

Welcome to
St. Luke Union Church

Presbyterian Church (USA) • United Church of Christ
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Sunday Worship Service

August 30, 2026 10:30 am

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

OPENING SONG

“Holy Spirit”

We will remain seated as we sing.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is the vine, and we are the branches.

All: We come to rest and abide in Him.

Leader: God is the Gardener, tending us with love.

All: We yield to the One who shapes us into faithful disciples. Glory be to our God forever and ever.

Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, draw our hearts close to You today. Nourish our souls with your unfailing love. Whether we are walking through a season of pruning or bearing good fruit for your glory, teach us to trust your gentle hand. Ground us in your presence, and help us to abide in you always. Amen.

***HYMN #376**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

CALL TO CONFESSION

God’s grace is our permanent home, and His mercy never stops flowing. Because we are securely rooted in a love that will never let us go, we have the confidence to be completely honest. We don’t have to hide our shortcomings from the One who sustains us. Let us lean into His faithful presence and confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living God, you are the vine, and we are your branches. You invite us to abide, yet we confess that we often choose striving over surrender. We lean upon our own strength, attempting to bear fruit apart from You. Forgive us for clutching control instead of trusting Your sustaining power. Calm our anxious hearts and break our habits of self-reliance. We yield to You now. Empty us of pride and root us deeply in Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God’s grace is deep, and His love never fails. When we return to Him, He restores us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, sustained, and made alive.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #579**

“Glory Be to the Father”

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts- a spring of hope for a thirsty word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

GOSPEL LESSON

John 15:1-9

SERMON

"Growing Together"
Rev. Michelle Olson

PRAYER

"Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me. Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger."
St. Patrick's Prayer

Spiritual Challenge #8: Choose times this week to be still and aware of God's Presence within and all around you. Hear Jesus' loving invitation, "*Abide in me.*" Receive God's abundant nourishment for you and notice how it transforms the rest of your day. (based upon John 15: 1-9)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN #314

"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

We will remain seated as we sing

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.

*HYMN #359

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*HYMN #593

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*POSTLUDE

Thank you to today's liturgist, Norm Lopez.