

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

Sunday, November 26, 2023 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** (Inspired by Psalm 100)

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Worship with gladness and singing!

**All: God is Creator, Sustainer, Keeper, and Shepherd. Bless God's name.**

One: Enjoy the presence of God! Give thanks and praise!

**All: God is Sovereign and Holy. Bless God's name.**

One: Know that God reigns! God's kingdom comes!

**All: God is Healer, Redeemer, Restorer, and Friend. Let us bless God's name! Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN**

“To You, O God, All Creatures Sing”

Black # 17

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**All: God who cares. We flourish in your compassion. You search for us and find us. You, Holy One, surround us with the power of your abundant love and utmost care. Be present among us as we praise your name, bring our burdens, and give thanks for all that you are and all that you do. Amen.**

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

**ONE:** Sovereign God, transform us in your image. Your reign is just and righteous, and yet all too often we go our own way and live according to our own will. Forgive us, we pray, and make us ambassadors of your kingdom. Let us represent you through words and actions, O God. May we release our need for anything that creates a barrier to loving you and loving our neighbors. As we receive your unconditional love, may we know and bear witness that we are all neighbors; and that the kingdom is ours to embrace and to enter with full citizenship. Help us, loving God, to know that every move toward you transforms us; that every confession of your sovereignty fortifies; and that every moment in your presence restores us. Praise be to you, O Holy One! 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**

Psalm 13

**EPISTLE READING**

Ephesians 1:15-23

**HYMN**

“Lead On Eternal Sovereign”

Black # 573

**GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 25:31-46

**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: Gracious God, thank you for the gifts we have and the blessing of sharing. Use our gifts for your glory and to meet the needs and hopes of your kingdom. Amen.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

“God Reigns O'er All the Earth”

Black # 21

**\*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*