St. Luke Union Church

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ 2101 East Washington St. Bloomington, IL 61701 309-663-7437 • stlukeunion.org • facebook.com/stlukeunionchurch

Sunday Worship Service

October 27, 2024 10:30am

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:6

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord has done great things for us,

All: so we come together to worship and dream.

One: We worship the Triune God, who has brought us into being.

All: We worship God because our Eternal Creator is worthy of praise.

One: We dream for a day when those who have sown tears will reap with shouts joy.

All: We dream for our mouths to be filled with laughter and our hearts to be restored and renewed.

One: Come, let us worship God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of love, you have loved us first and continue to love us. We come this morning longing to love you in return. We hunger for your healing love in our lives as we long to love ourselves and our neighbors. Fill our longing hearts as we join together to worship you this day. Amen.

HYMN #260

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus Christ, our high priest, is holy, blameless, and undefiled. However, we cannot say the same for ourselves. Let us confess our shortcomings before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, today we will journey with a story about a person who would not take "no" for an answer. When he was denied justice, he had faith in your goodness. When he was told to be silent, he remained stubborn. When he was marginalized, he trusted in Jesus' power. Forgive us for the moments when we have not had such courage. Forgive us when we have failed to insist on justice, especially when justice has been denied to those other than ourselves. May we receive mercy in the midst of suffering. Give us the faith to see clearly our calling to take heart, get up, and follow you. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, take heart, get up, for Jesus is calling. We have been forgiven of our sins and are being called into a new creation. In Jesus' name we have been forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of all Wisdom, open our eyes that we may see clearly the wisdom of the Word that is before us. May our new sight lead us to get up and follow you. Amen.

EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 7:23-28

ANTHEM "He is Exalted"
SLUC Choir

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 10:46-52

SERMON "Start with Jesus"

Rev. Kathy Mitchell

HYMN #370 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"

OFFERING

HYMN #428 (verse 1) "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #485 "To God Be the Glory"

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

HYMN #593 (Doxology)

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

POSTLUDE