

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

Sunday, January 26, 2025 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**

One: The Spirit of God has called us to this place and time.

All: We gather to hear God's liberating word of love.

One: Today, past and future meet in the holiness of now.

All: May the Spirit of God at work in Jesus, also work in us.

One: May the vision of flourishing for all be imprinted on our hearts.

All: And may it be enacted in our lives! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Black # 1

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Gracious God, anoint us anew with your Holy Spirit of Love. By your Spirit, form our hearts, minds, and lives into channels of your good news. Grant us a renewed passion for your vision of a world where none are poor and where every weight is lifted. Cultivate your courageous compassion in us to move toward any who have been marginalized or run over by the world. Bless and strengthen us, O God, to bless and strengthen others. We pray this in the name of the one whose life fulfilled your holy vision, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

All: Loving God, interrupt our familiar inertias, which too often lead us down paths of distraction and discouragement. Let today's Sabbath pause offer to us a freeing grace otherwise impossible to imagine. By the abundant outpouring of your Spirit, lighten every burden we have carried from our pasts. Cleanse the lens of our hearts, that we may see more clearly your vision of a world made new. Forgive us and free us for the delight you yearn to offer, and the work to which you call us, in and through Jesus Christ. Amen.

One: Beloved of God, hear the good news: In Christ, God has declared that you are no longer captives to the past. All that you have carried, the Holy One has lifted. The eternal love of God, made known in Jesus Christ, has anointed you anew. You are forgiven and invited to join in the joy of God's great vision for your life. Thanks be to God who has fulfilled this in your hearing. 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

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

HYMN

“God of Change and Glory”

Black # 177

GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:14-21

SERMON

PASTORAL PRAYER & OUR 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.

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**

We thank you, God, for loving us into the freedom of a generous life. Bless these gifts that we bring in response to the blessings you have already given us. Form our lives anew into living offerings, that we may share your love with a grace that empowers others. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Black #77

***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 feel led and are comfortable*

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