

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

**Sunday, November 17, 2024 10:15 am**

**Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor**

**Church Website: [mysolomonsucc.org](http://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: Come to the place where love is multiplied.

*All: We come to the place of grace.*

One: Come to the time when we open ourselves to the holy in us.

*All: We come to the time of grace.*

One: Come to Jesus the Christ who transforms our human disappointment, fear, anxiety, grief, and hopelessness into hope for all God's children.

*All: We come to the fullness of grace.*

One: Come then, and let us worship and give thanks to our God who loves it when we recognize and delight in the gifts we are given.

*All: We come to worship and give thanks to our God. Amen.*

**\*OPENING HYMN**

**“Come, O Thankful People, Come”**

**Black # 422**

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*All: Holy God, we gather this morning to bring to You our thanksgiving for all of the things in our lives – even those things which at the time seem not to be blessings. By the power of Your ever-present Holy Spirit, give us hearts grateful for all that is ours. Also, give us hearts that can worship and praise You by reaching out in care and courage so that the goodness of life may be for all of Your children. In the name of Jesus the Christ who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.*

**MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE**

One: God's gifts abound in our lives even when we fail to recognize and be grateful for them. Join me in the prayer of confession.

*All: O God, forgive us when we respond to Your generosity with grumble after grumble about cutbacks, shortfalls and limited resources. Forgive us when we respond to Your grace with grim predictions and grudging giving. Forgive us when we grip reality so tightly that we cannot open our hearts and hands to receive Your surprises and possibilities. Help us to pray with open hands and hearts. Now in Your mercy, hear the confessions of our hearts.*

**THE SILENT PRAYERS**

**THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Christ's love is in the small details – two coins, one mustard seed, the sparrows that fall, and in all of our missed chances. Hear and believe the good news: through the love of the Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

**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**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

**1 Timothy 2:1-7**

**THE PSALTER**

**Psalm 126**

**HYMN**

**“Now Thank We All Our God”**

**Black # 419**

**GOSPEL READING**

**Matthew 6:25-33**

**SERMON**

Rev. Dr. Karin Stork-Whitson

**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: Creator of all life, we offer our heartfelt thanks for the abundance that surrounds us. Receive and abundantly bless our tithes and offerings. Use them and us as instruments of your love so that others may have a foretaste of your reign on earth as it is in heaven. We pray all this in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**“Great is Your Faithfulness”**

**Black # 423**

**\*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*