

**A Warm Welcome to
Solomon's United Church of Christ**

Sunday, July 14, 2024 10:15 am

Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor

Church Website: mysolomonsucc.org

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

GATHERING HYMN

“This is the Day” (v. 1)

Black # 84

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made, that the Lord has made!

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it! And be glad in it!

This is the day that the Lord has made! We will rejoice and be glad in it!

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord has made!

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** (Inspired by Psalm 85:8-13)

One: Let us turn our hearts to hear from the Holy One!

All: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will embrace.

One: Let us turn our hearts to gain insight from the Holy One!

All: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

One: Let us turn our hearts to receive from the Holy One!

All: Righteousness will go before them, and will make a path for their steps. Praise be to God! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

Black # 4

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

All: God Among Us, your ways are perfect and your laws are just. We gather today in your name and for your kingdom. May it come wherever and whenever two or more gather in your name. May our hearts open and our understanding expand with the vision of righteousness. May our worship please you, transform us, and bear witness to your love. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE

ONE: Righteous God, you have created us in your image to reflect your holiness. You have affirmed the goodness within us, and still we struggle to be the people you call us to be. You have given us the guidance of the Law and the wisdom of the Prophets and the gift of your Presence. Still, we struggle against the pull to go our own direction without your counsel. We fail to extend the grace and compassion you give to us. Be merciful in your judgment, we pray, while holding us accountable for your justice as we strive to live the fullness of life in you. You did not make us to be perfect. You did create us to be good. In hope, we affirm that your strength is made perfect in our weakness. Meet us in our points of need, O Holy One, and to lead us into the path of new life. Thanks be to you, O Merciful One! Amen.

PRAISE HYMN

Black # 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CHILDREN'S TIME

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

HYMN

“Creator God, Creating Still”

Black # 278

GOSPEL READING

Mark 6:14-29

SERMON

PASTORAL PRAYER & OUR LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

OFFERING INVITATION

***PRESENTATION & OFFERING RESPONSE**

Black # 785

We give you but your own

Whate'er the gift may be

All that we have is yours alone

We give it gratefully

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Holy One, we thank you for the gifts of life and living. We give thanks by bringing our resources to the community, to be shared and used for your kingdom, in our ministry, and for the world we inhabit. Bless and facilitate our generosity beyond our imagination. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Let Us with a Joyful Mind”

Black # 16

***BENEDICTION**

One: May the love of God, the peace of Christ, and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit be with you and go with you always. Our Worship Service is ended,

All: May our service never end. Amen.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you're comfortable*

Liturgies from the UCC's Worship Ways, adapted by Rev. Julia L. Brown