

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

July 5, 2026 10:30 am

*O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Psalm 63:1*

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 145:8-14

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.
All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.
The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Author of life, you cast your glory all around us; you invade our sleep; you reveal yourself in ancient stories and the give-and-take of common life. By the power of your Spirit, come to us now, for you have called us to this place. We pray in the name of Jesus, our hope, our confidence, and your beloved Son.
Amen.

***HYMN #464**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jesus said: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we confess to you and to each other that we are tired and weighed down by the mistakes we have made, even in our closest relationships with our friends, our spouses, and our brothers and sisters. We give this burden to you, mindful of Jesus' promise that he will give us rest. We trust in you.
Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear the good news of our faith: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, showing compassion to all. Forgiven and freed, let us rise up with joy and share our peace with one another. In Christ Jesus you are forgiven.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #579**

“Glory Be to the Father”

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Comforting God, by your Holy Spirit lift the burdens from our souls through the reading of your Word for us, that we may learn how easy it is to live in a loving relationship with you. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 24:34-38,42-49,58-67

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11:16-19,25-30

SERMON

"Quest for God's Glory"
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Gifford

*HYMN #339

"Be Thou My Vision"

OFFERING

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of Loaf and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

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.

COMMISSION OF PASTOR ANDY

*HYMN #307

"Fight the Good Fight"

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*HYMN #593

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*POSTLUDE