

Welcome to
St. Luke Union Church

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ
2101 East Washington St. Bloomington, IL 61701
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Sunday Worship Service— Seventh Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026 10:30 am

They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?
This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way
as you saw him go into heaven." Acts 1:11

WELCOME

PRELUDE

OPENING SONG #SPW 27

"I Sing Praises"

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the righteous be joyful! Let them rejoice before God.

Let us all be jubilant with joy!

Sing to God, all peoples of the world. Sing praises to God most high.

From the sanctuary of heaven, God gives life and renews the face of the earth.

Let the righteous be joyful! Let them rejoice before God.

Let us all be jubilant with joy!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Redeeming God, you call us to be one with you, as you are one with Christ. As his perfect love casts out our fear, and changes it to love, unite us by your Spirit of peace, that we may be one with you, as you are one with Christ. Let our hearts be open as we worship you this day. **Amen.**

***HYMN #108**

"Christ Is Alive!"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Brothers and sisters, God not only desires our repentance, but longs to offer us forgiveness. Therefore, cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you eternally.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess that we do not always bring honor and glory to your name. We are rebellious and mislead; we flee before your goodness. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us by the grace and mercy of Christ, that we may rise up again in peace to love and serve in your world. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Sisters and brothers, the Spirit of God is resting on you, to restore, support, and strengthen you. Therefore, be at peace in the One who forgives and loves you; rise up and give God thanks. In Jesus name you are forgiven.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #106 (Refrain/Verse 1/Refrain)**

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks"

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC

“With Praises Ring”
SLUC Bell Choir

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Spirit of Glory, Spirit of God, bless us with a word of life this day to restore, support, and strengthen us as we seek to be one with you. We welcome your word this day. **Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON

Acts 1:6-14

*HYMN #462

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

GOSPEL LESSON

John 17:1-11

SERMON

“Jesus’ Prayer for You”
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Gifford

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 #440

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*HYMN #593

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*POSTLUDE