

# 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  
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Mariah Moseley, Church Program Coordinator  
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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 Celebration Hymnal.**

**MAY 10, 2026**

**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**SILENT MEDITATION:** "A blessing is much more than just an act. It is an affirmation of our interconnectedness; it is the creation of an opportunity for the power of that connectedness to pour through into our lives and the lives of others." --David Spangler

## GATHERING MUSIC

### GREETING

### PRELUDE

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Lowell Mason

### \*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 562 "Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art -  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Be thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I Thy true son,  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise to God our Creator, source of our being and wellspring of life.

**All: Praise to God our liberator, who sets us free and gives us hope.**

One: Praise to God the Word, love made flesh to dwell among us.

**All: Praise to Jesus the Christ, who fed the hungry and showed us the Way.**

One: Praise to God the Spirit, fiery light and rushing wind.

**All: Praise to the Holy Spirit, who inspires, challenges, comforts, and sustains us.**

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

Holy God, we were created in your image, an image of mutuality and respect for one another; an image of a dance ever moving, ever in tune one with others; an image of community with shared blessing and mission. You have given us dominion over the work of your hands. You have charged us to be fruitful and multiply, to make disciples of all nations. Forgive us God; we have denied our purpose; we have defiled your image. We have regarded some of your children as “other” and therefore, beyond the reach of your love and care. Forgive us God; restore our fellowship with you and our connection to one another and to all of creation. 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**

“Down to the River to Pray”

Traditional American Melody

**SCRIPTURE**

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

**SERMON**

“Finals Week”

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 670 “Make Me a Blessing”**

**SCHULER**

Out in the highways and byways of life, Many are weary and sad.  
Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife, Making the sorrowing glad.

Refrain: Make me a blessing; make me a blessing, Out of my life may Jesus shine.  
Make me a blessing, O Savior, I pray, Make me a blessing to someone today.

Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love, Tell of His pow'r to forgive.  
Others will trust Him if only you prove True, every moment you live. [Refrain]

Give as 'twas given to you in your need; Love as the Master loved you.  
Be to the helpless a helper indeed; Unto your mission be true. [Refrain]

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION**

**CALL TO STEWARDSHIP**

**THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS “Wherever He Leads I’ll Go”**

Baylus B. McKinney

**\*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)**

Receive these gifts, even our very lives, for your service. By the power of the Holy Spirit, multiply them and our effort to meet the need. May our lives and may the ministries of this congregation be blessed by your Holy Spirit and may we be a blessing to one another and to all your children. Amen

**\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 56 "To God Be the Glory"

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

To God be the glory - great things He hath done!  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus, the Son, And give Him the glory - great things He hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood -  
To every believer, the promise of God.  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.[Refrain]

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son.  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. [Refrain]

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

George F. Root

The Liturgist is Katy Emily

Thank you to Carol Lyon for accompanying the hymns today.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**UPCOMING GRADUATES**

Please turn in the names of graduates, their schools, degrees, any honors that they received, & any future plans to the church office no later than May 12th. We will include them in an upcoming bulletin and the Glimpse Into St. Luke's.

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Men's Fellowship will meet on Monday, May 11th, 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.

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM – SIGN UP NOW!**

We're inviting all kids to join our Summer Reading Program! Participants will read 15 minutes a day, 5 days a week and earn tickets to spend in our Reading Store filled with fun prizes.

As a group, we're working toward a goal of **3,000 total minutes read**, which will earn a special end-of-summer celebration for everyone involved!

**Sign your child up today** and help them stay engaged in reading all summer long.

We're also collecting donations of small prizes (stickers, snacks, toys, etc.) for our Reading Store.

**Interested in contributing? Contact Mariah** to get involved.

Let's work together to make this a fun and impactful summer for our kids!

## **LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TEACHER APPRECIATION SUNDAY**

Please join us May 17th as we celebrate the last day of Sunday School and Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day! We will meet at McCoy Park at 9:30 am to share some donuts and laughter. Then the children's class will be able to spend some time enjoying the park. We ask that parents return to retrieve their children by 10:15 am. Donuts will be provided for those attending Sunday School at the church as well. During worship, we will have a special moment of celebration to acknowledge the wonderful Sunday School teachers that share God's light with us every week! We look forward to seeing you there and coming together to celebrate our church community!

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarship forms are now available online (in the menu click on About Us. In the drop down menu click on Policy/Forms. Then, click on Scholarship Fund for Local Congregation Application Form). The deadline to turn in the application is June 15<sup>th</sup>. See the form for qualifications.

If you have problems accessing this form, please contact the church office

## **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

For more information about any of these, please email the church office at [stlukes@stlukesuccindep.org](mailto: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.