Welcome
4th Sunday of Easter
April 25, 2021
10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH
Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally-Grounded - Congregationally Focused

4770 Bringle Ferry Road, Salisbury, NC  28146
(704) 636-5092 ~ http://ulcsalisbury.org
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

P Christ is Risen!
C He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

PRELUDE "My Shepherd, You Supply My Need" Hobb

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.
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.
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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.  

Lord, have mercy.

Kyrie continues on page 4.
HYMN OF PRAISE

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

G Lord, have mercy.

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.

G Lord, have mercy.

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. G Lord, have mercy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. G Amen

A This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

G Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
Let us pray. Almighty God, you show those in error the light of your truth, that they may return into the way of righteousness. Grant to all that are admitted into fellowship with Christ the power to avoid all things that are contrary to the faith and to follow you according to the will of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

Let us praise our God and the Lamb for ever.

Amen.

Let us praise our God and the Lamb for ever.

Amen.

Let us praise our God and the Lamb for ever.

Amen.

Let us praise our God and the Lamb for ever.

Amen.

Let us praise our God and the Lamb for ever.

Amen.
SECOND LESSON: 1 John 3:16-24

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God, and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another,
just as he has commanded us. 24 Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

P Lay Reader: Here ends the reading.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 10th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

11 {Jesus said,} “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. 17 For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Who Is Your Shepherd?  

Pastor Heidi Punt
Please stand as you are able.

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

1 The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never; I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine for ever.
2 Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul he leadeth And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.
3 Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me, And on his shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With thee, dear Lord, beside me, Thy rod and staff my comfort still; Thy cross before to guide me.
5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!
6 And so, through all the length of days, Thy goodness faileth never. Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever.
NICENE CREED

C 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

THE PRAYERS

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

After each portion of the prayers:
P Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:
P 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 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. All loose offering will go towards the Lutheridge Scholarship Fund. If you wish to contribute to Benevolence, please mark your envelope accordingly. For the month of April, Water Mission is the focused Benevolence, if you wish for your giving to go there please specify accordingly.
SPECIAL MUSIC

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, 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

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...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

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

Please be seated.
COMMUNION

As the minister gives the bread and wine, and says these words to each communicant:

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

The communicant may say: Amen

At Union 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. All who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.

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The Lord’s My Shepherd

1 The Lord’s my shep-herd; I’ll not want. He makes me down to lie
2 My soul he doth re-store a-gain, And me to walk doth make
3 Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
4 My ta-ble thou hast fur-nish-ed In pres-ence of my foes;

12
5. Goodness and mercy all my life
   Shall surely follow me,
   And in God’s home forevermore
   My dwelling-place shall be.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart
Gift of Finest Wheat

Hymn continues on page 14
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.

1. As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
2. With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude;
3. Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
4. The mystery of your presence, Lord, no mortal tongue can tell:
5. You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be,

so when you call your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice.
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare our oneness in the Lord?
whom all the world cannot contain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each other in your name in truth and charity.

G Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev’ry-one what he has done.

Let ev’ry-one who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.

He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
PRAYER
The following or a similar post-communion prayer is said.

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

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

P 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

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us 481

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need your tender care.
2 We are yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
3 You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
4 Early let us seek your favor, Early let us do your will;

In your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use your fold prepare. Keep your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray. You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and power to free. Blessed Lord and only Savior, With your love our spirits fill.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, You have bought us; we are yours, Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, Hear us children when we pray. Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, Ear-ly let us turn to you. Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, You have loved us, love us still.
THE SENDING
The minister may dismiss the congregation.
P Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Next Week’s Readings (May 2):
Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 150; 1 John 4:1-11; John 15:1-8

Those Serving in April
Acolytes: Abbey and Morgan Deaton
Altar Guild: Ashley Deaton and Nikki Nguyen
Communion Assistants: Ashley and Morgan Deaton ~ Nikki Nguyen
Lay Readers: Abbey, Ashley, and Morgan Deaton
Ushers: Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble (HU), John Kesler, and Wayne Vellines
Offering Counting Team: Jennifer Curlee ~ Doris Shepherd ~ Wayne Vellines

UNION LUTHERAN CHURCH
A charter congregation of North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

OUR MISSION:
Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally-Grounded - Congregationally Focused
(Matthew 28:18-20)

OUR 2021 VISION: One Relationship at a Time
Phone (704) 636-5092 ~ Fax (704) 636-1022
Website: https://ulcsalisbury.org/

OFFICE HOURS: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Friday

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
9:30 a.m. Sunday School (please remember to practice social distancing)
9:00 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion ~ 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

CHURCH STAFF
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

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) Setting 11 (page 77-97)
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**Union News...**

**SUNDAY’S ACTIVITIES (APRIL 25):**

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages  
Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class topic:  
The Nation’s Plea - Lamentations 3:22-33; Lamentations 5  
10:30 a.m. Blessing of Felisaty Morgan,  
Carolinas Mission Regional Summer Camp Counselor  
Deadline for Gerald Bame Scholarship Applications to be turned in.  

