

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 Celebration Hymnal.

JULY 26, 2026

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SILENT MEDITATION: "Sky is You, Earth is You!/You above! You below!/In every trend, at every end,/Only You, You again, always You!/You! You! You!" -- Martin Buber

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETING

PRELUDE

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing" "Madrid" Traditional Spanish Melody

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN No. 153 "Worthy of Worship"**

SOLI DEO GLORIA

Worthy of worship, worthy of praise, Worthy of honor and glory;
Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing, Worthy of all the offerings we bring.

Refrain: You are worthy, Father, Creator, You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful; Worthy of worship and praise

Worthy of reverence, worthy of fear. Worthy of love and devotion;
Worthy of bowing and bending of knees, Worthy of all this and added to these...(Refrain)

Almighty Father, Master and Lord, King of all kings and redeemer,
Wonderful Counselor, comforter, Friend, Savior and Source of our life without end. (Refrain)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Let us celebrate God's blessings to us.

All: Wherever we are, we are not alone!

One: Let us open ourselves to God's guidance and love.

All: Wherever we are, God is always present with us!

One: Let us see more clearly God's presence in our lives.

All: "Neither death, nor life...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord".

One: Surrounded by God's love, let us worship and offer ourselves to God.

All: In all the places we find ourselves, we worship in the presence of God!

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

O LORD, our God, we confess that we have let sorrows and noise hide the sounds of joy found in your abiding presence. Our songs of praise have become empty words, unsupported by meaningful connection to you. Forgive us and let the joy of your presence give us a new song, filling our hearts with adoration of YOU for all your wonderous deeds. 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	“Jesus, Name Above All Names”	Naida Hearn
----------------------	-------------------------------	-------------

SCRIPTURE Psalm 40:1-10 (Psalm 71)

SERMON "My Life A Song"

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** No. 746 “He Keeps Me Singing” SWEETEST NAME

There's within my heart a melody; Jesus whispers sweet and low:
"Fear not I am with thee; peace, be still," In all of life's ebb and flow.

Refrain: Jesus, Jesus, Jesus - Sweetest name I know,
Fills my every longing, Keeps me singing as I go.

All my life was wrecked by sin and strife; Discord filled my heart with pain.
Jesus swept across the broken strings, Stirred the slumb'ring chords again. [Refrain]

Feasting on the riches of His grace, Resting 'neath His shelt'ring wing,
Always looking on His smiling face - That is why I shout and sing. [Refrain]

Tho' sometimes He leads thro' waters deep, Trials fall across the way;
Tho' sometimes the path seems rough and steep, See His footprints all the way. [Refrain]

Soon He's coming back to welcome me Far beyond the starry sky;
I shall wing my flight to worlds unknown; I shall reign with Him on high. [Refrain]

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

THE BEAUTY OF SHARED GIFTS “I Have Felt the Touch of God” Lloyd Larson

***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)**

You, God! You have done wondrous things for us! We lift our songs in praise and thanksgiving. With our songs, we would offer our very lives and the gifts that we bring. May all we offer ring with the joyous sound of your presence. Amen

Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord, join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

Refrain: We're marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion;
we're marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King, but children of the heavenly King
may speak their joys abroad, may speak their joys abroad. (Refrain)

The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields, before we reach the heavenly fields,
or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets. (Refrain)

Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground, we're marching through Emmanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. (Refrain)

**BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

"We Are Crossing Jordan River"

Spiritual

The Liturgist is Linda Sehrt.
Thank you to John Kritos for accompanying the hymns today.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
CHURCH UBER ACCOUNT**

Thanks to a generous donation a church Uber account has been established for individuals who are unable to drive to and from church. If you would like more information on the program notify 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

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.