A Warm Welcome to

Solomon's United Church of Christ

Sunday, October 4, 2026 10:00 am

Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** (Japan)
One: In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.
Many: Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's will.
One: What do we find at today's table?
Many: God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.
One: What is not at today's table?
Many: The many powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.
One: Let us repent, and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.
Many: Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love. Let us worship together the true God, who makes us one. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN "Be Now My Vision" Black # 451, vs 1-3**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)** (Australia)
We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ's followers. We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service. We serve our God in this community and throughout every land. Let us serve by working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred. The Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us!

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER and PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION (South Africa)
One: For our failure to feel the sufferings of others, and our tendency to live comfortably with injustice,
Many: God forgive us.
One: For the self-righteousness which denies guilt, and the self-interest which strangles compassion,
Many: God forgive us.
One: For those who live their lives in careless unconcern, who cry 'Peace, peace' when there is no peace,
Many: We ask your mercy.
One: For our failings in community, our lack of understanding,
Many: We ask your mercy.
One: For the times when we are too eager to be better than others, when we are too rushed to care, when we are too tired to bother, when we don't really listen, when we are too quick to act from motives other than love,
Many: God forgive us.

WORDS OF GRACE (Bangladesh)
Know that God loves you. From the very beginning God's loving mercy has been poured out upon you. God loves you like a parent embracing you. God watches over you, guiding you each day. On behalf of Jesus Christ, our Savior: you are forgiven; forgive others. You are restored; restore others. You are reconciled with God; be reconciled with others, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. 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

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Corinthians 10:17

HYMN "Breathe on Me Breath of God" Black # 292, vs 1-3

SERMON

PASTORAL PRAYER
One: We pray for the people of Africa.
We pray for the people of Asia.
We pray for the people of the Pacific.
We pray for the people of Latin America and the Caribbean.
We pray for the people of Europe
We pray for the people of the Middle East.
We pray for the people of North America.
We pray for the people of every place whose names we know—and those we do not.
May they be strengthened in faith, justice, and hope. May we be strengthened together as one body of Christ.

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**
One: Praise be to God who calls us to imagine and believe that another world is possible.
Many: We praise the One who calls us into covenant with one another. Deliver these our gifts to the work of bringing hope and wholeness to all our neighbors.
One: God of all times and all places, remind us of the world as You intend it: free from hunger, poverty, violence, and oppression.
Many: Embolden us, O God, to imagine and believe that another world is possible! Amen.

COMMUNION (insert)
Call To Communion
One: From every corner of the earth, Christ calls us to the table.
Many: We come from many peoples, many places, many traditions.
One: We come with the songs of our ancestors and the prayers of those who came before us.
Many: We come carrying stories of faith, struggle, hope, and joy.
One: From the villages of Africa and the islands of the Pacific, from the mountains of Asia and the cities of the Americas, from the churches of Europe and the Middle East—
Many: We come as one people, gathered in Christ.
One: Some come to this table with abundance. Some come longing for daily bread.
Many: Christ welcomes us all.
One: Some come singing. Some come grieving. Some come with questions. Some come with gratitude.
Many: Christ welcomes us all.
One: Today, the walls that divide us do not have the final word. Language does not divide us. Geography does not divide us. Culture does not divide us.
Many: At Christ's table, there is room for all.
One: Come, people of God. Come with open hands and open hearts.
Many: We come to receive. We come to remember. We come to share. We come to be made one.

Words Of Institution
On the night before he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and shared it with his friends.
He took the cup and shared it as a sign of a new covenant—
a promise of love stronger than violence,
hope stronger than despair,

and life stronger than death.
Holy Spirit, breathe upon this bread and this cup
and upon all who receive them.
As Christians around the world gather today,
make us mindful of one another:
of those who worship in crowded churches
and those who gather in small communities;
of those who celebrate with joyful music and dancing
and those whose worship is quiet and contemplative;
of those who have enough to eat
and those who cry out for bread;
of those who worship in freedom
and those who gather amid conflict, displacement, or persecution.
Make us one in the love of Christ.
As this bread is broken and this cup is shared, teach us that communion is more than what happens here.
Make us people who share what we have,
who welcome the stranger,
who seek reconciliation,
who stand with those who suffer,
and who work for the peace and flourishing of all creation.

Sharing The Meal

Prayer Of Thanksgiving

One: God of every nation and generation,
gather us into the great company of your people—
those who have gone before us,
those who worship beside us,
and those we may never meet in this life.
Until the day when every people and every nation
are gathered into your eternal feast,
keep us faithful to one another and to you.

Many: Send us from this table as people of Christ's peace. One body. One Spirit. One Lord. One faith. One hope. One table. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" Black # 394, vs 1-3**

BENEDICTION (Cuba)

One: May God prosper you.
May your days be long and your nights serene.
May your friendships honor you, and your family love you.
May you eat at your table, and
May you be gathered into God's embrace with a smile.
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,

Many: May our service never end. Amen.

CHIMES AND POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you're comfortable*
Liturgies originally written by Global Ministries for World Communion Sunday 2026.