ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

727 N. Main St.		Rev. E. Paul Emily	, Pastor		
Independence, Missouri 64050		Pastor's Phone: 816	-379-5726		
Church Phone: 816-461-0302		pastor@stlukesucci	ndep.org		
www.stlukesuce	cindep.org	Mariah Moseley, Church Pro	gram Coordinator		
Margie Foley, Org	anist/Pianist	Nanette Moore, Administr	ative Assistant		
Matthew Bennett, Co		stlukes@stlukesucc	indep.org		
,		David Lyon & Rev. Ralph Koch	1 0		
		ng so, you are invited to stand.			
The hymns today come from The Celebration Hymnal.					
MARCH 30, 2025			SUNDAY IN LENT		
SILENT MEDITATION:		y child, nor can I or anyone the appalling Graham Greene from the novel Bright			
GATHERING MUSIC GREETING					
PRELUDE	"L	enten Meditation"	Ron Loree		
*CONGREGATIONAL H	YMN No. 648 "Love Divi	ne, All Loves Excelling"	BEECHER		
Ji E The Pi	Fix in us thy humble dwe esus, thou art all compas Visit us with thy salva Breathe, O breathe thy lo Let us all in thee inhe Take away our bent t End of faith as its beg Come, Almighty to d Suddenly return, and ne ee we would be always b ray, and praise thee with Finish, then, thy new cre Let us see thy great sa Changed from glory into g	ing, Joy of Heav'n to Earth come down, elling, All thy faithful mercies crown; ssion, Pure, unbounded love thou art; ation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart. oving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast; erit, Let us find thy promised rest; to sinning; Alpha and Omega be; ginning, Set our hearts at liberty. elliver; Let us all thy life receive; ever, Never more thy temples leave. blessing, Serve thee as thy host above, iout ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love. eation; Pure and spotless let us be; alvation Perfectly restored in thee; glory Till in Heav'n we take our place, e thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!			
All: We celebri One: Come from All: We gather One: Come in y All: We gather One: Come in y All: We gather One: Come, and	ay of forgiveness and re rate the mercy and grac n all the places you have r in the gracious welco our pain and brokenness r in the healing and ho our weakness. r to seek God's abiding d do not delay. s long to return to God.	ce of our God. e wandered. me of God. s. pe of God. g strength.			

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, we confess that the paths we find ourselves on seem to be going nowhere. We have taken wrong turns and find ourselves far from where you have called us to be. By your Spirit, you call us to return to you. Incline our hearts to be open to your call which seeks to restore us into your fellowship and grace. Guide our feet in peace as our souls long to return to the way of Christ. Amen

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*GLORIA PATRI Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

MOMENTS WITH MINNIE

PASTORAL PRAYER and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC	"Near the Cross"	Arr.	Alexander Kruchkov
SCRIPTURE	Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32		
SERMON	"On the Current of Love"		
*CONGREGATIONAL HY	MN No. 508 "Love Lifted Me"		SAFETY
	I was sinking deep in sin, Far from the peaceful shore, Very deeply stained within, Sinking to rise no more; But the Master of the sea Heard my despairing cry, From the waters lifted me–Now safe am I.		
Refrai	in: Love lifted me, Love lifted me, When nothing else could Love lifted me; Love lifted me, Love lifted me, When nothing else could help, Love lifted me.	l help),
	All my heart to Him I give, Ever to Him I'll cling, In His blessed presence live, Ever His praises sing. Love so mighty and so true Merits my soul's best songs; Faithful, loving service, too, To Him belongs. [Refrain]		
	Souls in danger, look above, Jesus completely saves; He will lift you by His love Out of the angry waves. He's the Master of the sea, Billows His will obey; He your Savior wants to be–Be saved today. [Refrain]		
STEWARDSHIP REFLEC CALL TO STEWA THE BEAUTY OF *CELEBRATING \$	RDSHIP		Arr. Marilynn Ham

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (In Unison)

O God, you have opened our eyes and shown us the way to return to you. The way to which you have called us leads us to see and respond to the needs of others. Receive the offerings of our hands and the gratitude of our hearts. We ask you to bless the gifts that we bring so that more people may know your grace and love. Bless the ministry of our congregation that this offering makes possible. Amen

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 349 "O How He Loves You and Me"

PATRICIA

O how He loves you and me! O how He loves you and me! He gave His life; what more could He give? O how He loves you; O how He loves me; O how He loves you and me!

Jesus to Calv'ry did go; His love for sinners to show. What He did there bro't hope from despair. O how He loves you; O how He loves me; O how He loves you and me!

BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

"This Joyful Eastertide"

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

The Liturgist today is Pete Jaberg Thank you to John Kritos for playing the organ today. .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN STUDY

7:00 PM on the following Tuesday evenings. It will be hybrid, both in person and on zoom. If you would like to receive reminders about the study as well as the zoom link, text the word Rivers to 816-312-5053

"Lenten Rivers"

April 1st "Let Justice Roll Down Like the Waters" April 8th "Step Into the Waters" April 15th "Think Like a River"

EASTER LILIES

Easter Lilies will be on sale Sundays, March 30th & April 6th before and after worship. The cost is \$10 each if paying by cash or check and \$11 each if paying online. See Carol Lyon for ordering

SHARING TABLE

By popular demand the Sharing Table is back to provide relief for stretched budgets. You are invited to contribute what you might be able to and receive what is offered. Suggestions for contributions are shelf stable meal type items such as soups, spaghetti o's, fruit cups, etc.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This interdenominational Lenten Offering helps end hunger, provides disaster relief and refugee aid, and promotes self -development worldwide. By participating in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, we follow Christ's command to Be the Light.

> Offering envelopes are available in the back of the sanctuary by the offering box. You may also donate online or on the app.

WESTERN ASSOCIATION SPRING GATHERING

April 5th, 9:30 AM—2:00 PM

Blue Springs Terrace, Blue Springs, MO

Gather for a day of outside work, worship, fellowship & food. Lunch will be provided at noon. Make sure to bring work gloves. Registration is \$10/person which includes lunch. If you have questions or would like to attend, contact the church office.



CHECK IN, SHARE AND COMMENT

If you are worshiping 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 part reply to them. We appeared you to compose with these online as well as in person. If you are

comment, reply to them. We encourage you to connect with those online as well as in person. If you are worshiping 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

Sundays 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.

