

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

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.

Rev. E. Paul Emily, Pastor
Pastor's Phone: 816-379-5726
pastor@stlukesuccindep.org

Mariah Moseley, Church Program Coordinator
Nanette Moore, Administrative Assistant
stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org

JUNE 1, 2025

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SILENT MEDITATION: "May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts, because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body." (Colossians 3:15)

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"You Will Show Me the Path of Life"

Marty Haugen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 139 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

LOVE DEN HERREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning bears
thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.
God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds. Hast thou not known his sustaining?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,
fitting thee well for the tests that are ever before thee.
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed, spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (From Psalm 85, The Message)

One: Love and Truth meet in the street.

All: Right Living and Whole Living embrace and kiss!

One: Truth sprouts green from the ground.

All: Right Living pours down from the skies!

One: God gives Goodness and Beauty.

All: Right Living strides out before God and clears a path for God's passage.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Gracious God, we desire to receive the forgiveness and peace that Christ offers all his disciples. Help us to overcome fear, anger, envy and all other states of mind and heart that stand as obstacles to our fellowship and unity with you and with each other. 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	“Pie Jesu”	Andrew Lloyd Webber
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SCRIPTURE John 17:20-26

SERMON "When Jesus Prayed..."

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 121 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” WELLESLEY

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good!
There is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple, we should rest upon God's word;
and our lives would be illumined by the presence of our Lord

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS

Linda R. Lamb

***CELEBRATING STEWARDSHIP — DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Creator, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

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

You have given us goodness and beauty, O God. Our lives are filled with bounty and blessing. By the power of your Holy Spirit, bless the offerings we bring today. May they reflect a vision for hope. May they extend a mission of mercy. May they breathe a spirit of new life in and through our congregation. May they make a way for peace, uniting all your children as one in Christ, our Lord. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

Affirmation and Renewal of Faith The Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling
the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen.

Words of Institution

Sharing the Sacrament

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Blessed God, you have been present to us at this table. In Christ, you have drawn us together as one people, called according to your purpose. May your love continue to shine upon us, guiding us as your beloved community. Let the prayer of our Lord that we all may be one, be fulfilled in our lives and in our living. Amen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 557 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear;
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

**BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

"He Set Me Free"

Albert E. Brumley

The Liturgist today is Linda Sehrt.
Thank you to Carol Lyon for accompanying the hymns today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Sunday, June 8th, will be Pentecost Sunday. We will celebrate the descending of the Holy Spirit upon the early believers and the birth of the Christian church. On Pentecost Sunday, St. Luke's will have a reception of new members. Anyone who may not be a member but who participates in worship, either in person or virtually, or who is connected through Windows into St. Luke's, is invited to become a member of the congregation. New members will be received both in person and virtually. If you are interested in becoming a member, or if you have questions, please contact Pastor Paul.

SLIC BREAKFAST
(St. Luke's Inclusive Coalition)

Please join us at 9:30 am Sunday, June 8th as we take a walk through the St Luke's journey of becoming an Open and Affirming congregation. We will reminisce on the path we have taken to this point and engage in conversation around how we can continue to be allies during this time of social tension. A light, continental style, breakfast along with coffee and juice will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

SHARING TABLE

Take time on Sundays, or anytime during normal office hours, to **SHOP** at the sharing table. You are invited to contribute something if you would like but most importantly, shop for and receive what is offered.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church offering will be taken June 8th. It supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Support of this offering helps the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities

DISASTER RELIEF—ST. LOUIS TORNADOS

Two churches in St. Louis sustained direct impacts and damage from the tornadoes on May 16th. The Missouri Mid-South Conference has set up a special fund just for tornado response. If you would like to donate, put a check or cash, marked Tornadoes, in the offering box.

SACRED MUSIC SUNDAY

We are going to have a Sacred Music Sunday as worship on June 22nd. If you are interested in contributing instrumentally or vocally, please contact Matthew either after worship, by email at matt22benett@gmail.com or by text at 913-271-5924

SAVE THE DATES

INDEPENDENCE PRIDE

Join St. Luke's UCC on June 28th for Independence Pride. There will be a parade, booths, food trucks and more. Additional information will be given as soon as we know the times and different events. You are welcome to participate in any or all of the activities

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING

Annual Congregational Budget Meeting, June 29th, following worship.

This will be a hybrid meeting, in person and on zoom.

The budget and zoom information will be sent out the morning of the meeting.

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.