

A Warm Welcome to
Solomon's United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 17, 2026 9:30 am

Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORGAN PRELUDE & SILENT MEDITATION

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** (inspired by Psalm 68)

One: Let God rise up! Sing to God; lift up a song to the One who rides upon the clouds—the Holy One— be exultant before God.

Many: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy!

One: Let God rise up! Ascribe power to God, full of majesty and power.

Many: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy!

One: Let God rise up! Awesome is God in the sanctuary, who gives power and strength to the people.

Many: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy! Blessed be God!

***OPENING HYMN**

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You”

Black # 4

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION** (unison)

Holy Love, our Companion and Source, shower us with your presence, shelter us in your sanctuary, shield us with your peace. Open our receptivity to your word, wisdom, and way. May our worship honor your name and draw us nearer to you and to our neighbors. Be glorified in our midst as we exalt your Many Names. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER and PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION (unison)

Righteous God, you offer the newness of life and we cling to dry and desolate places. We withhold our trust and cling to the ways of the world while retreating from opportunities to share your goodness in the world. We allow hopelessness to reign in our lives and direct our attitudes and actions. Help us, O God, to believe that resurrection is not a one time event but a way of being to which we commit. Let the resurrected life in us transform our being, thinking, and doing in the world. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

New Creation in Christ, the resurrected life is yours. We place our hope in the assurance that, in Christ, all things are made new. Change is possible. The world we seek is ours to build, nurture, and sustain. God has given us grace and authority as well as a Companion to make a difference in the world. Receive these gifts freely as they are given.

PRAISE HYMN

Black # 198

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Acts 1:6-14

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

Red # 141

GOSPEL LESSON

John 17:1-11

SERMON

PASTORAL PRAYER & OUR LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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

Our commitments in the world are tangible and spiritual. Let us bring our whole selves to contribute to the kingdom of God, including material resources, as a faithful act of hope, trust, and companionship in this community and in the world.

***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 God, may these gifts we bring be used to bless, to build, and to beautify through generous and faithful care.
Amen.*

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Eternal Christ, Who, Kneeling”

Black # 390

***BENEDICTION**

One: Receive the power of the Holy Spirit and witness to Holy Love in New Franklin, in Chambersburg, in Waynesboro, in Pennsylvania, in America, and to the ends of the earth.

The gospel calls your light forward, as you go, in the world.

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,

Many: May our service never end. Amen.

ORGAN CHIMES AND POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you're comfortable*

Liturgies from the UCC's Worship Ways, originally written by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay