

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

Sunday, March 16, 2025 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 27:1)

One: When the world around me is disturbing, where do I turn?

*All: A psalmist says, “The Lord is my light and my salvation.”*

One: When I am afraid, what can I count on?

*All: “The Lord is a fortress protecting my life.”*

One: We gather in the light of God’s protection.

*All: We come to pray, praise and sing. Let us worship God together! Amen.*

**\*OPENING HYMN**

“The God of Abraham Praise”

Black #24

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*Gracious God, prepare us to receive you. May our eyes behold you in those around us. May our ears receive your word. May our hearts be open to your teaching and leading. In this precious moment, may we know you in new ways. Amen.*

**MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*All: Loving Protector, in times of chaos, we can be startled by sudden declarations, distracted by claims of solutions to problems. Forgive us, God, for our wandering from you. Forgive us, when our own fears draw other people’s attention away from you. Help us to act, not from anxiety, but from faith in your certain presence. Help us to slow down and recognize you within and around us. Amen.*

One: No matter how far from God our resistance takes us, God wishes to draw us back, as deliberately as a hen gathers her brood under her wings. Receive God’s embrace and this good news: you are forgiven.

**PRAISE HYMN**

Black # 198

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim;  
Let all adore and praise that sacred name.*

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

**EPISTLE READING**

Philippians 3:17-4:1

**HYMN**

“O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns”

Black #212

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 13:31-35

**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 # 778

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise God, all creatures here below  
Praise God for all that love has done / Creator, Christ, and Spirit, one.*

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*Dear God, use our offerings of our resources and of our lives. Bless them, and multiply them for your purposes in the world. Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

Black #403

**\*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*