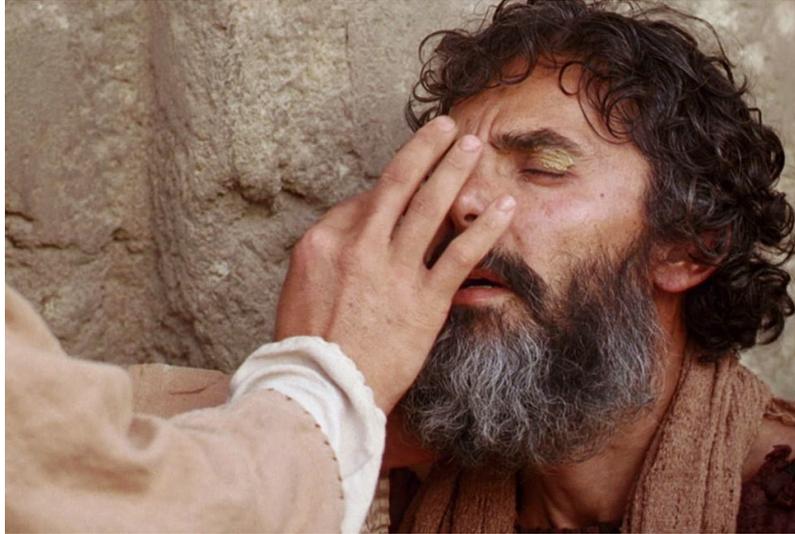


Welcome

4th Sunday in Lent

March 22, 2020



UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH

4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC 28146

(704) 636-5092 ~ <http://ulcsalisbury.org>

9:30 a.m. Sunday School ~ 10:30 a.m. Worship

Rev. Heidi Punt, Pastor - pastor@ulcsalisbury.org

(815) 883-4883

Rev. T. C. Plexico, Pastor Emeritus

Organist: Tina Brown - organist@ulcsalisbury.org

Staff Support: Genevieve Baker - office@ulcsalisbury.org

Facility Manager: Phil Cauble (704) 213-0646 - sexton@ulcsalisbury.org

*A congregation of the North American Lutheran Church
Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally Grounded - Congregationally Focused*

ORDER OF SERVICE - SETTING ONE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Taste and See* arr. Childs

Please stand as you are able.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

HYMN *Word of God, Come Down on Earth* WOV 716

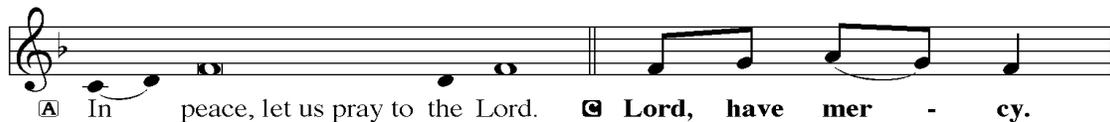
APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

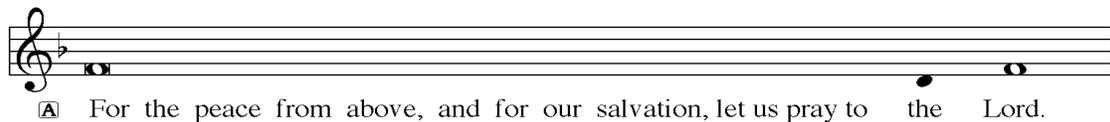
C **And also with you.**

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (green book)
WOV = With One Voice (blue book)

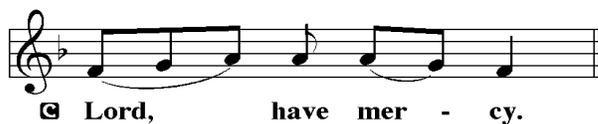
KYRIE



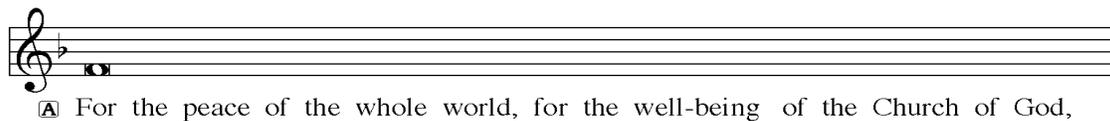
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



