Welcome
2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 17, 2021
10:30 a.m. Parking Lot Worship
Please turn your radio to Station 103.9 FM
Offering will be received as bulletins are handed out.

UNION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally-Grounded - Congregationally Focused
4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC 28146
(704) 636-5092 ~ http://ulcsalisbury.org
9:30 a.m. Sunday School (please remember to practice social distancing)
10:30 a.m. Parking Lot 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
Facilities Manager: Phil Cauble (704) 213-0646 - sexton@ulcsalisbury.org

A charter congregation of the North American Lutheran Church
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE
Voluntary in C Major
Peek

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

C Amen

L 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

L 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.

L 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 Liturgist stands and addresses the congregation.

L In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C Amen
This Little Light of Mine

1. This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
2. Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
3. Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;

Oh, oh,

this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;

Oh, Oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
GREETING

*The Liturgist greets the congregation.*

**L** 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 is omitted during Epiphany.

HYMN OF PRAISE

*Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:*  
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:*  
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

*You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.*

*For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,*  
*you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,*  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen
THE SALUTATION
L The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY
L Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you restrain the powers of heaven and earth. Mercifully hear your people’s prayers for peace in our time. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen

FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 3:1-20
1 The boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord in the presence of Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision. 2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. 4 Then the Lord called Samuel, and he said, “Here I am!” 5 and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down. 6 And the Lord called again, “Samuel!” and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” 7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. 8 And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy. 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place. 10 And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” 11 Then the Lord said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. 12 On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 14 Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.” 15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. 16 But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” 17 And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” 18 So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him.” 19 And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord.

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.
PSALM 139:1-9 (spoken in unison)*

1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

2 You trace my journeys and my resting places
   and are acquainted with all my ways.

3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
   but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

4 You press upon me behind and before
   and lay your hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

6 Where can I go then from your Spirit?
   where can I flee from your presence?

7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
   if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.

8 If I take the wings of the morning
   and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

9 Even there your hand will lead me
   and your right hand hold me fast.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

12 “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. 13 “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food” — and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14 And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. 15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18 Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.
The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

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

SERMON TOPIC
Hearing God Speak and Listening to His Voice—How, Why, When? What If!
Lord, Speak to Us, that We May Speak

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak In living echoes of your tone; As you have sought, so let us seek Your stray ing children, lost and lone.

2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead The wandering feet; Oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed Your hungering ones with man na sweet.

3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach The precious truths which you impart; And wing our words, that they may reach The hidden depths of man na heart.

4 Oh, fill us with your full ness, Lord, until our very hearts o'er flow In kindling thought and glowing word. Your love to tell, your praise to show.

APOSTLES’ CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
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

THE PRAYERS
L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.
L Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:
L Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C Amen

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

BLESSING
The Liturgist blesses the congregation, using this or another appropriate blessing.
L The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C Amen
Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
2 Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
3 Manifest in making whole Pal-sied limbs and fainting soul;
4 Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, Present in thy holy Word;

Manifested by the star To the sages from afar,
And at Cana wed-ding guest In thy God-head man-i-fest;
Manifest in val-i-ant fight, Quell-ing all the dev-i-l's might;
Grace to im-i-tate thee now And be pure, as pure art thou;

Branch of roy-al Da-vid's stem In thy birth at Beth-le-hem:
Manifest in pow'r di-verse, Chang-ing wa-ter in-to wine;
Manifest in gra-cious will, Ev-er bring-ing good from ill:
That we might be-come like thee At thy great e-phi-a-ny,

An-thems be to thee ad-dressed,
An-thems be to thee ad-dressed, God in flesh made man-i-fest.
An-thems be to thee ad-dressed,
And may praise thee, ev-er blest,
THE SENDING
*The Liturgist may dismiss the congregation.*

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

**Next Week’s Readings (January 24):**
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 [32-35]; Mark 1:14-20

*Some psalms within the Book of Common Prayer psalter, which the Sola lectionary uses, are numbered differently than the psalms in the psalter of the English Standard Version Bible, on which the lectionary calendar is based. To account for this difference, today’s psalm reading ends at verse 9 (the ESV reading will end at verse 10).*

*Our Love and Sympathy* is extended to the Family of Sylvia Fraley in their time of grief. “Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God, believe also in me” (John 14:1).

