

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.

APRIL 5, 2026

EASTER

SILENT MEDITATION: "Tomb, thou shalt not hold Him longer; Death is strong, but Life is stronger; Stronger than the dark, the light; Stronger than the wrong, the right..." —Phillips Brooks, "An Easter Carol"

GATHERING MUSIC GREETING

PRELUDE

"Qui Tollis Peccata Mundi"
Chancel Choir

Antonio Vivaldi

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 322 "Up from the Grave He Arose"**

CHRIST AROSE

Low in the grave he lay, Jesus my Savior,
waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!

Refrain: Up from the grave he arose,
with a mighty triumph o'er his foes;
he arose a victor from the dark domain,
and he lives forever, with his saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they watch his bed, Jesus my Savior;
vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord! [Refrain]

Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior;
he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord! [Refrain]

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This is a great and joyous day!

All: We gather for worship in awe and wonder.

One: The tomb is empty and death is not the last word.

All: Jesus Christ is alive and we, too, shall live.

One: Let us celebrate this amazing good news!

All: Our hearts are glad and our tongues rejoice. We live in hope!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Loving God, it is a challenge to be sincerely joyous even on this special day. Our souls are bowed down by the troubles we experience. Beneath the cloud of suffering, our hope gets buried in the shadows of a tomb of our own making. Let us hear the voice of Christ who calls us by name and comforts us. Lead us into the light of the resurrection and the peace of your forgiving grace. Amen

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Affirmation of Faith (Unison) United Church of Canada

We believe in God:

**Who has created and is creating,
Who has come in Jesus,
The Word made flesh,
To reconcile and make new,
Who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

**To celebrate God's presence,
To love and serve others,
To seek justice and resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus,
Crucified and risen,
Our judge and our hope.**

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Sacrament

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Unison)

Loving God, through the grace and mercy that are proclaimed at this table, you have called us from the shadows that would entomb our souls. In Christ's glorious resurrection, you have raised us up and set our feet on the path of life. You have filled us with joy and given us a message of hope. By the power of your Holy Spirit, let us share the good news that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Amen

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 310 "He Lives"**

ACKLEY

I serve a risen Savior, he's in the world today; I know that he is living, whatever foes may say.
I see his hand of mercy, I hear his voice of cheer, and just the time I need him, he's always near.

Refrain: He lives, he lives, Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.

He lives, he lives, salvation to impart! You ask me who I know he lives? He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me I see his loving care, and though my heart grows weary, I never will despair.
I know that he is leading through all the stormy blast; the day of his appearing will come at last. (Refrain)

Rejoice, rejoice O Christian, lift up your voice and sing eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The hope of all who seek him, the help of all who find; none other is so loving, so good and kind. (Refrain)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo"
Chancel Choir

Renato Tagliabue

The Liturgist is Paula McKinney.
Thank you to John Kritos for accompanying the hymns today.

Easter Lilies

Purchased by:

Carol Lyon

Jeff & Marita Ray

Mel & Linda Sehrt

Dan O'Neill

Julie & Chris Bernard

Paul & Dianne Emily

Rosie Kuenne

Jeff & Ginger Ruoff

Karen Zuiderhof & Marilyn King

Jane Morman

Barry & Teresa Harris

John Kritos

John Kritos

John Kritos & Matt Meeks

Mary Kay Tormena

Mikelette & Larry Paul

Peter & Lisa Jaberg

Jan & Bruce Lyon

Larry & Sharon Franciskato

April & Mary Brown

Natalie Spangler & Angie Coble

Dedication:

In Memory of Dave

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Mom & Dad

*In Memory of Dale & Norma Kesner and
Dewey, Ann & Loretta Bernard*

In Memory of Our Parents

In Memory of Bill

In Memory of Andrew Ruoff

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Loved Ones

*In Memory of The Harris and
Hunsaker Families*

In Memory of Jan Dunstan

In Memory of George Kritos

In Memory of Juanita Meeks

In Memory of Dawn Gray

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Mark Jaberg

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Loved Ones

In Memory of Our Families

In Memory of Ella Mae Harris

If you purchased an Easter Lily, please take it with you today after worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION OPPORTUNITY

The Dreamer's class started a Blessing Bags ministry several years ago that has grown from placing items into a gallon sized Ziplock bag into having a supply room of items often needed for individuals who stop by the church seeking some help. Food, snack items, are always needed. We have a few items almost depleted that we like to have on hand. If you would like to help us replenish our supplies, donations of the following items would be greatly appreciated:

Hairbrushes and combs-all sizes
Wash Clothes, Hand Towels, Bath Towels—darker colors preferred
Bars of Soap-any size
Shampoo-smaller sizes
Hand Sanitizer
Feminine Hygiene Products
Toothpaste-smaller sizes (we have plenty of toothbrushes)
Deodorant-men and women's
Disposable razors-men and women's & Shaving Cream
Lap Throws
Plastic Tarps-smaller size to place under sleeping bags

Money is always an option if you would like for members of the Dreamer's class to make the purchases!

Thank you for helping with this worthwhile mission project. Please bring your items to the church parlor where the Dreamers class meets or see Linda Sehrt. If making a monetary donation, indicate on your check it is for "Blessing Bag Ministry" and place in the offering box.

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.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Men's Fellowship will meet on Monday, April 13, at Noon
Soup and dessert will be served. It is a time for men and their friends to gather for a time of fellowship.
If you have any questions, please contact Dan O'Neill.

LIVESTREAMS

There will be no daily livestreams this week.
Pastor Paul is on vacation and will return on Monday, April 13th.



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.