

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

Sunday, March 2, 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 call of the Holy One has brought us together.

All: We have been called to pray and to praise.

One: We are called to worship and to holy wonder.

All: May the light of Love burn brightly in us.

One: May it transfigure and transform our hearts and minds..

All: May it become a beacon of hope for others. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" **Black #43**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

God of mountaintops and valleys and everywhere in between, we thank you for meeting us where we are. We thank you also for leading us to this place of prayer and renewal. Enlighten our minds, radiate our hearts, and ready us for your living Word of Love. Let it shine in and through us, lighting a path of grace, hope, and joy. May the same transfiguring power, shown forth in Jesus Christ, also shine in us for the good of the world. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

All: Holy God, it has been easy to live with our eyes veiled. Too often, we have hidden from the hard realities within us and around us. We have shielded your light of love, instead of sharing it. Something deep within has often hardened our hearts. But there is a longing still deeper within. We hunger for the forgiveness and renewal you revealed in Jesus Christ. Forgive us, Holy One, and unveil our eyes and our hearts. With your shining love, light a path of forgiveness for us that we may share it with others. By this, may we know the freedom of new life you revealed in Jesus Christ. Amen.

One: Hear the good news! Do not lose heart! God is merciful. Bit by bit, we are being transformed into the image of God made known in Jesus. God has forgiven us. God has also called us to listen to Jesus, the Beloved, who calls us by the same name. Beloved, may the forgiving light of God's love shine through us, and bear the hope of a new beginning to others. Thanks be to God! 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 Exodus 34:29-35
EPISTLE READING 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

HYMN "Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain" **Black #183**

GOSPEL READING Luke 9:28-43a

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**

O Spirit of Life, shine on us again and again that we may become the blessing you intend. Keep awakening us to your holy mystery and your sacred call. Bless these gifts we bring so that your energy of love may be shared with others and offer the light of a new beginning. By this, and more than we can name, continue to transfigure us and the world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" **Black #182**

***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*