**Those Serving in January**

**Announcements and Lay Readers:** Jennifer Curlee

**Lay Supply/Liturgist:** Pete Nguyen

**Church Council Counter:** Larry Barringer

**Sound System:** Thad Mulkey

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Mid-Week Lenten Series   **PLACES of the PASSION**

**Two ways to be able to participate:**

3:30 pm – Bible Study (masks required)
6:30 pm – Worship (CDC guidelines followed)

The scenes of Lent are familiar. The upper room, the garden of Gethsemane, the halls of Pontius Pilate, and the hills of Golgotha. These are the places we remember when we meditate on our Lord’s passion.

The places where the passion of our Lord took place hold special meaning to Christians the world over. These places remind us that Jesus walked this Earth and stood in locations we can still find today to carry out his mission of salvation. This was no sightseeing trip for our Savior. There was a serious reason he came to be at certain places and at particular times to suffer and die and rise again. He was fulfilling the will of his Father who desired that we be forgiven and given a place in heaven with him forever.

We will discover that when Jesus enters a place, he never leaves it as he found it. The most troubling places of our lives will also become the most amazing places of God’s grace when Jesus visits them.

In this midweek Lenten series, we will revisit the Places of the Passion. Our focus will not only be on the physical locations of our Lord’s passion, but also on the spiritual wonders of his work: the places where he demonstrates his strength in the midst of our weakness, his timeless love in the midst of our temporal darkness.

Come and follow in Jesus’ footsteps, journey with our Savior, exploring the spiritual relevance of key points along the path of His passion, for us today.

February 17  -  Jerusalem  Ash Wednesday
Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:1-5
Topic: Jerusalem is the place of the Passover, where Jesus gathers with the crowds.
Imposition of Ashes

February 24  -  Bethany
Matthew 26:6-13
Topic: Jesus is anointed for burial by his friend Mary, at her home in this small town.

March 3  -  Mount of Olives
Matthew 26:30-35
Topic: The Disciples sing a hymn with Jesus before they head out to this place of prayer.

March 10  -  The Garden of Gethsemane
Matthew 26:47-56
Topic: Jesus is betrayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness.

March 17  -  The Courtyard
Scripture Reading: Matthew 26:57-69
Topic: While Jesus is put on trial before the high priest, Peter denies Jesus in this place.

March 24  -  Pilate’s Judgment Hall
Scripture Reading: Matthew 27:11-23
Topic: Pilate is positioned here to set Jesus free, but turns him over to be crucified instead
Union News...

Sunday’s Activities (January 17):
10:30 a.m. Parking Lot Worship (see page 2)
5:00 p.m. Quest Youth Zoom Meeting

Deadline for February Newsletter articles to the church office is today.
Deadline for Church Yearbook Reports is due to the church office today (see page 2).

2021 Offering Envelopes are available to pick up in the Sanctuary. Please pick up offering envelopes of family members or friends that you plan to visit with.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to the Family of Sylvia Fraley 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:
- Mon., Jan. 18  Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday Holiday
-      Church Office is open on Monday, January 18.
- Tues., Jan. 19 Bible Course 101 at home (Acts)
- Wed., Jan. 20 Bible Course 101 at home (Acts)
-      Confirmation Class at home
- Pastor Heidi Punt is on a Haiti Mission Trip from January 16-23.

Next Sunday’s Activities (January 24):
10:30 a.m. Parking Lot Worship (see page 2)
10:30 a.m. Melanie Corn, Youth Director of CMR and Candidate of NALC Word & Season
5:00 p.m. Quest Youth Zoom Meeting

All those interested and participating are invited to a meeting following worship on Sunday, January 31, to discuss how to assist with worship services with the Sound System and Technology of Union Evangelical Lutheran Church.
During this period of COVID-19, Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. has been postponed till February.

**Sunday Morning**

**Adult Bible Study at 9:30 a.m.**

**February 7** Called to Testify - John 1:37-51; 4:25-42

**February 14** Called to Support - Romans 4:13-25; Mark 15:45; 16:1-9; Luke 8:1-3; John 20:10-18

**February 21** Called to Explain - Colossians 4:7-15; Acts 18:1-26; Romans 16:3-4; 1 Corinthians 16:19; 2 Timothy 4:19

**February 28** Called to Serve - Psalm 33:1-12; Acts 16:11-15, 40; 1 Corinthians 1:26-30

**Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.**

Sunday School is a wonderful time to be with your friends and to make new ones in a smaller setting where you can connect the Word of God to your daily life, learn of God's love and forgiveness through Jesus Christ, and grow in faith together. Sunday School meets at 9:30 AM, and there are age appropriate classes for children, teens, and adults alike.

