

Welcome to
St. Luke Union Church

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

October 25, 2026 10:30 am

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

OPENING SONG (*Please remain seated.*)

“Sanctuary”

Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy tried and true.
With thanksgiving,
I'll be a living sanctuary for you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all of the law and the prophets.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Loving God, you not only welcome us, you receive us into yourself. Give us courage to be so open to others, to let them become so dear to us, that we might share not only your gospel but also our lives, through Christ, who makes room for us all. **Amen.**

***HYMN**

“The Lord Is God”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Our spirits are like new grass: at the dawn they spring up fresh, but by sunset they dry up and wither, blown away in spiritual death. Let us confess our frailty before our merciful God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we confess: we do not live as those worthy to be entrusted with the good news of your grace; we relate to others callously as though we do not trust that gospel ourselves; we seek to please and manipulate, using flattery to gain praise and distinction; we use condescension as a mask to cover insecurity or a need for power. Our motives are mixed, impure. Lord, reassure and cleanse us, in Jesus' name. Amen.

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Brothers and sisters, the Holy One who promises forgiveness to those who seek the good hears your confession. As the crucified and risen child of God, your Redeemer fully knows your sorrow and your desire for reconciled relationships. You are forgiven. In that promise is the power to love your neighbors and yourselves as beloved of God who created all that exists.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #579**

“Glory Be to the Father”

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit, in the Word of God, as the breath of life, amidst your people gathered here, into our hearts and minds. Stir us to know the happiness of life in your blessings. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

SONG (*We will remain seated as we sing.*)

“Love the Lord Your God”

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 22:34-46

SERMON

“And...But...Yet”
Rebecca Schaefer

Spiritual Challenge #16:

Question: Where have you experienced God working in your life? Where is He actively working now, even if it's hard to see? What is YET to come?

Action Challenge: Spend 15 minutes in silent prayer or scripture reading without asking for anything. Focus entirely on seeking God's presence and listening.

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.

*HYMN #367

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

*HYMN #593

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Our tradition is joining hands for our final song. For those who'd prefer not to join hands, raising your hands in a prayer or praise position signals this to your neighbor.

*POSTLUDE

Thank you to today's liturgist, Larry Maffett.