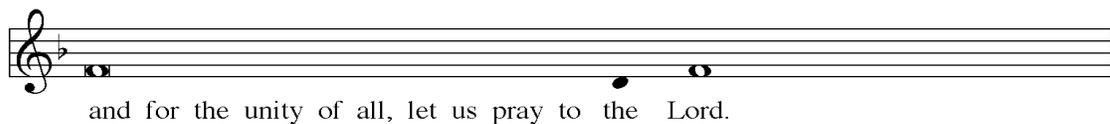
A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



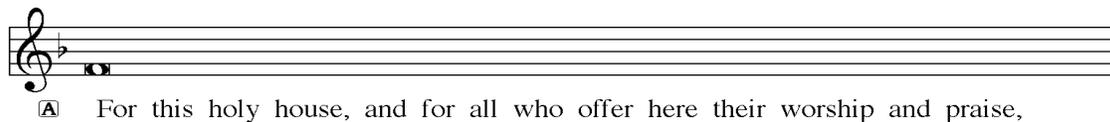
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



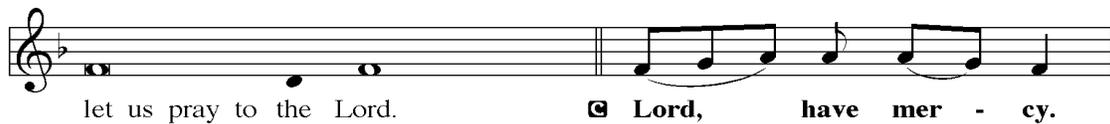
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE IS OMITTED DURING LENT

THE SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, grant that we, who for our evil deeds worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of your grace, may mercifully be relieved; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 42:14-21

¹⁴For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. ¹⁶And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. ¹⁷They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." ¹⁸Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the Lord? ²⁰He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. ²¹The Lord was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 142 (sung in unison)

¹I cry to the Lord | with my voice;

to the Lord I make loud | supplication.

²I pour out my com- | plaint before him

and tell him | all my trouble.

³When my spirit languishes within me, you | know my path;

in the way wherein I walk they have hidden a | trap for me.

⁴I look to my right hand and find no | one who knows me;

I have no place to flee to, and no one | cares for me.

⁵I cry out to | you, O Lord;

I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land | of the living.

⁶Listen to my cry for help, for I have been brought | very low;

save me from those who pursue me, for they are too | strong for me.

⁷Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks | to your name;
when you have dealt bountifully with me, the righteous will gath- | er around me.

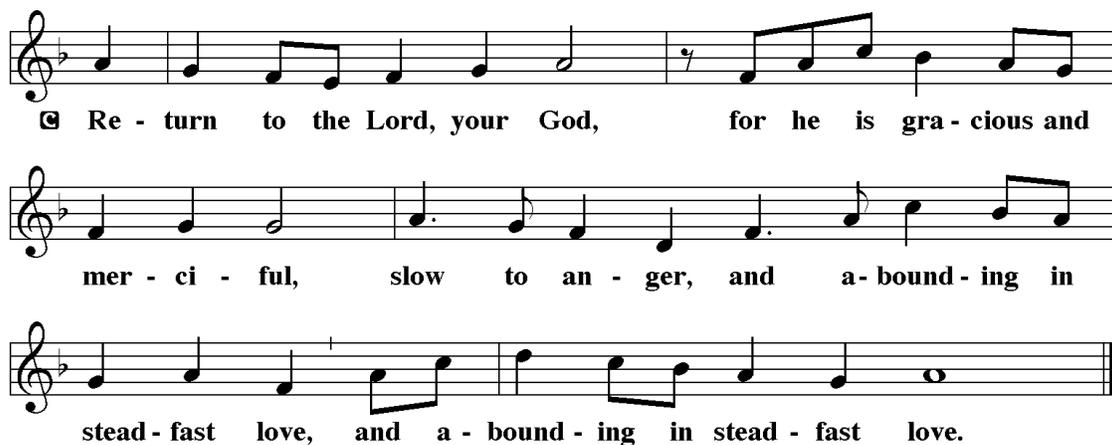
SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸... {F}or at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Here ends the reading.

