

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

Sunday, April 6, 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** (Inspired by Psalm 126)

One: With our ancestors we recall God's great works

All: *The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.*

One: With our ancestors we pray

All: *May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.*

One: With our ancestors we rejoice

All: *Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. Let us worship God, in this community and in the company of our ancestors. Amen.*

***OPENING HYMN** "Holy, Holy, Holy" **Black #277**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Holy One, whether we are eager to draw near to you, or we are cautious, whether we are certain of your guidance, or we are unsure how you call to us, you are present. Open our senses and open our hearts to experience your fullness. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

All: *Holy Jesus, you call us to follow you. We want to respond, but our attention flutters. One day we are steady disciples and another day we are distracted by the clamors of the world or by our own needs. Forgive our wavering commitment and make us more reliable disciples. May we each day respond when you beckon, becoming ever more faithful. Amen.*

One: God is continually creating, doing a new thing in us. Where we have erred, God brings us back into God's embrace. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Praise be to God!

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 Isaiah 43:15-21
EPISTLE READING Philippians 3:4b-14

HYMN "There Is a Name I Love to Hear" **Black #52**

GOSPEL READING John 12:1-8

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**

Holy One, we give thanks to you that we are able to give. Bless these gifts and our lives, that we and our offerings may serve your purposes. Bless all who give and all who receive. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" **Black #77**

***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*