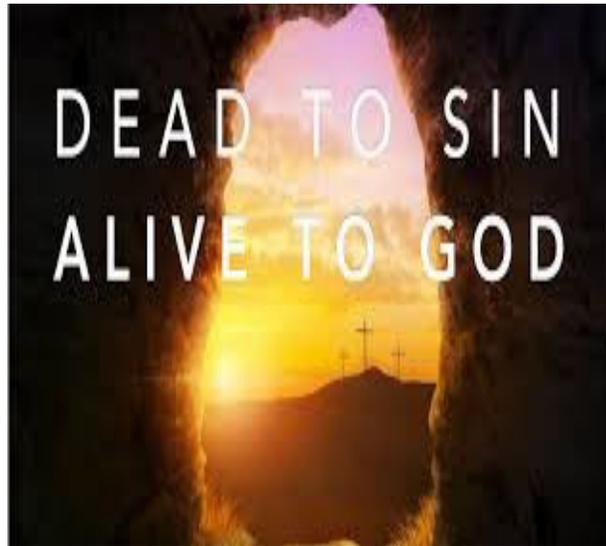


Welcome

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2020

Masks are encouraged. Disposable masks are available in the Narthex.
Sunday bulletins are placed in the pews.



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

Guest Organist: Dawn Merrell

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*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

When Morning Gilds the Skies

Sobaje-Lind-Culli

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand as you are able.

The minister leads the congregation in the invocation. The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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. (236)

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.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

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**

The minister stands and addresses the congregation.

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 and 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

When Morning Gilds the Skies

LBW 546

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

GREETING

The minister greets the congregation.

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.**

KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

HYMN OF PRAISE



G Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



I Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



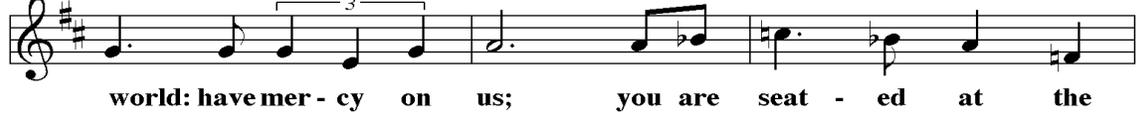
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



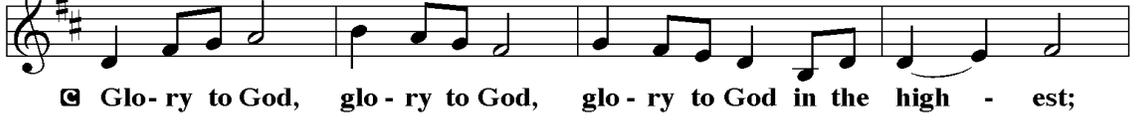
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



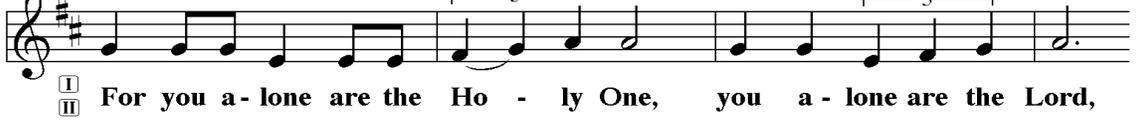
right hand of the Fa - ther: re- ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