Please stand as you are able.

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☩ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 9th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

¹As {Jesus} passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ²And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud ⁷and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the

man who used to sit and beg?”⁹ Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.”¹⁰ So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?”¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.”¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.¹⁵ So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.”¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them.¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.²¹ But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.”²² (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.)²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.”²⁵ He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.”²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?”²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?”²⁸ And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”³⁰ The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him.³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind.³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”³⁴ They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.³⁵ Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?”³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.”³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.³⁹ Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.”⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?”⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

P The Gospel of the Lord
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Heidi Punt

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Be Thou My Vision

WOV 776

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;

by the power of the Holy Spirit

he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE PEACE

In an attempt to be vigilant and responsible, please use Hand Sanitizers provided at each entrance. Please refrain from shaking hands and reserve a little space between one another. Nods, elbows, or gentle pat on the shoulders, etc., are welcome!

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

arr. Floeter

Please stand as you are able.

LENTEN OFFERTORY



☩ What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me? I will



of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will take the cup of sal - va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all his peo-ple,

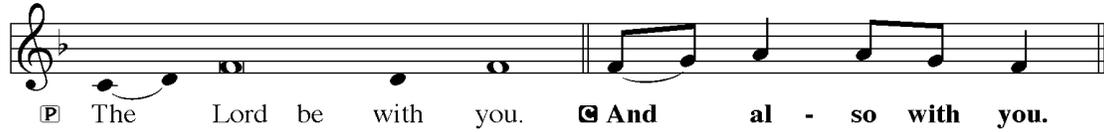


in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

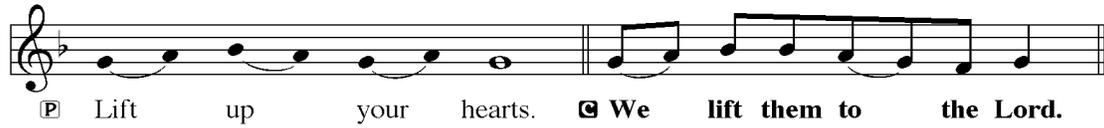
P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

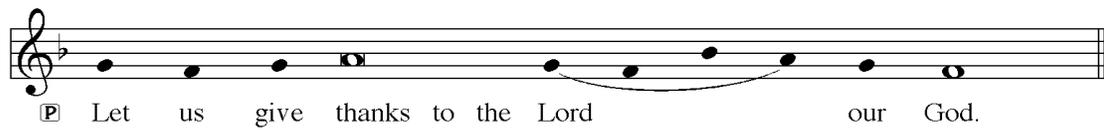
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



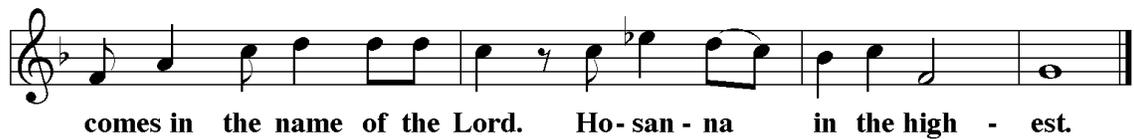
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san- na. Ho - san- na.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho- san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

All who are baptized and believe Christ is truly present within the elements of the bread and wine are welcome to God's table. Today we receive the sacrament by way of "intinction." After receiving the wafer, dip it into the wine. Grape juice is provided for anyone who is not able to receive the wine.

