

ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

727 N. Main St.
Independence, Missouri 64050
Church Phone: 461-0302
www.stlukesuccindep.org

Rev. E. Paul Emily, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 816-379-5726
stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org
Margie Foley, Organist/Pianist
Matthew Bennett, Conductor/Violinist

Nanette Moore, Administrative Assistant/Director of Christian Education
Pastors Emeriti: Rev. David Lyon & Rev. Ralph Koch
*If comfortable doing so, you are invited to stand.

The hymns today come from The Methodist Hymnal.

NOVEMBER 28, 2021

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SILENT MEDITATION: ""The lamps are different, but the Light is the same. One matter, one energy, one Light, one Light-mind, endlessly emanating all things."--Rumi

GATHERING MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Advent Processional"

Anna Laura Page

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 204 (Sing Twice) "Emmanuel, Emmanuel"

McGEE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us,
his name is called Emmanuel.

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: When it seems that, no matter where we look, the world is sunk in shadow, when the sun is darkened, and the moon will not give its light,

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us.

One: When lighting one small candle and calling it "hope" feels like an act of futility,

All: Restore us, O God, let your face shine upon us.

One: When we need to be reminded that even one small light can begin to warm the shadows around it,

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us.

One: Because even one small light can assure us that you have not abandoned us, that even now your light is drawing near,

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us.

One: As we light this one small candle, O God, we remember that our sisters and brothers all over this world are lighting candles of their own, and that all of us together, with your help, can carry a light of hope into the deepest, most foreboding corners, where you, amazingly, are already at work.

All: Restore us, O God; may our faces shine with your light.

Lighting the Candle of Hope

One: Let us pray.

All: Gracious God, remind us in the events of each day that no matter what the world around us brings, you are our light, drawing ever nearer. With this one small candle, strengthen us to join our own light with yours, and to be ever watchful for your in-breaking realm in our midst. Let this one small candle kindle hope: in our hearts, in our community, and in our world. Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)**

Generous God, we joyously bring our offerings to you with gratitude and faith. We would be ever awake and watchful for opportunities to make a difference, to help others become aware of your presence, to value life in all its fullness, and to learn to care. We dedicated these gifts and the living of our lives to your Spirit for these purposes. Amen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 213 (vs 1,2,3) "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"**

TRURO

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;
behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near;
the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Wait! Watch!"

David Lantz III

The Liturgist today is Linda Drown.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SALVATION ARMY BELLRINGING

Saturday, December 18th
from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Independence Center—Front Door

Sign-up Sheets are in the hallway and
Sign-up Genius is available online. The link to Sign-up Genius will be in Windows.

HOLIDAY HELPERS

We are again participating in the Independence School District's
Holiday Helper Campaign. We will collect money through next Sunday,
December 5th and the donations will go to families in need that aren't helped by other programs.
A family from our congregation will be matching all our gifts up to \$500.
Look for a Holiday Helper can right inside the Sanctuary door.

CHECK IN, SHARE AND COMMENT

If you are worshipping in person, please "Check-in" on Facebook, then, share the service, comment on it and like it. You are encouraged to have your device out during the service.



If the music inspires you, tell Matthew and Margie by
commenting about how wonderful it was or say thank you.
If the sermon speaks to you, comment with how it touched you.
If there is a great story during Children's Moment or a kid makes you laugh,
comment and tell what it was.

If someone makes a comment that you like, reply to them.
We encourage you to connect with those worshipping online as well as in person.

If you are worshipping online, share and comment on the service. Comment on the things listed above, reply to
and/or like other people's comments.

Again, it is so important to stay connected and these are simple ways to do that.

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday

10:45 AM Online Worship

5:00 PM Confirmation Class

Monday—Friday, 9:45 AM Live with Pastor Paul in Windows Facebook Group

Monday, 6:00 PM Girl Scout Meeting

Wednesday, 9:30—1:00 ABC Quilting

7:00 PM NA Meeting

Thursday, 6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

For more information about any of these, please email the church office at stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org

GIVING OPTIONS

If you wish to make a donation to St. Luke's, there are several options available:

1. Check mailed to church office at 727 N. Main, Independence, MO 64050
2. Internet donation – you may now donate from a secure site by clicking on the Give Now button on the website.
3. Electronic funds transfer – your offering can be automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.

To sign up, click here. After completing the form, contact the church office stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org for instructions.

4. Vanco Mobile App - download the free app on Google Play or the App Store. Enter St Lukes (without punctuation) as the church name Select St. Luke's United Church of Christ in Independence. From there you can create an account and use the app for donations.

5. Text the word GIVE to 816-312-5053 and you will be directed to a secure site for giving.



CONNECT

If you are visiting today we would love to connect with you.
Text CONNECT to 816-312-5053 or use the QR code to the left.

PHOTO/VIDEO POLICY

May it be understood that any pictures/videos taken during any church event may be used for promotion. Church events, including but not limited to, worship services may be broadcast live on Facebook.
If you are not in agreement with this notify the church office.