

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

Sunday, September 29, 2024 10:15 am

Rev. Julia L. Brown, Pastor

Church Website: [mysolomonsucc.org](http://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 19)

One: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable, O God.

*All: For we seek your presence, the company of this community, and the renewal of our minds and spirits.*

One: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable, O God.

*All: For you impart wisdom, inspire joy, and instill hope as we reflect on the past, live in the present, and consider the future.*

One: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable, O God.

*All: For wherever we gather in your name, we find holy ground; whenever we call you, we find a fresh encounter; however we know you, we find belonging. Praise God!*

**\*OPENING HYMN**

“Let Us with a Joyful Mind”

Black # 16

**\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

*All: Triune God, make us one as you are one. As we worship you, may our harmony extend beyond our songs. May our distinctiveness be welcomed, our identities be celebrated, and our differences be a source of delight. May your church serve as a beacon for belonging and demonstrate the beloved community of the kingdom in your name this day and everyday. Amen.*

**MOMENT of QUIET PRAYER, CONFESSION, and ASSURANCE**

**ONE:** Righteous God, we acknowledge the need for repentance and repair. We have confused seeking the common good with controlling our neighbor. We have conflated unity with uniformity. We have cosigned on societal norms that divide, segregate, and exclude rather than becoming agents of cultural change to bridge, welcome, and belong. Transform our hearts and stir our souls. Foster a spirit of curiosity, hospitality, and reconciliation to make things right with our neighbors, foes, and friends. Lead us on the path of belonging as forgiven and forgiving people. As we receive your transformative grace, may we press forward and create a world that reflects your reign, with peace, justice, and righteousness for all. All praise, honor, and glory be to you, O Holy One! 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**

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

**EPISTLE READING**

James 5:13-20

**HYMN**

“Let Me Enter God's Own Dwelling” (vv. 1-4)

Black # 67

**GOSPEL READING**

Mark 9:38-50

**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: Creating God, thank you for hearing our prayer, receiving these gifts, and making them holy for your kingdom. Bless and honor every gift, expand our outreach, and renew these resources as a demonstration of generosity and flourishing in your realm. Amen.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

“Called as Partners in Christ's Service”

Black # 495

**\*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 by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay via the UCC's "Worship Ways," adapted by Rev. Julia L. Brown*