

Welcome

2nd Sunday after Christmas

January 2, 2022

10:30 a.m. Worship



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

PRELUDE

O Come, Little Children

Burkhardt

The Altar Candles are lit at this time during the Prelude.

The minister leads the congregation in the invocation.

L In the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (Matt. 28:19)

C **Amen**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 119:97-104

L ⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law! all the day long it is in my mind.

C ⁹⁸**Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, and it is always with me.**

L ⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my study.

C ¹⁰⁰**I am wiser than the elders, because I observe your commandments.**

L ¹⁰¹I restrain my feet from every evil way, that I may keep your word.

C ¹⁰²**I do not shrink from your judgments, because you yourself have taught me.**

L ¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste! they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

C ¹⁰⁴**Through your commandments I gain understanding; therefore I hate every lying way.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son, we might be made to abound in good works. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

HYMN

Holy Child within the Manger

WOV# 638

NARRATION

FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 3:4-15

⁴The king {Solomon} went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for

multitude. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?" ¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." ¹⁵And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.

NARRATION

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.

NARRATION

HYMN

From Heaven Above

LBW# 51

Verse 1-2

Women in the Choir only

Verses 3-4

Congregation is invited to sing.

1 From heav'n above to earth I come
To bring good news to ev'ryone!
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To all the world, and gladly sing:

- 2 To you this night is born a child
Of Mary, chosen virgin mild
This newborn child of lowly birth
Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 **This is the Christ, God's Son most high,
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;
He will himself your Savior be
And from all sin will set you free.**
- 4 **The blessing which the Father planned
The Son holds in his infant hand,
That in his kingdom, bright and fair,
You may with us his glory share.**

THIRD LESSON: Luke 2:8-18

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" ¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.

HYMN From Heaven Above

LBW# 51

Verse 5-6 Men in the Choir only
Verses 7-8 **Congregation is invited to sing.**

- 5 These are the signs which you will see
To let you know that it is he:
In manger-bed, in swaddling clothes
The child who all the earth upholds.
- 6 How glad we'll be to find it so!
Then with the shepherds let us go
To see what God for us has done
In sending us his own dear Son.

- 7 **Look, look, dear friends, look over there!
 What lies withing this manger bare?
 Who is that lovely little one?
 The baby Jesus, God’s dear Son.**
- 8 **Welcome to earth, noble Guest,
 Through whom this sinful world is blest!
 You turned not from our needs away!
 How can our thanks such love repay?**

NARRATION

HYMN

From Heaven Above

LBW# 51

Verses 9-10

Choir only

Verses 11-14

Congregation is invited to sing.

- 9 O Lord, you have created all!
 How did you come to be so small,
 To sweetly sleep in manger-bed
 Where lowing cattle lately fed?
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair
 And set with gold and jewels so rare,
 Still such a cradle would not do
 To rock a prince so great as you.
- 11 **For velvets soft and silken stuff
 You have but hay and straw so rough
 On which as king so rich and great
 To be enthroned in humble state.**
- 12 O dearest Jesus, holy child,
 Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
 A holy shrine, within my heart,
 That you and I need never part.
- 13 My heart for very joy now leaps;
 My voice no longer silence keeps;
 I too must join the angel-throng
 To sing with joy his cradle-song:
- 14 **“Glory to God in highest heav’n,
 Who unto us his Son has giv’n.”
 With angels sing in pious mirth:
 A glad new year to all the earth!**

NICENE CREED (Romans 10:9-10)

- 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

ANTEHM
Chancel Choir

Sing Noel

Sleeeth

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS (Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19)

The Offering is received at this time. All loose offering will go towards the Social Ministry Fund. During the month of January, the Benevolence focus is on Rowan Helping Ministries. If you wish for your giving to go there please specify accordingly.

THE PRAYERS (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

L 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:

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 (Matthew 6:9-13)

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**

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:22-27)

The minister 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**

CLOSING HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

WOV# 643

THE SENDING (Matthew 28:19)

The minister may dismiss the congregation.

L You have been nurtured in Word now go therefore and make disciples of all nations

C **Baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

L Union Lutheran Church you are sent!

C **Amen, amen, amen**

POSTLUDE

"From Heaven Above"

Schack

Next Week's Readings (January 9):

Isaiah 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22

THOSE SERVING IN JANUARY

Liturgist: Pete Nguyen

Narrator: Martin Luther (Phil Cauble)

Acolytes: Tyler Goodman and Adam Thompson

Altar Guild: Deena Lanning and Karen Morgan

Communion Assistants: Elbert Kluttz, Deena Lanning, and Karen Morgan

Lay Readers: Elbert Kluttz, Deena Lanning, and Karen Morgan

Ushers: Phil and Linda Cauble, Mike and Brenda Cauble, and Frank and Dawn Merrell

Offering Counting Team: Jennifer Curlee, Doris Shepherd, and Wayne Vellines

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal

With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 2 (pages 77-97)

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“A SIMPLE EXPLANATION OF THE CHURCH SERVICE”

Welcome to church! As you participate in the church service, we will be providing you with weekly nuggets to help you understand more of what is happening, why it is happening, and some of the special language used in church.

NUGGET #10B: SCRIPTURE READINGS

The church service follows a simple pattern for the hearing of God’s Word with a reading from the Old Testament, one from an apostle letter (Epistle), and one from a Gospel.

So faith comes from hearing,, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:17

The **Alleluia** and **Verse** (...Hebrew for “praise the Lord.”) provides a transition between the readings. The Verse prepares us to meet the Christ of God in His Word, hearing of His life, ministry, death, and resurrection for the salvation of all.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6:68

The **Gospel** reading always contain the very words or deeds of Jesus. The **Gospel** is the summit of the **Service of the Word**. We recognize this by surrounding our Savior’s words with songs of praise and standing to hear His gracious words.

(“A Simple Explanation of the Church Service”, page 13, Concordia Publishing House, 2018)

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

4470 Bringle Ferry Road
Salisbury, NC 28146

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)

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

Music Director: Isaiah Cornelius - musicdirector@ulcsalisbury.org

Organist: Tina Brown - organist@ulcsalisbury.org

Staff Support: Genevieve Baker - office@ulcsalisbury.org

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