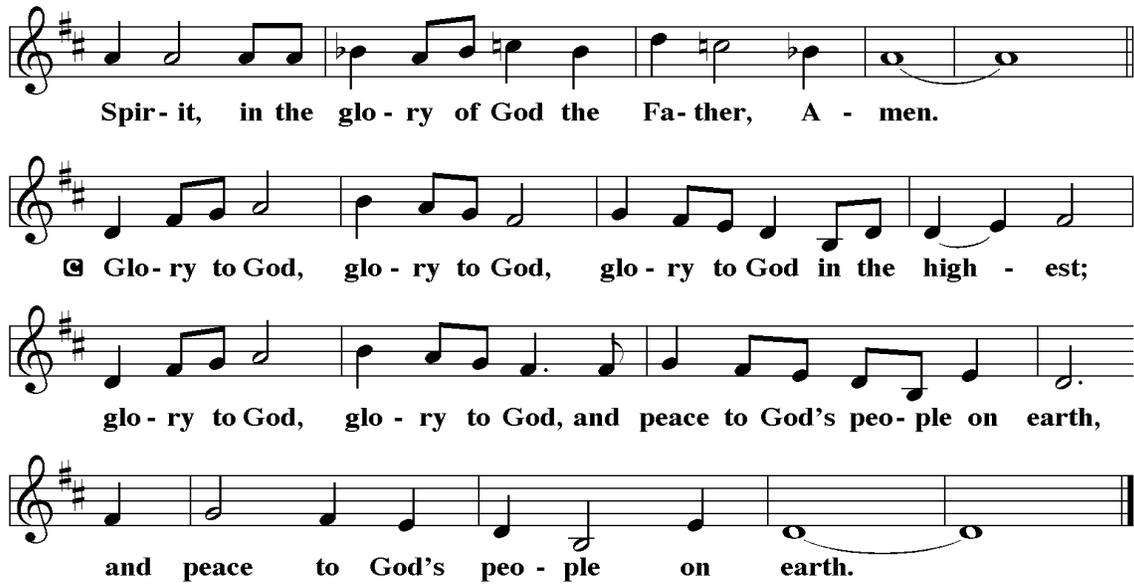
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth.



☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir- it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther, A - men.

☐ Glo- ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo- ple on earth,

and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

THE SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
 C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; that you may hear our petitions. In all things, help us to ask for what will please you; 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 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. ⁸Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

Lay Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM 119:57-64 (spoken in unison)

⁵⁷You only are my portion, O Lord;
 I have promised to keep your words.
⁵⁸I entreat you with all my heart,
 be merciful to me according to your promise.
⁵⁹I have considered my ways
 and turned my feet toward your decrees.
⁶⁰I hasten and do not tarry
 to keep your commandments.
⁶¹Though the cords of the wicked entangle me,
 I do not forget your law.
⁶²At midnight I will rise to give you thanks,
 because of your righteous judgments.
⁶³I am a companion of all who fear you
 and of those who keep your commandments.
⁶⁴The earth, O Lord, is full of your love;
 instruct me in your statutes.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 6:1-23

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹²Let not sin

therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵ What then? Are we to sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, ¹⁸ and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms, because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification. ²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Lay Reader The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴Jesus put another parable before {the disciples}, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.””

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Dead to Sin Alive to God (Romans 6)

Pastor Heidi Punt

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Baptized in Water

WOV 612

APOSTLES' CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

The Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, and special concerns. The congregation may be invited to offer other petitions. The minister gives thanks for the faithful departed, especially for those who recently have died.

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Each portion of the prayers concludes with these or similar words:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with these or similar words:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Baptized in Water

Schack

Please stand as you are able.



☐ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also 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 our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,
 that by this Holy Communion we may know
 the unity we share with all your people
 in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