LAMB OF GOD

☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* LBW 448

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
grace.

C **Amen**

LENTEN POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



☩ Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.



My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re- veal you to the



na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

P Let us pray
Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those
whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

HYMN

Give Me Jesus

WOV 777

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, Ruth Monroe, Jane Peeler, and Zarah Plyler (Autumn Care), Betty Herion and Jean Ray (Brookdale), Bob Wilhelm (The Meadows-Rockwell), Betty Denker (Trinity Oaks, Apt. 123B)

Homebound Members - Mary Brady, Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Gladys Morgan, Frances Norris, Billy Waller, and Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery - Bill Broadway, Rev. Tom Corbell, Kiki Deaton, Glenn Eagle, Ruth Goodman, Bob Goodwin, Linda Hartley, Tommy Kerns, Teresa Kesler, Pat Kluttz, Eric Miller, Donnie Miller, Harold Miller, Grace Morgan, Ruth Myers, Karen Plyler, Larry Shepherd, Effie Vellines, and Ronald Vellines

Continual Prayer - Vonnie Agner, Nancy Ballew (mother of Kat Clifton), Evonne Batten (mother of Lisa Morgan), Yvette Bates (coworker of Karen Barringer), Jim Byrd, Vanna Calloway (friend of Kat Clifton), Donna Collins (friend of Sharon Leazer), Robert Cook (uncle of Lisa Morgan), Ophelia Curlee (sister-in-law of Grace Morgan), Karen DeMunbrun (Niece of Grace Morgan), June Fraley, Teresa Frank (Pam Vellines cousin), Marie Gorapic (sister of Linda Spencer), Tamara Honeycutt, Edna & John McCollough (friends of Jennifer & Scott Curlee), Della Morgan (mother of Pam Vellines), Hong Nguyen (Pete Nguyen's mother), John Oddie, Jr. (brother of Ruby Leazer and Ruth Myers), Robert Parker (brother of Jimmy Parker), Jamie Troutman (son of Joan Troutman), Justin West and David Mitchell (friends of Pete Nguyen)

Remember in Prayer List Note: We strive to list the prayer requests and names correctly. Please let us know if a correction is needed or you would like a name added/or returned to the list. If there is a name that can be removed, please contact the church office with that information as well. In an effort to keep the list current, we will update/remove prayer requests on a monthly basis, with the exception of known prolonged/ongoing issues. Thank you!

During the month of March the **loose offering** will be given to the Social Ministry Fund (3/1), Gerald Bame Scholarship Fund (3/8), Building and Repair Fund (3/15), and Lutheridge Scholarship Fund (3/22), and Mission Church or Special Offering (3/29).



The weekly *Messenger*

Today's Activities (March 22):

9:30 a.m. Sunday School including two new Sunday School Classes (see article below)

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. Little Lutherans and Quest Youth at Salem

Newsletter articles are due to the church office today.

***Two new Sunday School Classes** are being launched during Sunday School today. One focuses on our Junior and High Schoolers and the other class on Parenting! It's not too late to join in!!*

*Attention all **Junior and Senior High Schoolers** this announcement is for you! It's ok to be different—come and see why. Join us at **9:30 a.m. on March 22** for a **4 week series**, in a **new gathering space**. Jan and Vicki, the **JV Team** can't wait to see you, today!*

*In the midst of folding laundry, coordinating carpool schedules, and breaking up fights, fulfilling job obligations, many **PARENTS** get lost. Feeling pressure to do everything "right" and raise up "good" children is a real thing. Join **Pastor Heidi** at **9:30 a.m., in her study**, for a **4 week series** that will help us rediscover the big-picture view of God's plan for us as parents. Freed from the burden of trying to manufacture life-change in our children's hearts, we can embrace a grand perspective of parenting overflowing with vision, purpose, and joy. Please join Pastor Heidi, in her study today at 9:30 a.m.!*

During Lent, instead of flowers on the Altar bare branches are given to the Glory of God in observance of the Lenten season.

