

Welcome to
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 — First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026 10:30am

*Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

Psalm 139:23-24

WELCOME

PRELUDE

OPENING SONG

“His Mercy Is More”

CALL TO WORSHIP

People of God, on this wilderness journey, what will we eat?

The word of the Lord is our daily bread.

People of God, in this time of temptation, how will we live?

Our faith is in the faithfulness of God.

People of God, at this kingdom crossroad, whom will we serve?

We worship the Lord our God alone.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of wilderness, as we devote these forty days to you, shape us by your Holy Spirit into the image of Christ our Lord, so that we may be ready, by your grace, to confront the power of death with the promise of eternal life. Be with us today as we worship and bring praise. **Amen.**

*HYMN #260

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven, who no longer suffer in silence, but name their sin and seek God’s grace. Let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, you know the ways of good and evil. You know the things that tempt us and the things that give us life. You know our nakedness, and you know our sin. We confess that we have disobeyed your word, denying your providence and care and relying on our own cleverness. Have mercy on us, we pray: cover us with your grace, feed us with the bread of life, and re-create us in your image; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven! Be glad in the Lord and shout for joy:
in Jesus Christ you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #280 (Verse 1)

“Amazing Grace”

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

O Lord, may the words of your mouth be our daily bread, and may the leading of your Spirit become our way; Reveal yourself to us through your word. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 32

HYMN

"How Blest, Those Whose Transgressions"

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 5:12-19

SERMON

"Realized in Faith"
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Gifford

ANTHEM

"How Amazing!"
SLUC Choir

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*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