

ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

727 N. Main St.
Independence, Missouri 64050
Church Phone: 816-461-0302
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 24, 2024

THIRTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SILENT MEDITATION: "Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; for the LORD's steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

GATHERING MUSIC
GREETING
PRELUDE

"O Worship the King"

Arr. Bruce Green

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 131 "We Gather Together"**

KREMSER

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come before the LORD with praise and thanksgiving!

All: We worship God with gladness!

One: Come before the LORD with gratitude and joy!

All: We shower God with our praise!

One: Come before the LORD with grateful hearts!

All: We bless God's holy name!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Gracious God, our minds are filled with thoughts of what we need. The focus of our concern is too often limited to ourselves. Our gratitude for the blessings that you bestow upon us fails to be expressed in our worship of you and in our commitment to honor you with all that we have received. Forgive our lack of gratitude. With grateful hearts, we would offer you now our thanks and praise for your enduring love and never-ending faithfulness to us. Amen

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 97 "For the Fruits of This Creation"**

HYMN NOTE: The lyrics to the final hymn are found below and in hymn number 97.
It will be sung to the tune of "All Through the Night".

For the fruits of this creation, thanks be to God; for good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God;
for the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done; in the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done;
in our world –wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God; for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God;
for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

"King of Glory"

Randall Dennis

The Liturgist today is Marita Ray.
Thank you to John Kritos for accompanying the hymns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias will be available to be purchased TODAY, before and after worship.
They will be \$10 each if purchased in person and \$11 if purchased online.
See Carol Lyon for more details.

HOLIDAY HELPERS

We are again participating in the Independence School District's Holiday Helper Campaign.
We will collect money through Sunday, December 1st.
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 in the sanctuary.

FOOD WAGON

We are collecting **HOLIDAY FOODS** for the food wagon (in the east coat closet). Any types of dressing mixes, cranberries, canned vegetables, etc. are appreciated. All of the food will be donated to Community Services League. We will collect the foods through December 8th.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

November 30th, 9:30 AM

Plan on helping decorate for the Advent Season.
All who are able to help bring decorations up from the basement,
are asked to stay after church today.

90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Help Ron Ritter celebrate his 90th Birthday on
December 1st, immediately following worship (No gifts please)

SAVE THE DATES

There are many things coming up that you want to add to your calendars.
More details will be put in the bulletin and Glimpse closer to time.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This year's Christmas Pageant will be on December 15th, during worship. Plan to attend to experience the Christmas story and traditions from around the world, through the eyes, voices and laughter of children.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be Tuesday, December 24th, at 7:00 PM in person or virtual. Invite a friend to this very special Christmas Eve Worship Service.

NEW YEAR'S WORSHIP AND BREAKFAST

Let's celebrate the end of 2024 and the beginning of 2025 with breakfast, fellowship and worship with your church family on December 29th. Breakfast at 9:30 followed by worship at 10:45 AM.

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, reply to them. We encourage you to connect with those 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. It is so important to stay connected & these are simple ways to do that.

INSTAGRAM

Use this QR code to follow St. Luke's UCC on Instagram!



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

10:45 AM Online & In person Worship followed by in person fellowship
Monday—Friday, 9:45 AM Live with Pastor Paul in Windows Facebook Group
Monday & Wednesday, 6:30 PM NA Meeting

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 right.



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.