

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 Celebration & Methodist Hymnals.

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

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SILENT MEDITATION: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains quake at its swelling pride." --Psalm 46:1-3

GATHERING MUSIC
GREETING
PRELUDE

"Like a River Glorious"

Arr. John Carter

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 734 "Be Strong in the Lord"

STRENGTH

Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage;
Your mighty Defender is always the same.
Mount up with wings, as the eagle ascending;
Vict'ry is sure when you call on His name.

Refrain: Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And be of good courage, for He is your guide.
Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And rejoice for the vict'ry is yours.

So put on the armor the Lord has provided,
And place your defense in his unfailing care.
Trust Him for He will be with you in battle,
Lighting your path to avoid every snare. [Refrain]

Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage;
Your mighty Commander will vanquish the foe.
Fear not the battle for the vict'ry is always His;
He will protect you wherever you go. [Refrain]

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Though our hearts may be grieving, we seek God's joy:
All: God is our balm.
One: Though we weep over woes of the day, we seek God's hope:
All: God soothes our discomfort.
One: Though our lives are often difficult, we seek God's strength:
All: God restores our souls and cares for us;
God calms our anguish and dries our tears.
One: Let us call on the Holy One and rejoice in God.
All: God is ever our source of solace in our daily journey,
ever our comforter in times of trial.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

God of Grace, we have neglected the care of our souls. We have burdened ourselves beneath fears and anxieties you wish to lift from us. We have sought healing apart from your grace. Forgive us our sin, renew our souls and give us strength through your Holy Spirit. 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

“In Christ Alone”

Arr. David T Clydesdale

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

SERMON

“With a Tear in Your Voice”

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 375 “There Is a Balm in Gilead” (Methodist Hymnal)

BALM IN GILEAD

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Some times I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain.
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. (Refrain)

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,
and if you look for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend. (Refrain)

If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul,
just tell the love of Jesus, and say he died for all. (Refrain)

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS

“Love in any Language”

Jon Mohr and John Mays

***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)**

O God, we offer you what we have; our visions and dreams, our love, our resources, to make known your presence and realm among us. We offer you our very lives that we may be agents of kindness and peace in our world. Amen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 231 “Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart” (2 times)
PEACE OF CHRIST

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hear; Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart.
And whatever you do, in word or deed, Do it all in the name of the Lord.
Giving thanks, giving thanks to God, thro’ Christ, the Lord;
Giving thanks, giving thanks to God, thro’ Christ, the Lord.

**BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

“Symphony No. 1” (4th Movement Theme) Johannes Brahms

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
HVAC FUND**

There is an HVAC Fund established for the 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. You may donate in person by marking your donation HVAC and placing in the offering box or by donating online or via the app.

PALM BURNING AND FISHING DERBY

Palm Burning and Fishing Derby—September 28th at James A Reed Wildlife Area in Lee’s Summit

The fishing Derby begins at 4:00 PM. Each youth (15 & under only) must be accompanied by an adult.
Anyone helpers over 16 must have a license. Fishing Poles and bait will be provided.
Extra adults will be available to help.

5:30 PM is a picnic supper and fellowship.

Food and drinks will be provided. You might want to bring a lawn chair to sit in for comfort.

6:00 PM Palm Burning Service.

This is a very spiritual service with music and a devotion.

Special Notes: If you would like to carpool or follow someone, please contact the church office. Maps and basic directions will be provided the day of the event.

After the service the palms are burned. These ashes are then prepared and used for the Ash Wednesday Service on February 18. All are welcome and you are encouraged to bring friends and family

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 ON FACEBOOK



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 Moments with Minnie or a kid makes you laugh, comment and tell what it was.

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.