May *Messenger* is available in the Narthex to pick up.

*The ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Merrell, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Merrell, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brady by Franklin and Dawn Merrell.*

**THIS WEEK’S ACTIVITIES:**

**Tues., April 27**  
6:30 p.m. Acts Bible Study (Old Pine Center)

**Wed., April 28**  
10:00 a.m. Acts Bible Study (Old Pine Center)

**Thurs., April 29**  
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir and Belles and Beaus to prepare an anthem for Sunday, May 2. Please see either Sonya Mulkey or Jan Huffman for music and practice materials.

**Fri., April 30**  
5:30 p.m. Game Night  
Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, out of the office. Office will be open on Friday, April 30.

**NEXT SUNDAY’S ACTIVITIES (MAY 2):**

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.  
Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class topic:  
Speaking Truth to Power - 1 John 3:23-4:3a; 1 Kings 22:1-40  
Isaiah Cornelius, Music Director, first Sunday at Union!

All are welcome to join us for a Reception in honor of our new Music Director,  
Isaiah Cornelius, next Sunday following worship in the Dutch Meeting Hall.  
Food will be provided. Please bring a dessert!  
Linda Kesler has reserved for the flowers for May 2.
**CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**

**Monday, May 3-Friday, May 7**

Pastor Heidi Punt will be attending the Pastors’ Conference in San Antonio, Texas. While Pastor Heidi is at the Conference the Acts Bible Studies will not be held on May 4 and 5.

**Wednesday, May 5**

6:30 p.m. Belles and Beaus
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

**Thursday, May 6, National Day of Prayer**

**Friday, May 7**

5:30 p.m. Game Night

**Saturday, May 9, Mother’s Day**

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class topic:
Offering Hope for the Future - Jeremiah 29:10-14; Isaiah 29

**Date change:** 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Youth Event

Sharon Leazer has reserved the Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 9.

**Tuesday, May 11**

**Date Change:** 5:30 p.m. Confirmation practice
6:30 p.m. Acts Bible Study (Old Pine Center)

**Wednesday, May 12**

10:00 a.m. Acts Bible Study (Old Pine Center)
11:00 a.m. Education Ministries

**Date Change:** 5:30 p.m. Worship & Music Committee
Zoom is available. Please contact Frank Merrell for link.
6:30 p.m. Belles and Beaus
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

**Thursday, May 13**

10:00 a.m. Good Timers
Guest Speaker, Ronnie Smith
2:00 p.m. Online Ascension Prayer Service
5:00 p.m. Staff meeting

**Date and Time Change:** 6:30 p.m. Executive Committee meeting.

**Sunday, May 16**

9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class topic:
Preaching Doom - Jeremiah 38:7-13; 39:15-18; Jeremiah 37-39
2:00 p.m. Church Council
Sunday, May 16 (continued)
3:00 p.m. Emma Clifton and Adam Thompson will be sharing their Confirmation presentation during the Church Council meeting.
Dawn Merrell has reserved the Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 16.

Tuesday, May 18-Friday, May 21
Pastor Heidi Punt will be out of the office.
While Pastor Heidi is out of the office the Acts Bible Studies will not be held on May 18 and 19.

Wednesday, May 19
6:30 p.m. Belles and Beaus
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, May 21
5:30 p.m. Game Night

Sunday, May 23 (Day of Pentecost/Confirmation Sunday)
9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Confirmation Sunday
9:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages.
Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class topic:
Preaching to the Exiles - Psalm 147; Ezekiel 18
Reception in honor of our Confirmands following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.

June Messenger articles are due to the church office on Sunday, May 23.
Deadline for turning in list of 2021 Graduates is Sunday, May 23.
Please sign up to reserve the Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 23.

For more information regarding activities and events, please contact the church office. Please note dates/times are subject to change.

Water Mission (Month of April focused Benevolence)
PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, Ruth Monroe, and Jane Peeler, (Autumn Care), Jean Ray (Brookdale), and Betty Denker (Trinity Oaks, Apt. 123B)

Homebound Members - Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Grace Morgan, 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, Lynn Coughenour, Ophelia Curlee (sister-in-law of Grace Morgan), Karen DeMunbrun (niece of Grace Morgan), June Fraley, James, Amy Lowder Harrison, and Jesse Morgan, Jr., Teresa Kesler, Glenn and Betty Sue Lowder, 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), Jamie Troutman (nephew of Lynn Coughenour), Uf and Sydney Tukel (son-in-law and granddaughter of Mike and Brenda Cauble), and Union Fire Department #76

Bible Course 101 Participants: Judy Boyd, Phil and Linda Cauble, Lynn Coughenour, Scott and Jennifer Curlee, Don and Tara Davis, Brad and Jan Huffman, Steve and Mary Hutchens, Deena Lanning, Janie Lesley, Gladys Morgan, Karen Morgan, Sonya Mulkey, Cathy Painther, and Doris Shepherd

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!