

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
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Mariah Moseley, Church Program Coordinator
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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.

NOVEMBER 23, 2025

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

SILENT MEDITATION: "Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; for the LORD's steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 107:1

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"Come Into the King's Chambers"

Daniel Gardner

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 131 "We Gather Together"

KREMSE

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

***CALL TO WORSHIP ((From Psalm 136))**

One: Give thanks to the LORD because the LORD is good.

All: God's faithful love lasts forever!

One: Give thanks to the God of all gods—

All: God's faithful love lasts forever.

One: Give thanks to the lord of all lords—

All: God's faithful love lasts forever.

One: Give thanks to the God of heaven.

All: God's faithful love lasts forever!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

God of All Blessings, you remain true to us even when our loyalty to you wavers and our hearts forget all that you have done for our good. By your grace, forgive our sin and receive our desire to live in your presence with ever-growing gratitude. May our songs of praise and thanksgiving never cease. Amen

***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.**

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

Scott Soper

Psalm 100

“Why Stop At Six?”

DIX

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 STEWARDSHIP

David Haas

**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.**

God of all good gifts, for the blessings of the land you have given us, for family and friends who enrich our lives, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving to you. We have been sheltered and empowered by your generosity. In Christ you have shown us a way to wholeness and peace. Receive these offerings as a joyous expression of our gratitude. Amen

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

***BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

“Lead Me, Lord”

Jack Miffleton

The Liturgist today is Marita Ray.
Thank you to John Kritos for accompanying the hymns today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY WORSHIP

We will return to the sanctuary for worship on Sunday, November 30th.
If possible, you will want to worship in person as we experience the hope of the Advent season.

HOLIDAY HELPERS

We are again participating in the Independence School District's Holiday Helper Campaign. We will collect money from through Sunday, December 7th.
The donations will go to families in need that aren't helped by other programs.
A family from our congregation will be matching all our gifts up to \$500. Look for a Holiday Helper can, on the back table in the Fellowship Hall.

POINSETTIAS

Poinsettias will be available to be purchased TODAY, November. The cost is \$10/ea.
See Carol Lyon for more details.

CHOIR REHEARSALS

St. Luke's Handbell & Chancel Choirs will begin rehearsal soon to prepare for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. If you would like to participate in one or both of the choirs and have questions please contact Matt Bennett.

St. Luke's Handbell Choir Schedule:

Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th, 17th & Monday, December 22nd.
All rehearsals being at **6 pm** and will be held in the sanctuary.

St. Luke's Choir Schedule

Wednesdays, December 3rd, 10th, 17th & Monday, December 22nd.
All rehearsals being at **7 pm** and will be held in the sanctuary.

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.

CALENDARS

Pastor Paul does a weekly quote from his sermons. These quotes have been made into a wall calendar for 2026 and are available to be purchased for \$17/each. They are nice, sturdy calendars with plenty of room to write on. The 2024 calendar and a sign up sheet is available on the back table so you can see what it looks like. TODAY is the deadline for orders and payments.

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

There are many things coming up that you want to add to your calendars.
More details will be put in the bulletin and Glimpse closer to time.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

This year's Christmas Pageant will be on December 14th, during worship. Plan to attend to experience the Christmas story through the eyes, voices and laughter of children.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be Wednesday, December 24th, at 7:00 PM in person or virtual. Invite a friend to this very special Christmas Eve Worship Service.

NEW YEAR'S WORSHIP AND BREAKFAST

Let's celebrate the end of 2025 and the beginning of 2026 with breakfast, fellowship and worship with your church family on December 28th. Breakfast at 9:30 followed by worship at 10:45 AM

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.