

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

Sunday, September 1, 2024 10:15 am
Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor
Rev. Caroline E. Saxton, Guest Preacher
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 (Psalm 15, The Inclusive Bible)**

One: Who has the right to enter your tent, YHWH, or to live on your holy mountain?

All: *Those who conduct themselves with integrity and work for justice, who speak truth from their heart*

One: and do not use their tongues for slander, who do not wrong their neighbors and cast no discredit on their friends,

All: *who look with contempt on the corrupt but honor those who keep their promises, even when it hurts,*

One: who don't demand interest on loans and cannot be bribed to exploit the innocent.

All: *If people do these things, nothing can ever shake them.*

***OPENING HYMN**

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Black # 24

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: With sincere hearts and minds, let us confess our sins before God and the world, trusting in God's mercy to forgive.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: *God of light, we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness. We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts. We are satisfied with human traditions and norms and avoid your liberating truth. We have confused meekness with weakness, holiness with social conformity, and anger with righteousness. Forgive us, we pray. By the power of your word save us from the prison of our conceit so that we may serve you with sincere hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, do not despair: God renews us by the word of truth that we might become the first fruits of God's creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Is Come”

Black # 164

EPISTLE READING

James 1:17-27

SERMON

Rev. Caroline E. Saxton

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

One: Let us give as God has so abundantly given to us.

***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: *O God, receive these gifts for the work of your church. With these gifts we dedicate ourselves to live in the truth of your word, and follow your commandments with sincere hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Great Is Your Faithfulness”

Black # 423

***BENEDICTION**

One: The blessing of God be with you, the love of Jesus fill you, and the power of the Holy Spirit sustain you, now and forevermore. Our Worship Service is ended,
All: *May our service never end. Amen.*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you're comfortable
Liturgies from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year B Volume 2*