

Welcome to  
**St. Luke Union Church**

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ  
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**Sunday Worship Service — Fifth Sunday of Easter**

May 18, 2025 10:30am

*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you,  
you also should love one another.*

*John 13:34*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**OPENING SONG #SPW 199**

“Open Our Eyes, Lord”

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Alleluia! Christ is alive; let all the people praise him.  
Let all creation sing with joy. Alleluia!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Surprising God, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ you make all things new. Long ago you called your church to a love beyond all social and cultural differences and gave them the gift of your Holy Spirit to open their hearts to enact such love. Give us that same spirit of openness, that we too might discern new directions in our day for your call to reconcile and heal all creation. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

**HYMN #104**

“Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Trusting in the love of God to make all things new, let us confess our sin to God and our neighbor.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of mercy, your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders your goal for humanity. Forgive our sins, we pray, and give us a true repentance that leads to life for all creation. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

**SILENT REFLECTION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

God’s promises are trustworthy and true; In the name of Jesus your sins are forgiven.  
Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may you always be known by your love.

**HYMN OF RESPONSE #SPW 122**

“He Is Lord”

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

O God of promise, your word made flesh in Jesus Christ is trustworthy and true. By the power of your Holy Spirit, may it rise up in us this day like a gift from the spring of the water of life to refresh our thirsty souls. **Amen.**

**GOSPEL LESSON**

John 13:31-35

**ANTHEM**

“Do Lord, Remember Me”  
SLUC Choir

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Leviticus 19:9-18

**SERMON**

“Leave the Corners”  
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Gifford

**HYMN #391 (Verses 1/3/5/6)**

“Take My Life”

**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 #341**

“Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine”

**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**