

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.

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

SILENT MEDITATION: "We thrill at the idea of canyons as a test of courage, but—as mirrors of the soul—they take us places we don't want to go." --Belden Lane, The Great Conversation

GATHERING MUSIC GREETING

PRELUDE

"Softly as a Dove"

Douglas E. Wagner

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 327 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"**

ST. DENIO

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

***CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 32)**

One: Happy are those whose sins are forgiven.

All: Happy are those whose transgressions are cast away.

One: Let us rejoice in the LORD and be glad.

All: Our hearts rejoice!

One: The LORD surrounds us with songs of rescue!

All: Let us worship our God and sing for joy!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Merciful and gracious God, you are the sanctuary where distress cannot reach us. In your steadfast love, forgive us. In your healing caress, cleanse us. In your Holy Spirit, restore to us life and to the fullness of joy. 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

"You Are Mine"

David Haas

**SCRIPTURE
SERMON**

Psalm 32
"Fossilized"

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 269 "Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days" (vs 1,3,4,5)

RATISBON

Lord, who throughout these forty days for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.

As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord,
to die to self, and chiefly live by thy most holy word.

And through these days of penitence, and through thy passiontide,
yea, evermore in life and death, Jesus, with us abide.

Abide with us, that so, this life of suffering over past,
an Easter of unending joy we may attain at last.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS "Antiphonal Hosanna"

G. Alan Smith

***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)**

**By your grace, O God, our eyes are opened and our hearts are attuned to the needs of
others. Let our generosity be blessed by your Spirit so that the gifts we bring may expand our
compassion and tear down the limits of our caring. May the ministry of our congregation be blessed in
the effort to make your presence known to all your children. Amen**

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 277 "Tell Me the Stories of Jesus"

STORIES OF JESUS

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear; things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea, stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First let me hear how the children stood round his knee, and I shall fancy his blessing resting on me;
words full of kindness, deeds full of grace, all in the lovelight of Jesus' face.

Into the city I'd follow the children's band, waving a branch of the palm tree high in my hand;
one of his heralds, yes, I would sing loudest hosannas, "Jesus is King!"

**BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

“Lift High the Cross”

Sidney Hugo Nicholson

The Liturgist today is Tiffany Alger-Trussell.
Thank you to John Kritos for accompanying the hymns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN STUDY

The Lenten Study, “If These Walls Could Talk”, will be at 7:00 PM on the following Tuesday evenings:
February 24th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th.

It will be hybrid, both in person and on zoom. More information will be available closer to time

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.

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
Wednesdays, 6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

For more information about any of these, please email the church office at stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org



GIVING OPTIONS

For Giving options click on the QR code to the left.

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.