

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

Sunday, April 27, 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 John 20:19)

One: What if I told you we come to this sanctuary because there is no safety behind locked doors?

*All: Jesus speaks peace among us. We do not carry this all alone.*

One: What if I told you we gather together to remember that fear cannot keep love from showing up?

*All: Jesus breathes the spirit among us. We do not carry this all alone.*

One: What if I told you worship is a place where we touch the wounds this world makes in us?

*All: Jesus reaches out his hands to us. We do not carry this all alone.*

One: What if I told you we join our hearts in prayer and praise to practice moving disbelief toward recognition?

*All: Jesus tells truths among us. We do not carry this all alone.*

One: What if it was all true?

*All: My Lord and my God! Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia!*

**\*OPENING HYMN**

“Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One!”

Black #253

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*In the midst of our overwhelm and fear, Tender God, we do not expect to meet you. Yet you are here, among us, holding out your hands to us, breathing Spirit over us, showing us again and again that nothing can separate us from you. Surround us with your peace in this moment, Jesus; let our fears rest in you. Amen.*

**MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

One: Where we have locked the doors to new awareness with defensiveness... Jesus, breathe peace.

*All: Unlock our understanding.*

One: Where we have closed off to others in fear... Jesus, breathe peace.

*All: Open our hearts.*

One: Where we have demanded proof of wounds in order to care... Jesus, breathe peace.

*All: Teach us compassion.*

One: Where we have insisted others owe us vulnerability to gain our solidarity... Jesus, breathe peace.

*All: Show us how to be trustworthy.*

One: Receive the good news, beloved ones of the Holy One: no locked door, no overwhelming fear, no guarded disbelief can keep out God's forgiveness and resurrecting love. We are set free to keep building up a new world.

*All: My Lord and my God! Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia!*

**PRAISE HYMN**

Black # 756 v. 2

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! / Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!*

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

Acts 5:27-32

**EPISTLE READING**

Revelation 1:4-8

**HYMN**

“These Things Did Thomas Count”

Black #254

**GOSPEL READING**

John 20:19-31

**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**

*Loving God, in the presence of fear, may these gifts bring hope. Where doors are locked, may these offerings open new possibilities. Where there are wounds, may these gifts honor their truth. In the presence of despair, may these offerings testify to a new world rising up. To the collective liberation of your beloved people, we dedicate ourselves and our offerings. Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

“We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”

Black #256

**\*BENEDICTION**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE**

*\*Please stand as you feel led and are comfortable*

*Liturgies from the UCC's Worship Ways, adapted by Rev. Julia L. Brown*