

ST. LUKE'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

727 N. Main St.
Independence, Missouri 64050
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Margie Foley, Organist/Pianist
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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.

OCTOBER 26, 2025

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SILENT MEDITATION: "There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God...a place where all is joy and peace, near to the hear of God." - Cleland B. McAfee

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"Light of Christ"

Marty Haugen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 110 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

EIN'FESTE BURG

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed
his truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
thru him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble.

All: God is our guide and hope through the chaos of our lives.

One: God gives light to those who live in the shadows.

All: God offers stillness amid the turbulence of our times.

One: Be still and know that God is God!

All: We have come seeking to know the power of God's presence.

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Many times you have rescued us, O God. Yet we continue to wander away from refuge we have
found in you. We fail to enter the stillness and peace to which you call us. Our words and
deeds deny the faith we proclaim. Forgive our misplaced loyalties and unacknowledged sin.
Forgive our wavering faith. 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

“We Will Glorify”

Twila Paris

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 46

SERMON

“We’re Already There”

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 140 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS “A Little Song of Praise”

Todd Kendall

***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 dedicate this offering to the work of your realm, Blessed God. May it provide keys to open the way of your generosity and compassion to all in the world. Teach us the joy found in making sacrifices of ourselves and that which is entrusted to us. Bless the ministry in which we share as a congregation. May our work be done with diligence and with an enthusiasm which is found in serving together in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

God of love and God of power, grant us in this burning hour
grace to ask these gifts of thee, daring hearts and spirits free.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

We are not the first to be banished by our fears from thee;
give us courage, let us hear heaven's trumpets ringing clear.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

All our lives belong to thee, thou our final loyalty;
slaves are we whene'er we share that devotion anywhere.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

God of love and God of power, make us worthy of this hour;
offering lives if it's thy will, keeping free our spirits still.
God of love and God of power, thou hast called us for this hour.

**BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

“We’re Marching to Zion”

Robert Lowry

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TOTENFEST

St. Luke's UCC will observe its annual Totenfest Service on November 2nd, during worship.
You are invited to turn in the names of family or friends who have died in the past year for Pastor Paul to read during the service. Please have the names turned in by the beginning of the service on November 2nd.

Totenfest is German for “Festival for the Dead.” It was begun as a day to remember Prussian soldiers who died in the Prussian War. It became the tradition of the Evangelical Church to devote a Sunday of the liturgical church year to remembering church members who have died during the year. As part of our heritage, St. Luke's United Church of Christ maintains this tradition. In the spirit of ecumenism, the observance of Totenfest is observed in conjunction with All Saints Day

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.

SHARING TABLE

Take time on Sundays, or anytime during normal office hours, to **SHOP** at the sharing table. There are Bibles and some old hymnals available if you would like to take one or even more.

SAVE THE DATES

November 16 ~ Advent Movie

CHECK IN, SHARE AND COMMENT ON FACEBOOK



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 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.