 Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to Christ Jesus!
Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to Christ Jesus!
To God be glory forever!
To God be glory forever!*

*Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen!
(X3)*

*3 Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Spirit!
Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to the Spirit!
To God be glory forever!
To God be glory forever!*

*Alleluia, Amen!
Alleluia, Amen!
(X3)*

✦ Word

Time with the Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

5 I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

2 He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

3 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

Anthem

How Beautiful

Paris

Second Reading

Matthew 21:33–46

³³ “Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

Sermon

Rev. Daniel Ervin

✦ Responding

* Affirmation of Faith

Adapted from Romans 8

**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 712

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought

¹ *As those of old their firstfruits brought
of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield,
so we today our firstfruits bring,
the wealth of this good land:
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind and heart and hand.*

² *A world in need now summons us
to labor, love, and give,
to make our life an offering
that all may truly live.
The church of Christ is calling us
to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed by Christ-like love,
all life in Christ made new.*

³ *In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today,
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.*

Announcements

Moment for Mission

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

You may also give to the World Communion Special Offering using the envelopes in the Narthex or giving online at lovejoyupc.org/give. This offering supports causes of: racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, ecumenical and interfaith relations

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

We will receive communion in the pews, first the bread and then the cup. The wine will be white and the grape juice will be red. All who desire to know Jesus more deeply are welcome at his table.

Communion Meditation

Communion Medley

Sikes

Prayer After Communion

✦ Sending

* Hymn 546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

¹ As those of old their firstfruits brought
of vineyard, flock, and field
to God, the giver of all good,
the source of bounteous yield,
so we today our firstfruits bring,
the wealth of this good land:
of farm and market, shop and home,
of mind and heart and hand.

² A world in need now summons us
to labor, love, and give,
to make our life an offering
that all may truly live.
The church of Christ is calling us
to make the dream come true:
a world redeemed by Christ-like love,
all life in Christ made new.

³ In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today,
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ your Son,
help us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.

* Charge & Benediction

* Postlude

Celebration

Hughes

✦ Worship Notes

Parts of today's worship are adapted from the *Book of Common Worship* and *Call to Worship*.
Thanks to Michael & Robert Musgrave-Perkins for running our media system.

✦ Land Acknowledgement

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.



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church
2550 Rock Hill Rd.
Wood River, IL 62095

**Wednesday, October 14
1:00 to 6:00 pm.**



Blood donations are needed every 2 seconds by a recipient. Only 3% of Americans are donors. This is one of the ways we can show our love as neighbors to "the least of these".



**Food Pantry Item Needed
Peanut Butter (16oz)**



The Congregational Nominating Committee is seeking your input

as they discern who God is called to serve
as elders, deacons, and members
of the 2027 nominating committee.

*Please submit nominations to
Deb Goskie*

or

online at lovejoyupc.org/nextsteps
and click **Nominations**.



YOU ARE WELCOME!

❖ Calendar and Prayer Requests

❖ This Week at LoveJoy United

THIS Sunday, October 4 -- World Communion Sunday

- 8:45 am** Choir Rehearsal
9 am Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
9 am The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
10:15 am Worship and Communion (Sanctuary & Zoom)
11:30 am Coffee Hour (Narthex)

Monday, October 5

- 10 am** Mat Weaving (Hope Room)
7 pm Fellowship Committee Meeting (FH)

Tuesday, October 6

- 9 am** Bell Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6 pm Mission and Outreach Committee (FH & Zoom)

Wednesday, October 7

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

Saturday, October 10

- 3 pm** Potluck Set-up (FH)

NEXT Sunday, October 11

- 8:45 am** Choir Rehearsal
9 am Sunday Morning Live (Love Rm & Zoom)
9 am The Bible Class (FH & Zoom)
10:15 am Worship (Sanctuary & Zoom)
11:30 am Potluck Native American Sunday



**NEXT STEPS
& SIGNUPS**

❖ In our Prayers

Amy Camie
Barb (Linda Smith's daughter)
Becky Pontieri (Friend of Deb Goskie)
Bill Lester
Brittany
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
Friends and Family of Winnie Whittaker
Gremi Family
Trans Folks
Chris Allen (Stepson of Linda Allen)
James Bradley (Son of Cindy Mayhew)
Beth Mabb
Scott Thompson
Jessica Rigler

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
Villas of Holly Brook – Jeane Slayden

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