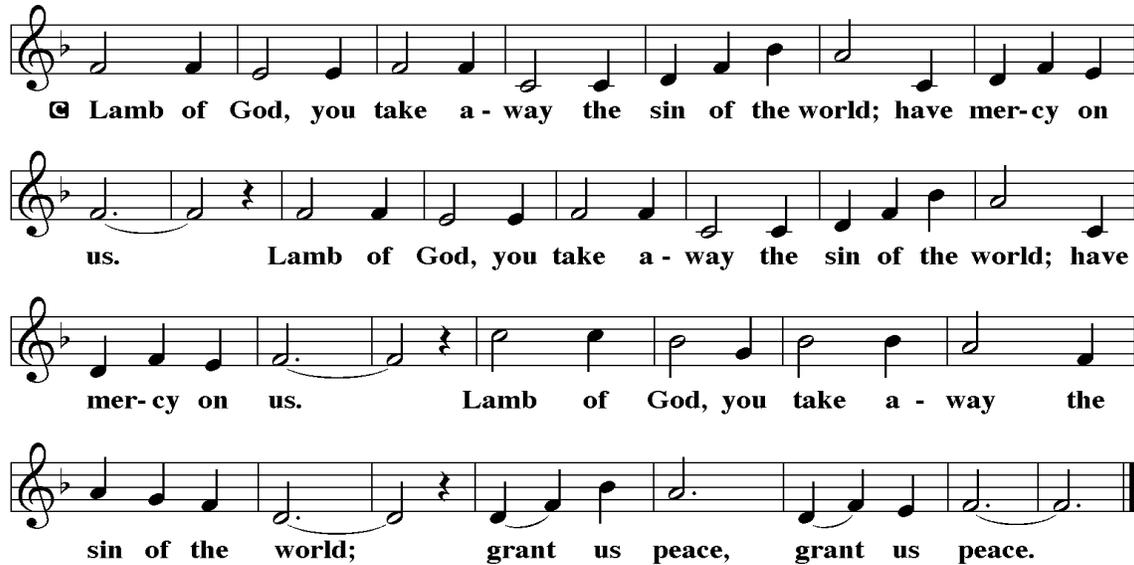
COMMUNION

The communion follows. The bread may be broken for distribution. As the ministers give the bread and cup to each communicant, they say these words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

At Union Evangelical Lutheran Church the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday. All baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Lord's Supper are invited to commune. Children who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.



☩ 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, grant us peace.

HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together

LBW 212

Please stand as you are able.

After all have returned to their places, the minister may say these or similar words.

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

C **Amen**

CANTICLE

A post-communion canticle or an appropriate hymn or song may be sung.



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER

The following or a similar post-communion prayer is said.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C **Amen**

BLESSING

The minister blesses the congregation, using this or another appropriate blessing.

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

C **Amen**

HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation

WOV 760

DISMISSAL

The minister may dismiss the congregation.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

For the Fruits of All Creation

Harbach

Lessons for Next Week, July 26:

Deuteronomy 7:6-9; Psalm 125; Romans 7; Matthew 13:44-52

With One Voice (WOV) Setting 5 (pages 28-41)

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) Brief Order of Confessions and Forgiveness (page 56)

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***OUR LOVE** and **SYMPATHY** is extended to the family of Jerry Taylor in their time of grief. "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1)*

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, Ashley Deaton, Kiki Deaton, Glenn Eagle, Bob Goodwin, Linda Hartley, Steve Hutchens, Tommy Kerns, Nancy Kesler, Teresa Kesler, Pat Kluttz, Eric Miller, Donnie Miller, Harold Miller, Dusty Morgan, Grace Morgan, Ruth Myers, Karen Plyler, Rev. Dawn Rister, Vivian Sprinkle, Effie Vellines, Ronald Vellines, and Wayne Vellines

Continual Prayer - Vonnie Agner, Nancy Ballew (mother of Kat Clifton), Evonne Batten (mother of Lisa Morgan), Yvette Bates (coworker of Karen Barringer), Vanna Calloway (friend of Kat Clifton), Arnold Cauble, Donna Collins (friend of Sharon Leazer), Ophelia Curlee (sister-in-law of Grace Morgan), Karen DeMunbrun (Niece of Grace Morgan), June Fraley, Teresa Frank (Pam Vellines cousin), Marie Goropic (sister of Linda Spencer), Caren Jenkins (friend of Troy & Cathy Kluttz Painter) Edna McCollough (friend of Jennifer & Scott Curlee), Della Morgan (mother of Pam Vellines), Dusty Morgan Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), Hong Nguyen (Pete Nguyen's mother), John Oddie, Jr. (brother of Ruby Leazer and Ruth Myers), Larry Shepherd, Jamie Troutman (son of Joan Troutman), Justin West and David Mitchell (friends of Pete Nguyen)

Please pray for our Spiritual Fitness Athletes - Judy Boyd; Lynn Coughenour; Tara Davis, Mary Earnhardt; Janice Goodman; Brad and Jan Huffman; Lucinda Fraley, Ethan, Ellie, Bailey, and Lucas Wilhelm; Deena Lanning; Gladys Morgan; Karen Morgan; Thad and Sonya Mulkey; Pete, Nikki, and Micah Nguyen; Pastor Heidi Punt; Doris Shepherd, and Wayne Vellines

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!