This Week's Activities:

Tues, Mar 24

7:00 p.m. Property, Cemetery, Columbarium Committee meeting

Wed, Mar 25

6:00 p.m. Bells and Beaus

7:00 p.m. Lenten Vespers (see back page)

7:00 p.m. Scouts

7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thurs, Mar 26

11:00 a.m. Messenger Crew

6:30 p.m. Interest Meeting for Educational Ministry

Next Sunday's Activities (March 29):

9:30 a.m. Sunday School including two new Sunday School Classes (
10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for Next Week:

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:1-11; John 11:1-45 [46-53]

If you are interested in joining a Safety & Security Team, please contact Pete Nguyen (704) 223-2270.

Those Serving in March:

Acolytes: Felisaty and Dusty Morgan

Altar Guild: Vivian Sprinkle and Patsy Lyerly

Communion Assistants: Tara Davis and Vivian Sprinkle

Lay Readers: Dusty Morgan Family

Ushers: Mike Cauble, Phil Cauble (HU), Elbert Kluttz, and Ronald Vellines

The Worship & Music Committee invites you to help us bring spring in the Sanctuary this Easter. As we make our way through Lent to the glory of Easter morning we look forward to a bright and colorful display of **Gerbers**. The cost per 1.5 gallon planter flower is **\$10**. Please make checks payable to **Union Lutheran Church** and at the memo line mark **Flowers**.

Please return your form to the church office, drop off in the mail or offering plate, by **Wednesday, April 1**.

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

By _____

How many flowers? _____

Amount \$ _____

Deadline is Wednesday, April 1.

LENT 2020 “BY HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED”

March 4-April 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

WEEK 4: THE WOUNDS OF ADULTERY (March 25)

In this service for Week 4 of Lent, we remember that the wounds of adultery and unfaithfulness we committed against our Lord were laid on Christ on the cross. Our Lenten observance reminds us that though we have been brought low by sin, our Lord will bless us with new life in him through the cross.

WEEK 5: THE WOUNDS OF STEALING (April 1)

In this service for Week 5 of Lent, we remember that the wounds of stealing and dishonesty we committed against our Lord were laid on Christ on the cross. Our Lenten observance reminds us that though we have been brought low by sin, our Lord will bless us with new life in him through the cross.

HOLY WEEK AT UNION:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School including the Junior/High School and Parenting Classes

10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday, April 5

As Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday we are drawn into the dramatic turn of events of the last days of Jesus’ life. On Sunday he is welcomed into Jerusalem with shouts of joy and roaring “hosannas.” By the end of the week he will be betrayed, arrested, and abandoned by Passover pilgrims and his closest friends. Things turn quickly from a parade to a death sentence which is carried out on a cross between two thieves.

3:00 p.m. Yadkin Valley Cluster Youth (Union)

4:30 p.m. Rev. Heidi Punt, Installation Service

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday, April 9

Maundy Thursday recalls Jesus’ last supper with his closest friends where he institutes what the church knows as the Sacrament of Holy Communion. As a sign of his servant-love, Jesus washed his disciples’ feet and gave them a new commandment, that they should love one another as he has loved them. We see ourselves in the disciples, who will abandon their Lord in various ways as Jesus makes his way to the cross.

7:00 p.m. Good Friday, April 10

This holy day recalls the last hours of Jesus’ life as the suffering servant is nailed to the cross, fulfilling his mission as the sacrificial Lamb of God. The sinless One takes on humanity’s sin as he is betrayed by his closest companions, arrested and sentenced to a shameful death, even as Pontius Pilate finds no fault in him. We see ourselves in the angry crowd and lament our own denial of our Lord.