

Welcome

4th Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Disposable masks may be found in the Narthex.
Please remember to social distance and use the sanitization centers.

prodigious

/prə'dɪdʒəs/

adjective

1. vast in size, extent, power, etc
2. wonderful or amazing
3. (**obsolete**) threatening

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

A noisy offering will be collected during the Welcome and Announcements to assist financially with Congo Mission International bills for Mothers and their babies.

PRELUDE Meditation on “Sojourner” (I Want Jesus to Walk with Me) Scott
The Altar Candles are lit at this time during the Prelude.

The minister leads the congregation in the invocation.

Please stand as able.

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

C **Amen**

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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. (1 John 1:8-9)

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.
(John 20:22-23)

C **Amen**

HYMN

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

WOV# 660

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE (Mark 10:47)



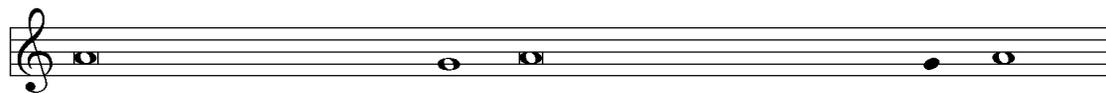
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



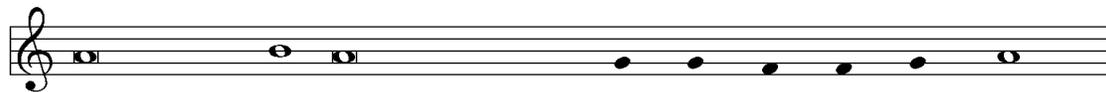
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



G Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



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



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. **G** A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE (Luke 2:14; John 1:29; Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9) is omitted during Lent.

SALUTATION (2 Timothy 4:22)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

C **Amen**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

We read scripture from the Old Testament, Apostolic Letters and the Gospels because faith comes from hearing. (Romans 10:17)

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 12:1-6

¹You will say in that day: "I will give thanks to you, O Lord, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. ²"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation." ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵"Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Psalm 32

The choir will sing the verses and the congregation the Antiphon.

Psalm 32—Congregational Part

ANTIPHON: Choir and Congregation



You are my hid - ing place, O Lord, _ you _ will save me in my dis-tress;

Choir: And in the shadow of your wing,
I will sing for joy evermore.

PSALM: Choir Happy are those whose sin is forgiv'n,
 whose wrongs are pardoned. Happy are those!
 When I confessed my sin to you,
 you forgave all my sin.

ANTIPHON: Choir and Congregation

Choir: And in the shadow of your wing,
 I will sing for joy evermore.

PSALM: Choir I am surrounded by your steadfast love.
 Happy are those who trust in your strength!
 You that are righteous, be glad, rejoice!
 You that obey him, shout for joy.

ANTIPHON: Choir and Congregation

Choir: And in the shadow of your wing,
 I will sing for joy evermore.

GLORIA PATRI:

Choir: Glory and praise and honor to you:
 Father, Son and Spirit, One.
 As it was, is now, and ever shall be,
 world without end. Amen.

ANTIPHON: Choir and Congregation

Choir: And in the shadow of your wing,
 I'll sing for joy forevermore.

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SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lay Reader Here ends the reading. 5

Please stand as you are able.

LENTEN RESPONSE (Joel 2:13)

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

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

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

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

¹The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear {Jesus}. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” ³So he told them this parable:

¹¹... “There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’” ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’” ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’” ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might

celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

Please be seated. Join us every Sunday during Lent as Jesus has us find perspective in life.

SERMON Perspective #4—Prodigious Pastor Heidi Punt

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN Today Your Mercy Calls Us LBW# 304

Alternative Melody will be used.

- 1 **Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.**
- 2 **Today your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.**
- 3 **Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us, How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.**
- 4 **O all embracing Mercy, O ever open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.**

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

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

**Or, We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.*

THE PRAYERS (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

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 (John 20:19)

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 (Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19)

The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared. All loose offering will go towards the Youth Mission Fund. During the month of March, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on Congo Mission International. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.

OFFERTORY MUSIC O Lord Throughout these Forty Days Sedio

Please stand as you are able.

LENTEN OFFERTORY

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



I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the
name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the
pres-ence of all his peo-ple, in the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

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 (2 Timothy 4:22)

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

SANCTUS (Isaiah 6:3 and Matthew 21:9)



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

Heav'n 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

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

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

THE LORD'S PRAYER (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**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION (Mark 14:23)

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. For those who prefer individually sealed units please indicate. Gluten wafers and grape juice are also available upon request.

AGNUS DEI (John 1:29)



☩ 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

In the Quiet Consecration

LBW# 223

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**

POST COMMUNION LENTEN CANTICLE (Luke 2:29-32)



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



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -



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



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

Glo-ry to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,
 and will be for - ev - er. A - men

PRAYER

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

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:22-27)

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**

CLOSING HYMN

O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

LBW# 99

THE SENDING (Matthew 28:19)

The minister may dismiss the congregation.