What's Happening at Union...

SUNDAY'S ACTIVITIES (JULY 19):

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. back at church
Worship and celebrating Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m.
Church Council at 3:00 p.m.
Deadline for the August Newsletter articles to the church office is today.
Appreciation is expressed to Dawn Merrell for serving as organist today

The flowers today are given to the Glory of God.

OUR LOVE and **SYMPATHY** is extended to the family of Jerry Taylor in their time of grief.
“Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me” (John 14:1)

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

Tues., July 21 6:30 p.m. Bible in 90 Days
Wed., July 22 10:00 a.m. Bible in 90 Days

NEXT SUNDAY'S ACTIVITIES (JULY 26):

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. back at church
We welcome Pastor Thomas Corbell, Guest Pastor, sharing the Word with us next Sunday!
Worship and celebrating Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m.
Quest Youth Zoom meeting at 5:00 p.m.

2020 CHURCH YEARBOOKS

Our 2020 Church Yearbooks are available in the Sanctuary at the main aisle front pews in household alphabetical order. Please bear in mind that this is a working directory and not an official roll of the congregation. We hope it is correct, but would be glad to know of any errors you may find so that we may make corrections. The only way we may know of any change in your address is that you or a member of your family keep us informed. Please do us this favor.

A big THANK YOU is extended to Phil Cauble, Tara Davis, Addison Queen, Felisaty and Dusty Morgan for graciously giving their time to collate and bind the yearbook!

Tina Brown, Organist, will be out of the office from July 16-July 19.

Pastor Heidi will be out of the office from Saturday, July 25-Saturday, August 1.

If any needs or concerns arise, please contact the church office (704) 636-5092. Pastor Ken Reed will be available for emergencies.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

9:30 a.m.

Frank Merrell, Teacher

- | | |
|----------|--|
| July 19 | The Wisdom of Jesus
Mark 6:1-6 |
| July 26 | Wisdom to Follow
Proverbs 3:13-18
John 14:1-14 |
| August 2 | Faith & Wisdom
Isaiah 40:1-8
James 1:1-11 |

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

During this time of transition as presented by COVID-19, we at Union continue to stay the cause - all the while being creative and cautious. The Sunday School Teachers will take turns teaching. Each taking on about 4 weeks and then handing over to the next until we get to break into our various classes again.

An announcement will be coming soon regarding **Wednesday Choir Rehearsals** for the Chancel Choir at 7:30 p.m. Stay tuned...

While Pastor Heidi is out of the office, Rev. Thomas Corbell has graciously accepted our invitation to be our Guest Preacher on Sunday, July 26.

Please note that the **Benjamin Earnhardt Family Reunion** will not meet in July.

*We need YOUR help! We need a Carolinas Mission District Delegate to virtually represent Union on **August 6 at 6:30 p.m.** The deadline to volunteer is **July 30.***

If you are interested please contact Lynn Coughenour unionlutheranwom-en@gmail.com.

To prepare for Homecoming on Sunday, August 9, a **CLEAN UP** is scheduled for **Saturday, August 1, at 8:00 a.m.** Rain date is Saturday, August 8.

*A **CALLED MEETING** of the **CONGREGATION** will be held following Worship on **Sunday, August 2.** The purpose of the meeting will be the 2020 Yearbook and election of the Carolinas Mission District Delegate.*

An **In Person Youth Event** is scheduled for **Sunday, August 2.** The youth will enjoy water games and eat hotdogs from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Everything will be outside utilizing social distancing and sanitization will be honored.

*During this period of COVID-19, it is important to keep up with spiritual disciplines like Bible reading, prayer, and giving. Tithes and offerings may be given **Online** (<https://ulcsalisbury.org/give-online/>). You may also **drop off, place in Sundays' offering basket, or mail checks** payable to **Union Lutheran Church to 4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC 28146.** Thank you for your faithfulness in all these areas!*

Sermon Series on Romans

During the month of July and August, the Sermon Series continues covering the book of Romans.

As we walk through the most influential epistle in the Bible and learn about the true essence of Christianity and salvation by grace through faith in Christ. Written to both the Jewish and Gentile Christians in Rome, few books have shaped the landscape of Christianity like the book of Romans. The Apostle Paul is not ashamed as he leads to discover what a true life of faith in Jesus Christ looks like.

