

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

Sunday, August 11, 2024 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 Psalms 34 and 130:7)

One: Give praise to the Holy One at all times and bless God’s name.

All: Hope in the Holy One! With God, there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.

One: Let God’s radiance pour out upon you. May you shine brightly in God’s presence.

All: Hope in the Holy One! With God, there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.

One: May we know the goodness of God with all our senses and be glad in God’s safety.

All: Hope in the Holy One! With God, there is steadfast love and great power to redeem.

Let us worship God together! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!”

Black # 257

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

All: Everlasting God, we come before you in this moment. We bring the concerns of the day, the burdens of our hearts, gratitude for your presence, and hope for the future. We gather as people in need and with abundance, in despair and with joy, in uncertainty and with confidence. We rest in the assurance that wherever we are on life’s journey, you receive us with love, compassion, and acceptance. Embolden us to be welcoming and hospitable to one another as we gather in your name, to hear your voice, and to give you praise. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE

ONE: Divine Redeemer, forgive us. We confess to our words and actions that grieve you. So often we speak words that divide and alienate rather than words that heal and invite dialogue. Help us to move past bitterness, anger, and resentment, and toward reconciliation, gratitude, and hope. Make us new not only for ourselves. Renew us for life in community with our neighbors, friends, and foes. Guide us in the path of life and love. Forgive and release us from the bonds of guilt and shame so that we can be free to change and grow, free to receive your power and new life, and free to be your agents of transformation in the world. Holy One, in your mercy, hear our plea. Respond to our call. Grant us new and changed life in Christ. As we receive the redemptive power of your Holy Spirit, we rejoice in the gift of your grace which melts, molds, fills, and transforms. Praise be to you, O God! Amen.

PRAISE HYMN

Black # 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

CHILDREN’S TIME

OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Kings 19:4-8

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

HYMN

“Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way”

Black # 465

GOSPEL READING

John 6:35, 41-51

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

***PRESENTATION & OFFERING RESPONSE**

Black # 785

We give you but your own

Whate’er the gift may be

All that we have is yours alone

We give it gratefully

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Holy God, thank you for the gift of and the opportunity for generosity. Make us bold stewards of the resources you provide. Increase our offerings, expand our outreach, and let our ministry testify to your goodness, nurture, and care for all. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Children of God”

Black # 533

***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’re comfortable*

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