During COVID-19 the Sunday School Teachers will take turns teaching classrooms for all ages.

Please remember to practice social distancing.

In January, the church office will begin working on the **2021 Church Yearbook**. If you have any changes in your primary contact information (phone, address, email, etc.) please contact the church office as soon as possible. Thank you!

**Worship Services Opportunities during the month of January**

**Parking Lot Worship** at 10:30 a.m. with radio broadcast 103.9 FM. This worship service is structured specifically to prevent the spread of COVID-19 but still celebrate the communal aspect of worship.

During COVID-19 we are offering the following if you do not feel comfortable worshipping in person you can: 1. Worship online by visiting our webpage ([https://ulcsalisbury.org/worship/](https://ulcsalisbury.org/worship/)) 2. Connect with us on Facebook Live ([https://facebook.com/ulcsalisbury](https://facebook.com/ulcsalisbury)) 3. Request a worship DVD

All organizations, committees, groups, and individuals who are to turn in reports for the **ANNUAL YEARBOOK REPORT**, please do so by today. This is a very important document in reflecting the life of Union's for the past year and for planning activities for the coming year. We want to get it out to the members of the congregation as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Altar Flowers in February** are open for reservations. Please sign up in the Narthex and contact the church office.
**Good Timers**

Taking extreme caution into account, we will not meet in January. However, we are going to aim for February and the January program will be rescheduled for then. So you have an extra MONTH to find those items you wish to bring with you to “Stump your Neighbor” and “Show and Tell”.

Let’s all hope February will bring brighter days for all.

During the month of January, the congregation has the opportunity to still turn in their **2021 Time & Talent Forms** and **Experiencing the Joy of Generosity Commitment Form** to fill out. Extra copies are located in the box outside the church office door and in the Narthex.

This is an opportunity to take inventory of the gifts God has given you and volunteering to participate where those gifts best serve. This will allow those preparing and scheduling activities for 2021 to plug you in.

Presently we have received **41** Time & Talent forms turned in. We have received **26** Experiencing the Joy of Generosity commitment forms out of **119** giving households.

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**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 (A service fee is charged for using Online giving.)** ([https://ulcsalisbury.org/give-online/](https://ulcsalisbury.org/give-online/)).

You may also **drop off, place in Sundays’ offering basket, or mail checks payable to Union Evangelical Lutheran Church to 4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC 28146**.

Thank you for your faithfulness in all these areas!

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**Ash Wednesday**

February 17 at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

As we navigate how to best observe Ash Wednesday, February 17, with concerns about space and social distancing, Union Evangelical Lutheran Church will be offering two services at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The first service will be a prayer and Imposition of Ashes and the second service will be worship and Imposition of Ashes.

Please review your back page of the bulletin for more information regarding our Mid-Week Lenten Series for 2021!
PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER…

**Nursing Home Residents** - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, Ruth Monroe, and Jane Peeler, (Autumn Care), Jean Ray (Brookdale), Grace Morgan (The Laurels, Room 307B – cards are appreciated), and Betty Denker (Trinity Oaks, Apt. 123B)

**Homebound Members** - Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Frances Norris, Zarah Plyler, Billy Waller, and Michael Walton


**Continual Prayer** - 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, Ophelia Curlee (sister-in-law of Grace Morgan), Karen DeMunbrun (niece of Grace Morgan), June Fraley, Sally Honeycutt (sister of Janie Lesley), Teresa Kesler, David Mitchell (friend of Pete Nguyen), Della Morgan (mother of Pam Vellines), Dusty Morgan Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), Hong Nguyen (mother of Pete Nguyen), John Oddie, Jr. (brother of Ruby Leazer and Ruth Myers), Steven and Malynda Peeler, Steve Pless (friend of Pete Nguyen), Larry Shepherd, Jamie Troutman (nephew of Lynn Coughenour), and Union Fire Department #76

*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!*