

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

Sunday, September 22, 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 Psalm 54)

One: Let us humble ourselves as we seek the presence of the Sovereign God.

All: God is our helper, the upholder of life.

One: The Holy One saves and delivers, vindicates and redeems, listens and responds.

All: God is our helper, the upholder of life.

One: Let us give thanks to the Holy One and worship our Maker.

All: God is our helper, the upholder of life. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Black # 1

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

All: Good and gracious God, make yourself known among us. We lift our voices in song, our hearts in prayer, our minds in consideration, our lives in adoration toward you. We acknowledge that your Spirit leads, comforts, and challenges us as we follow you. Come near to us, O God, as we seek you. Amen.

MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE

ONE: Holy and loving God, we confess that too often we become fixated with our position in the world. Too often, we prefer the exercise of our own power, and we exert it over others rather than use it for the benefit of the common good and your kingdom. Transform our hearts, we pray, so that we crave you as the source of our power and act with love - the only good and fulfilling demonstration of power. Make us your instruments of peace, joy, and hope in the world and agents of new life. We repent, O God, seeking your grace and mercy, that we may turn toward the ways of justice and righteousness. May wisdom guide us, and your holy love use us for your glory and the blessing of our neighbors. Thanks be to you, O Holy One, for the healing of the nations. 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

Proverbs 31:10-31

EPISTLE READING

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

HYMN

“Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way”

Black # 465

GOSPEL READING

Mark 9:30-37

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: Gracious God, we give you thanks for all the gifts we receive from you and pray you receive our gifts for the good of your kingdom. May they be a blessing and gift in our extended community and the world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Black # 77

***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*