A Warm Welcome to

Solomon's United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 11, 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: Transformative Creator, you envelope us with examples of community.
All: We are witness to Jesus' up close and personal attempts to learn about and be with the people.
One: You want us to know that what happens outside of our church building matters to God's people.
All: Continue to work in and through us to build towards collective flourishing.
One: Call us into living—
All: Call us into being curious, approachable, and loving towards all your creation. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** **"Blessed Assurance"** **Black # 473**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Loving Creator, may we feel your presence in one another and in the neighbors we encounter. Open up all our senses to be more available to the possibility of your reflection in others and let us be ready to build up a world in which we become agents of change. Open our hearts, O God, and help us to feel the brokenness of your world so we can begin again. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we ask ourselves: Who do we say that we are? How do we work against the discrimination, war, genocide, violence, fear of others, and poverty that run rampant among your people? When we experience tension, give us the courage to feel it and to invite counter feelings of love, kindness, and grace the way that Jesus showed us time and time again. Be with us and forgive us, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Beloved, let us go forth with the courageous belief that we can truly recognize the Holy One in the other and then act accordingly. By grace, God will move us towards transformation where acts of love, humility, curiosity, faith, abundance, and hope are on display for all to witness. Praise be to God! Amen.

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 9:36-43**
EPISTLE READING **Revelation 7:9-17**

HYMN **"Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"** **Black #252**

GOSPEL READING **John 10:22-30**

SERMON *Rev. Mike Allwein*

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**

Generous Creator, we thank you for the gifts of the people – from our ancestors to our elders to those who have still yet to come, we share what we have so that all can flourish and follow you. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** **"Lift High the Cross"** **Black # 198**

***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