

A Warm Welcome to
Solomon's United Church of Christ

Sunday, May 4, 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 104)

One: God makes springs gush forth and flow,

All: *giving drink to every wild animal, that they may quench their thirst.*

One: God causes the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for people,

All: *to bring forth food from the earth.*

One: All of creation looks to God to give them their food in due season.

All: *When God's hand opens, it is filled with good things.*

One: May God's glory endure forever.

All: *May God rejoice in God's works! Let us worship together and with joy! Amen.*

***OPENING HYMN** "For the Beauty of the Earth" **Black # 28**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

God, our Creator, as we reflect on the mystery of our fragile planet, we celebrate the wonders of Earth as our home. Help us to discern how we have polluted our planet and to empathize with the groaning of creation beneath us. Teach us to sense your presence pulsing through Earth as a living green blue sanctuary. Teach us to love Earth as our home. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Divine Creator, we confess that we have become alienated from Earth and viewed this planet as disposable, a source of endless resources, a mere stopping place en route to heaven. We are sorry. We have polluted Earth's waters with toxins. We have turned our greed into global warming. We have helped cause arctic regions to melt. We have loved progress more than the planet. We repent before you, O God. As you hear our confessions and generously offer forgiveness, please teach us to love Earth as our home and to revere this planet as your sanctuary. We rejoice in your mercy and give thanks for all that you provide through your creation. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

One: Christ hears your confession and forgives your sins against Earth. I invite you to celebrate Earth as your home and to revere this planet as God's sanctuary. Glory to God in the highest! And on Earth peace with our kin in creation! 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 9:1-20
EPISTLE READING Revelation 5:11-14

HYMN "O How Glorious, Full of Wonder" **Black #558**

GOSPEL READING John 21:1-19

SERMON "Come, Have Breakfast" *K Ruth*

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**

God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks and our concern for those in need, including our fellow creatures on planet Earth. With all creation, we bless you, O God, our Creator. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN** "All Things Bright and Beautiful" **Black # 31**

***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 adapted from Seasons of Creation by the Uniting Church in Australia, adapted by Rev. Julia L. Brown