

ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

727 N. Main St.
Independence, Missouri 64050
Church Phone: 816-461-0302
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Margie Foley, Organist/Pianist
Matthew Bennett, Conductor/Violinist

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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 Methodist Hymnal.

MAY 4, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

SILENT MEDITATION: "God is always coming to you in the Sacrament of the Present Moment. Meet and receive Him there with gratitude in that sacrament." - Evelyn Underhill.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"All Praise to the King"

Joseph M. Martin

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 304 "Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

REGENT SQUARE

Easter people, raise your voices, sounds of heaven in earth should ring.
Christ has brought us heaven's choices; heavenly music, let it ring.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Easter people, let us sing.

Fear of death can no more stop us from our pressing here below.
For our Lord empowered us to triumph over every foe.
Alleluia! Alleluia! On to victory now we go.

Every day to us is Easter, with its resurrection song.
When in trouble move the faster to our God who rights the wrong.
Alleluia! Alleluia! See the power of heavenly throngs.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, all those who have little to show for all your efforts but an empty net.

All: Let us cast our nets into the abundance of Christ as we worship together.

One: Come, all those who have opened your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One.

All: We'll find the Risen Christ in our midst as we worship together.

One: Come, all those who stand in isolation and need inclusion.

All: Abundance and fellowship are found in Christ as we worship together.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Ever Present and Compassionate God, our eyes are often distracted and sometimes closed. We see frustration and discouragement but fail to sense your encouragement and comfort. We know our own failures but fail to hear offer of pardon or the call to serve you. Forgive us and open our eyes to the power of the Resurrection that works to renew our spirits and our love for you. 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

“Alleluia Canon”

Arr. Donald Moore

SCRIPTURE

John 21:1-19

SERMON

“See For Yourself”

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 317 “O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing” (vs 1,2,5) O FILII ET FILIAE

O sons an earths, let us sing! The King of heaven, the glorious King,
o'er death today rose triumphing. Alleluia! Alleluia!

That Easter morn at break of day, the faithful women went their way
to seek the tomb where Jesus lay. Alleluia! Alleluia!

On this most holy day of days our hearts and voices, Lord, we raise
to thee, in jubilee and praise. Alleluia! Alleluia!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS

“He Is Risen!”

Hugh S. Livingston, Jr.

***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)**

We bring these offerings to feed your lambs and tend your sheep, gracious God. May these gifts extend your presence in the ministry of comfort, encouragement and inclusion. Bless the work that we do together as a congregation to make your presence known in our world. In the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Invitation

Affirmation and Renewal of Faith

We believe in God:

**Who has created and is creating,
Who has come in Jesus,
The Word made flesh,
To reconcile and make new,
Who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
To celebrate God's presence,
To love and serve others,
To seek justice and resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus,
Crucified and risen,
Our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

United Church of Canada

Words of Institution

Sharing the Sacrament

*Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise because in your Word and at this table we have seen the Risen Lord. Let the Spirit of the Holy renew us that we might respond to the call which is ours to follow Christ and to tend to the needs of one another. Amen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 312 "Christ Is Alive" (vs 2-3)**

TRURO

There the glorious triumph waits, Alleluia! Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!
Christ hath conquered death and sin, Alleluia! Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!

See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia! Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia! Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Hosanna to Jesus"

Larry Shackley

The Liturgist today is Katy Emily
Thank you to Carol Lyon for accompanying the hymns today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVING MEMORIAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Today, immediately following worship

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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS & TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY

Please join us May 18th as we celebrate the last day of Sunday School and Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day! We will meet at McCoy Park at 9:30 am to share some donuts and laughter. Then the children's class will be able to spend some time enjoying the park. We ask that parents return to retrieve their children by 10:15 am. Donuts will be provided for those attending Sunday School at the church as well. During worship, we will have a special moment of celebration to acknowledge the wonderful Sunday School teachers that share God's light with us every week! We look forward to seeing you there and coming together to celebrate our church community!

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship forms are now available online (in the menu click on About Us. In the drop down menu click on Policy/Forms. Then, click on Scholarship Fund for Local Congregation Application Form). See the form for qualifications. If you have problems accessing this form, please 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.