

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

October 4, 2026 10:30 am

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens declare the glory of God! The skies proclaim God's handiwork. The day pronounces God's glory without a sound, the night expounds God's knowledge without a word, and yet their voice goes out through all the earth. Let us join our voices with the voice of creation in declaring God's glory!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God, the heavens radiate your glory! You have set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a joyful bridegroom from his wedding canopy. May we emerge from night's waiting with such rampant joy that we too radiate your glory throughout this day. In the name of the Son of righteousness who has risen with healing in his wings. **Amen.**

***HYMN #307**

"Fight the Good Fight"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Let us boldly confess our sin before the One who already knows our errors and is gracious to forgive our hidden faults.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rescuing God, you brought us out of the land of captivity, out of the house of slavery. Forgive us when we willingly return to slavery, making divine the machine of production, crafting idols from the excess of consumption. Forgive us when we consider ourselves so grand that we do not rest and enjoy your presence, defining ourselves by our ability rather than your love. Forgive us when we deem our species so central that we do not rest and halt consumption, decimating Earth, denying her Sabbath and integrity. Forgive us through Christ who redeems us from the brokenness of slavery that we might enjoy your presence, creation and community. **Amen.**

SILENT REFLECTION

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Righteousness does not come from our own doing or not doing. Righteousness comes from God, by faith. Through the faithfulness of Christ, our Lord, we are forgiven.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #579**

"Glory Be to the Father"

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God who speaks, your law is perfect, reviving the soul; your commandment is clear, enlightening the eyes. May your Spirit illumine this Word that our eyes may be opened and our souls revived.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Exodus 20: 1-4,7-9,12-20

*HYMN #467

"How Great Thou Art"

EPISTLE LESSON

Philippians 3:4b-14

SERMON

"Goals"

Rev. Susan Baller-Shepard

Spiritual Challenge #13:

We've set spiritual challenges before us during these past weeks. What's a spiritual goal you want to pursue? Write it on your bulletin and keep it before you as you live out these remaining three months of 2026.

OFFERING

Offertory Anthem

"Come Share God's Gift"

SLUC Choir

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of Loaf and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

*HYMN #100

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

(Verses 1/2/4)

*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, Lynne Wright.