

Welcome to  
**St. Luke Union Church**

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

September 6, 2026 10:30 am

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**OPENING SONG #SPW 66**

“He Is Exalted”

*We will remain seated as we sing.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Listen! The Lord calls out to us, offering life!

**Teach, lead, turn us to your ways, O God.**

Walk in the paths of God’s commandments with delight.

**Teach, lead, turn us to your ways, O God. With our whole heart, we will turn to you and live!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, whose ways are far beyond our understanding, help us to trust your judgments so that we may do your will by loving you and one another.

In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN #411**

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Our sins weigh us down, and we struggle to live in freedom and joy. When we turn and return to the God who loves us, God finds pleasure. We turn now, confessing our sins against God and neighbor.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

From evil, even when it masquerades as good,

**Merciful God, deliver us.**

From selfishness and vain desires,

**Merciful God, deliver us.**

From irresponsible behaviors, quarreling, and jealousy,

**Merciful God, deliver us.**

From hurtful disagreements and irreconcilable differences,

**Merciful God, deliver us.**

**Turn us away from the death sin inflicts. Lead us into the abundant life Christ brings. Forgive us, we pray, and teach us to forgive, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**SILENT REFLECTION**

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

Laying aside the works of darkness, we live in the light of Christ. Gathered in Christ’s name, surely he is among us, full of grace and truth.

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and lifted up to new life. Thanks be to God.**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #579**

“Glory Be to the Father”

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Awaken our hearts and minds to your Word, O God. Give us understanding so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we are able to do all that you command for love's sake. Gathered in Christ's name, gathered around the Word, we pray. **Amen.**

## GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 18:15-20

## \*HYMN #443

"O Christ, the Great Foundation"

## EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 13:8-14

## SERMON

"You Know What Time It Is"  
Rev. Susan Baller-Shepard

**Spiritual Challenge #9:** Apostle Paul reminds us, "Love your neighbor as yourself." In Luke 10:29, a lawyer asks, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus responds with the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Do something kind for a neighbor this week, however you want to interpret "neighbor."

## OFFERING

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly right and good...

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of Loaf and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

## \*HYMN #485

"To God Be the Glory"

## \*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

## \*HYMN #593

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

## \*POSTLUDE

*Thank you to today's liturgist, Ruth Trower.*

*Thank you to today's pianist, Lisa DeBruine.*