Join us as we move through the Epistle to the Romans, chapter by chapter. Don't be afraid to take notes and ask questions!

July 19	Romans 6
July 26	Romans 7
August 2	Romans 8:1-15
August 9	Romans 8:16-39
August 16	Romans 9
August 23	Romans 10
August 30	Romans 11

Reading thru the Bible in 90 days Spiritual Fitness Challenge continues during the month of August on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. Please remember in prayer those who are participating. A list of participants is available with the Prayer List.

Both the Carolinas Mission District and NALC Convocations will be held virtually this year due to COVID-19.

Pastor Heidi Punt will be representing Union Lutheran Church during the Carolinas Mission District Convocation. The position of Lay Delegate is open for election on August 2.

Both Pastor Heidi and Mary Hutchens will represent ULC at the NALC Church-wide Convocation virtually August 7-8.

HOMECOMING 2020

Homecoming 2020 at Union Lutheran Church will be on **Sunday, August 9, at 10:30 a.m.**

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church will be celebrating its 246th anniversary with Pastor Heidi Punt proclaiming God's Word to us!

Invite family, friends and former members now to be with us for this special occasion on Sunday, August 9. This is a wonderful time to renew old relationships, update what is going on in the lives of others that have been special to us, and to form new relationships. Plan now to be a part of our Homecoming!

We are still discerning how best to incorporate all the festivities during this COVID-19 season. More information coming soon!

Confirmation Class will begin its next series focusing on the Ten Commandments beginning **August 12-September 16 at 6:00 p.m.**

Mark your calendars now...

GOOD TIMERS

Please note that our next meeting will be held **Thursday, August 13, at 10:00 a.m.** At the meeting please bring your offering for Pastor Siimon, but that is **ALL** you have to bring. **Lunch will be provided for you.**

So come one, come all!! We can social distance throughout the meeting and lunch.

Apologies for the constant change in plans, but this coronavirus makes life a little difficult to make plans. See you on August 13!



JULY BACK TO SCHOOL BAGS DRIVE

Because We CARE

(Compassion ~ Adoration ~ Relationship ~ Enthusiasm)

Matthew 11:28-29

Usually going back to school at the end of a long summer is exciting for most children but this year might be different for many. They might feel anxious for various reasons, leaving them feeling vulnerable. Here at Union Lutheran we C.A.R.E about God's young children and hope to bring them just a little joy by showing compassion for their circumstances, adoration for our God who loves them all, build relationship with them and the Lord, give enthusiastically.

Please donate a box of crayons, 6 pencils, two glue sticks, a box of Kleenex and put them in a clear plastic bag, add a special encouraging note with a Bible verse and bring them to church. (Please do not add anything else since I will be distributing them in communities and do not want one child to feel like the other child received something more than they did.

Thank you for doing such a fine job with our Food Bags - your response was simply incredible!

The Executive Committee will meet Thursday, August 13, at 5:30 p.m. prior to the Church Council's meeting on Sunday, August 16.

Due to Federal and NC state regulations and restrictions, Friday Game Nights will not meet during the months of July and August.

Those Serving in August

Acolytes: Felisaty and Dusty Morgan

Altar Guild and Communion Assistants: Vivian Sprinkle and Patsy Lyerly

Lay Readers:

Ruby Leazer and Sharon Leazer

Ushers: Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble (HU), Wade Leazer, and Donnie Miller

Church Council will meet **Sunday, August 16, at 3:00 p.m.** to discuss church business.

Those Serving in July

Acolytes: Ellie, Ethan, Bailey, and Lucas Wilhelm

Altar Guild, Communion Assistants, and Lay Readers:

Deena Lanning and Karen Morgan

Ushers: Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble (HU), Tom Cole, and Wayne Vellines

Did you know that the **Mission Team** will mail out **cards** (get well, thinking of you, birthday, etc.) to members of the church? All you have to do is place your card and addressed envelope in the blue basket in the Narthex. The Mission Team will provide the postage and mail the card out for you.