

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
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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 5, 2025

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

SILENT MEDITATION: "Let us sit side by side sharing the same bread drawn from the same source to quiet the same hunger that makes us weak... Let us (sit at this table) together, let us share the same spirit, the same thoughts that once again draw us together in friendship, unity and peace." Prières d'Ozawarnick, Canadian Indian Liturgy

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"The Lord is Kind and Merciful"

Jeanne Cotter

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 577 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

CWM RHONDDA

God of grace and God of glory, on the people pour thy power; crown thine ancient church's story,
bring her bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness, bend our pride to thy control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the search for thy salvation
be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers.

All: We gather to share Word and Sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service.

One: Where shall we serve our God?

All: We shall serve our God in this community and throughout every land.

One: How shall we serve our God?

All: We shall serve our God by working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred.

One: Why shall we serve our God?

All: Because the Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith.

Let us now worship the one who calls us!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

O God, we realize our awareness of your mercy is too limited. Our understanding of your kingdom always falls short. We fail to measure up to the people you have called us to be. We even fail to understand the faith which has been entrusted to us. Hear our prayers and forgive our shortcomings. Raise our eyes, lift our hearts, and nurture our spirits, so that we may live joyfully and abundantly in the way of our Lord. 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

“Deep River”

Arr. Roy Ringwald

SCRIPTURE

2 Timothy 1:1-14

SERMON

“Understanding the Assignment”

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 547 “O Church of God, United” (vs 1-3)**

ELLACOMBE

O church of God, united to serve one common Lord, proclaim to all one message,
with hearts in glad accord. Christ ever goes before us;
we follow day by day with strong and eager footsteps along the upward way.

From every land and nation the ordered ranks appear; to serve one valiant leader
they come far and near. They chant their one confession,
they praise one living Lord, and place their sure dependence upon his saving word.

Though creeds and tongues may differ, they speak, O Christ of thee;
and in thy loving spirit we shall one people be. Lord, may our faithful service
and singleness of aim proclaim to all the power of thy redeeming name.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS “We Are an Offering”

Dwight Liles

***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)**

Thank you, Gracious God, for your gifts and for others with whom we may share your gifts. These gifts are brought with our thanks and with our prayer for any neighbor who may be in need. Touch and heal those needs through our offerings and through our presence and ministry in our world.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) **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)

Thank you, God, for the grace that invites and welcomes us to this table. Here we have been united with saints through the ages. Here the good treasure of our faith has been affirmed, rekindled, nurtured and celebrated. Here we have known the presence of Christ. May we go forth, united in one body, to serve and honor you in all we do. Amen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 438 "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord"

DUKE STREET

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom hath assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill;
in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine inmost substance see,
and labor on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.

For thee delightfully employ what e'er thy bounteous grace hath given;
and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heaven.

BENEDICTION POSTLUDE

"Stir into Flame"

Nancy Harrison

The Liturgist today is Dianne Emily.
Thank you to Linda Drown 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.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

The Neighbors in Need Offering will be taken Today.

The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting UCC justice ministries. The focus this year for the offering is for neighbors who are fighting for disability housing accommodations and to stop the gun violence epidemic.

In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. Offering envelopes are available on the back table.

You can also donate online.

BLUE SPRINGS TERRACE CHILI AND SOUP LUNCH

Saturday, October 11th, 11:00 AM—2:00 PM

Donations Accepted

Quilt Raffle along with Homemade Chili, Soup, Salad Bar & Assorted Desserts

A Fundraiser for Fun & Fellowship

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.



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.

