

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

Sunday, August 4, 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**

One: Draw near to God. Come in the name of Jesus, who understands your need.

All: We have received manna in the wilderness. We have been offered the bread of life.

One: Open yourselves to God's steadfast love. Be honest before the Holy One.

All: We are judged according to God. Our secret sins are known to God.

One: The Holy Spirit has come to restore your joy. God's presence is real. Accept God's gift.

All: Whoever comes to Jesus will not be hungry. Whoever trusts in Christ will never be thirsty. Let us worship God together! Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“O Christ Jesus, Sent from Heaven”

Black # 47

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

All: We hear you calling us, loving God, to a life of humility, gentleness, and patience. Keep your call before us in this hour that we may recognize and celebrate our oneness in Jesus. May your Spirit unite us in the bond of peace. Speak to us of the Savior, who bore humanity's shame that we might learn to bear with one another in love. Draw us to a common faith, in spite of our differences. Lead us into new depths of trust beyond our knowing, and along new pathways of service outdistancing our fears. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE

ONE: O God, our transgressions are many. We have sinned against you and been complicit in evil. We have wandered far from your truth. You alone know the extent of our guilt. You are justified to pass judgment. We are burdened by the wrong we have allowed and the good we have avoided. We plead for mercy. Wash us thoroughly and cleanse us deep within. Put a new and right spirit in us and restore to us the joy of your salvation. Help us to lead lives worthy of your call to us, in Jesus' name. Draw us together and entrust us with gifts for the good of all, we pray. Knit us into one body for mutual support, encouragement, and growth. As we rejoice in the assurance that, by your grace, O God, we are forgiven, equip us for the work of ministry. Transform us according to your will, and mold us more into the image of Jesus. All thanks and 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

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 4:1-16

HYMN

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

Black # 18

GOSPEL READING

John 6:24-35

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: We dedicate our offerings, Gracious God, not only for the good they can accomplish and the mission they will support, but also because giving helps us to gain perspective on what really matters. May our lives and all we give perform your works, O God. Build us up in love for one another and for all your children everywhere. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Be Not Dismayed”

Black # 460

***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 Lavon Baylor's Led by Love, adapted by Rev. Julia L. Brown