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

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.

JULY 6, 2025FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMESILENT MEDITATION:"The LORD is my strength and my song; the LORD has given me victory."
(Exodus 15:2)

GATHERING MUSIC GREETING PRELUDE

"Alimento y Salvacion"

Santiago Fernández

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 92 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;

Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; (Refrain)

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight; (Refrain)

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild; (Refrain)

For thy church, that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love; (Refrain)

For thyself, best Gift Divine, to the world so freely given, for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven: (Refrain)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind.

All: We come with love and hope.

- One: Love your neighbor as yourself.
- All: We come with loving hearts.
- One: Love, and you will live.
- All: We come to worship, that God's love might live in us.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of Grace, we remember times when we have seen others in need, yet we have turned away. We remember times when we have judged a stranger or hated an enemy. We remember times we have withheld our love and care. Forgive us and let us love one another as you have loved us. 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

"Wonderful Peace"

"We've Got This!"

Arr. Mark Hayes

SCRIPTURE Deuteronomy 30:9-14

SERMON

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 393 "Spirit of the Living God" (Sing Twice)

LIVING GOD

Ken Canedo

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS "Every Time We Eat This Bread" *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)

God of Blessings, you have given us life and guidance for living. We rejoice in the opportunity to receive and share in your grace. May the ministry in which we share bear much fruit, bringing an abundant harvest of joy in our lives and in your kingdom. Amen

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS AND SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Reception of Members

Invitation Affirmation of Baptism Vows of Commitment Recognition of Baptism

Congregational Covenant

Congregation: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Sacrament of Baptism

Questions Congregational Covenant **Congregation: We promise our love, support and care.** Pouring and Blessing the Water Act of Baptism Congregational Response **Congregation: We give thanks for Genesis as she is baptized and for the grace**

acknowledged here today in water and in the Holy Spirit. We receive, nurture and befriend her in the household of God's love. Thanks be to God!

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

<u>Invitation</u> <u>Affirmation and Renewal of Faith (Unison)</u> United Church of Canada 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.

Words of Institution

<u>Sharing the Sacrament</u> *Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

God of grace, you have refreshed us at this table and in this fellowship. Through the gifts of this table, our souls have been encouraged; our spirits renewed; our faith nurtured. With firm assurance in your abiding presence, lead us forth in the power of your Spirit, resting in the promise of your blessing. Amen

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 664 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from this dwelling take leave. The service is ended, O now be extended the fruits of our worship in all who believe. The see of the teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. God's grace did invite us, and love shall unite us to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children of each tribe and race. With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

"God is Alive"

David Haas

The Liturgist today is Dan O'Neill. Thank you to Carol Lyon for accompanying the hymns today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HVAC FUND

For those who are wondering, there is an HVAC Fund established for the inevitable replacement of the HVAC system. Support for that fund is being accepted to soften the hit when contracts have been secured to replace the existing system. Immediate plans are underway to accommodate more comfortable in person worship until the unit is replaced. You may donate in person by marking your donation HVAC and placing in the offering box or by donating online or via the app.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, July 27th, during worship, we will celebrate The Rite of Confirmation. We will celebrate the gifts of the Spirit to our congregation by receiving as members: Jackson Jaberg & MacKenzie McKinney. A reception will follow the service.

KIDS' CLUB

Calling all kiddos! Please join us after church July 20th for Kids Club. We will eat some good food, play fun games and undoubtedly share in some laughs. Parents; feel free to drop off your kiddo following Worship on July 20th for some fun and fellowship. Children will need to wear sunscreen and have a change of clothes/ water shoes for some water activities. Please plan to pick up your child at 1:30.

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.



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

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.

