

ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

727 N. Main St.
Independence, Missouri 64050
Church Phone: 816-461-0302
www.stlukesuccindep.org

Margie Foley, Organist/Pianist
Matthew Bennett, Conductor/Violinist

Rev. E. Paul Emily, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 816-379-5726
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Mariah Moseley, Church Program Coordinator
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Pastors Emeriti: Rev. David Lyon & Rev. Ralph Koch

*If comfortable doing so, you are invited to stand.

The hymns today come from The Celebration Hymnal.

MARCH 30, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SILENT MEDITATION: "You can't conceive, my child, nor can I or anyone the ... appalling ... strangeness of the mercy of God." --Graham Greene from the novel Brighton Rock

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"Lenten Meditation"

Ron Loree

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 648 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

BEECHER

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of Heav'n to Earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit, Let us find thy promised rest;
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver; Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy host above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is a day of forgiveness and reconciliation.

All: We celebrate the mercy and grace of our God.

One: Come from all the places you have wandered.

All: We gather in the gracious welcome of God.

One: Come in your pain and brokenness.

All: We gather in the healing and hope of God.

One: Come in your weakness.

All: We gather to seek God's abiding strength.

One: Come, and do not delay.

All: Our souls long to return to God.

***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 inter-denominational 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 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

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.