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

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

P Union Lutheran Church you are sent!

C **Amen, amen, amen**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

POSTLUDE

O Lord Throughout these Forty Days

Callahan

Next Week's Readings (April 3):
 Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-20

THOSE SERVING IN MARCH

Acolytes: Felisaty and Dusty Morgan

Altar Guild: Jan Huffman and Nikki Nguyen

Communion Assistants:

Tara Davis, Doris Shepherd, and Franklin Merrell

Lay Readers: Dusty Morgan Jr. Family

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

Offering Counters: Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Sonya Mulkey, and Vivian Sprinkle



“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 #23: PAX DOMINI (...Latin for “the peace of the Lord.”)

The pastor holds the body and the blood of Jesus before the congregation and speaks the Pax Domini as Christ Himself did on that first Easter when He stood in the midst of His disciples.

“Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ ” (John 20:19)

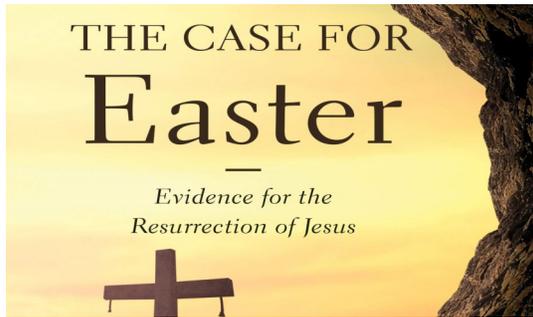
(“A Simple Explanation of the Church Service”, page 24, Concordia Publishing House, 2018)

Corrections for the 2022 Yearbook:

- Amendments to the 2021 Financial Information (Turquoise paper)
- Social Ministry Committee Report (Yellow paper)

Church Directory Corrections for 2022 Yearbook:

- Kevin Huffman – Birthday 5/25
- Dusty Morgan, Sr. – Email: dustinmorgan11@gmail.com
- Thad Mulkey – Cell# 704-798-3349
- Thad and Sonya Mulkey do not have a land line.
- Ruth Myers – Active
- Jay Rusher – Active



Lenten Series is entitled:
The Case for Easter

Tuesday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m. and
Wednesday, March 30, at 10:30 a.m.

Evidence of the Resurrection
Mark 14:55-64

Tuesday, April 5, at 6:30 p.m. and
Wednesday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m.
Now What?

Lee Strobel investigates the Bible's accounts of Jesus' resurrection to determine whether the resurrection actually occurred.

This "investigation" into Christ's death answers three crucial questions seekers ask: Was Jesus' death a sham? Was his tomb really empty? Was he seen alive after his death on the cross? Lee Strobel's award-winning skills as a legal journalist will persuade even the most hard-boiled skeptics to reconsider Jesus' death and resurrection

We will meet every Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning with food and faith in the Dutch Meeting Hall!

Approved by the Executive Committee, our Lenten Offering will go towards SON Network's work in the Ukraine.



PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10

**10:30 a.m. Worship &
Holy Communion**

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

Journey with us through Holy Week at Union Lutheran Church. We will begin with having palms available to place at the cross outside on Palm Sunday.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This year **beginning on Monday afternoon, April 11**, we will have the opportunity to drive to each Station of the Cross for meditation and prayer. Every station resembles the journey Christ took from Gethesemane to Golgatha. This can be a moving experience for individuals and families. Please plan to prayerfully participate in this very personal walk with Jesus. A booklet will be available before the first station to guide you.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 14

10:30 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

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



GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 15

10:30 A.M. & 6:30 P.M.

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



*Following the evening Good Friday service, we will have a **PRAYER VIGIL**. A prayer vigil is a watchful, awake time set apart for the purpose of prayer. As an act of public witness, it offers the community a space to connect with God so that God's vision for love and justice can be carried out through us.*

Union understands prayer vigils to be grounded in the power of the Holy Spirit to change people's hearts and minds and to strengthen us in our work and witness.

If you would like to participate please sign up on the sheet coming soon to the Narthex.



Also, on Good Friday, our youth will have a **Lock-in** at 7:30 p.m. We invite the Congregation to sponsor a youth member (funds will go towards Youth Retreats/Trips).

If you would like to participate by sponsoring the youth or can assist with the Lock-in, please sign up on the sheet provided coming soon to the Narthex or contact Pastor Heidi. Thank you!

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 VISION: *One Relationship at a Time*

OUR ACTION: *Building Relationships — with God & our Neighbor*

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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

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

Interim Music Director and Organist: Dawn Merrell

Staff Support: Genevieve Baker - office@ulcsalisbury.org

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



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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