

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

Sunday, November 12, 2023 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 (Psalm 8)**

One: How majestic is God's name in all the earth; God's glory is in the heavens!

All: We marvel at God's creation, the work of divine fingers! How wonderful are the moon and the stars, which God has set in place.

One: Our Creator has placed us only a little lower than the angels and crowned us with glory and honor.

All: Our Creator has put everything under our feet: all flocks and herds, and animals of the wild; the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea.

One: Let us take our place as image bearers. Let us bear our responsibility as caretakers.

All: God's name is majestic in all the earth! Let us worship our world's Creator! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder”

Black # 35

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

All: Holy God, your presence illuminates our path. Shine your light into dim spaces so that we do not stray from your teaching. Help us discern what you are calling us, your church, to do and be in this moment in time. Give us urgency to be good news in the world and for our neighbors. Let your glory reign among us and your Spirit lead us into truth, justice, and love. For your name and in your name we pray. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE

ONE: Divine Creator, we confess that we often seek counsel from so many sources while ignoring your guidance. Help us to navigate the tough choices we must make and to discern the circumstances of our world and our lives through your perspective. Your way is life and embodies care, compassion, and concern for all creation. May we follow your model for the flourishing of our human siblings and our home, the Earth. Forgive us for the ways in which we have strayed, resisted, or defied your good callings. As we receive your abundant grace, may we be transformed for the betterment of our world according to your vision, O God. All honor and praise be to you! 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

Genesis 1:26-31

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 2:1-8

HYMN

“Shadow and Substance”

Black # 398

GOSPEL READING

John 21:15-17

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: Generous God, receive our offerings and gifts for your kingdom. Let them be a blessing to those in need of encouragement, material goods, and evidence of your presence among us. Magnify them beyond our imagining and grant us insight into the possibilities before us for ministry and witness. We are grateful to give. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

Black # 28

***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 by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsey, adapted by Rev. Julia L. Brown