

Welcome

2nd Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

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

PRELUDE Jesus Lives! The Victories Won! (arr. Blversch)

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

The minister leads the congregation in the invocation.

Please stand as able.

P Christ is Risen!

C **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

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

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

WOV# 674

GREETING

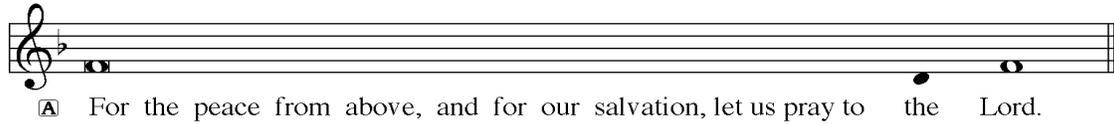
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE (Mark 10:47)



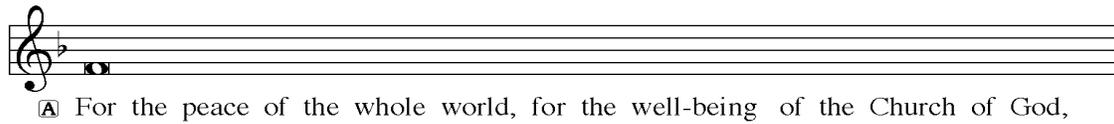
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



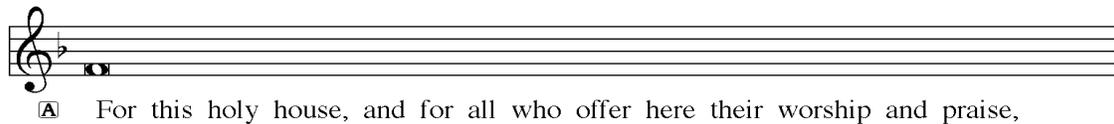
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



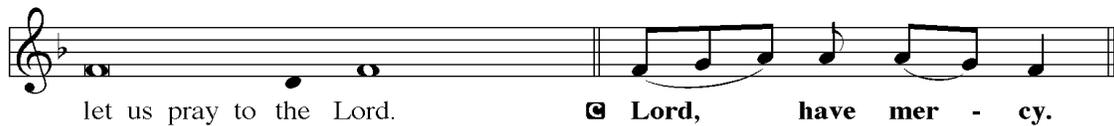
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



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



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord. **C** A - men

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

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was
slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and
strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

☐ This is the feast of vic-tory for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu - ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu - ia.

SALUTATION (2 Timothy 4:22)

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Help us, almighty God, that our joyful celebration of the resurrection feast may be reflected in our daily work and conversation. 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**

Please be seated.

CHILDREN’S TIME & DEDICATION OF LIVE STREAMING TECHNOLOGY

When a new item is gifted or purchased for a parish’s worship life, it is customary to acknowledge the intended purpose of the item to remind the worshipping community of God’s presence in our midst as we gather together in Christ’s name.

P The Psalmist sings, “As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God, which God will establish forever. We have thought on your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with righteousness.”

- P And again, “How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts! My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD; my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- P Designed by human imagination, fashioned by human hands, we dedicate the live streaming technology for use in our corporate worship of the Triune God. May their use serve as a visual reminder of God’s presence with us whenever we gather together in his holy name.
- C **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

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

FIRST LESSON: Acts 5:12-32

¹²Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon’s Portico. ¹³None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed. ¹⁷But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰“Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life.” ²¹And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. ²²But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, ²³“We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside.” ²⁴Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵And someone came and told them, “Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people.” ²⁶Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people. ²⁷And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.” ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. ³⁰The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted

him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.

PSALM 148 *sung in unison*

- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the Lord | from the heavens; *
praise him | in the heights.
- ²Praise him, all you an- | gels of his; *
praise him, | all his host.
- ³Praise him, | sun and moon; *
praise him, all you | shining stars.
- ⁴Praise him, heav- | en of heavens, *
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.
- ⁵Let them praise the name | of the Lord; *
for he commanded, and they | were created.
- ⁶He made them stand fast forev- | er and ever; *
he gave them a law which shall not | pass away.
- ⁷Praise the Lord | from the earth, *
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
- ⁸Fire and hail, | snow and fog, *
tempestuous wind, do- | ing his will;
- ⁹Mountains | and all hills, *
fruit trees | and all cedars;
- ¹⁰Wild beasts | and all cattle, *
creeping things and | winged birds;
- ¹¹Kings of the earth | and all peoples, *
princes and all rulers | of the world;
- ¹²Young | men and maidens, *
old and | young together.
- ¹³Let them praise the name | of the Lord, *
for his name only is exalted, his splendor is over | earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴He has raised up strength for his people and praise for all his | loyal servants, *
the children of Israel, a people who are near him. | Hallelujah!

SECOND LESSON: Revelation 1:4-18

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. ⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” ⁹I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.” ¹²Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. ¹⁷When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.”

Lay Reader Here ends the reading.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (John 6:68)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 20th chapter.

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

GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” ²²And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.” ²⁴Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when

Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” ²⁶Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

The Commission of Christ

Pastor Heidi Punt

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN

Good Christians Friends, Rejoice and Sing

LBW# 144

During the singing of the hymn we invite Evonne Batten and family to come forward.

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**

RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP

P Called by God led by the Holy Spirit and after instruction of our Lutheran faith, Evonne Batten desires to affirm her faith and become a member of Union Lutheran Church.

In baptism, God received you and made you a member of his Church. The people of this congregation would now like to publicly welcome you into this fellowship of this congregation, praising God for your presence here among us. We do this as we join you in the Confession of the Christian Church.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C 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.*

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C 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.*

***Or, the holy Christian Church,*

P You have made a public profession of your Christian faith. On behalf of this congregation, I now pose to you a couple questions of intent.

Will you regularly gather here in worship, to receive God's Word and share in his Holy Supper?

Will you give generously of your time, talents, and treasures in support of the mission of Christ through this congregation?

Will you be a servant to others and seek to love your neighbors, following in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus?

Will you proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and his lordship through your daily words and deeds?

R I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.

The minister addresses the congregation:

P People of God, will you warmly welcome our sister in Christ? Will you pray for her, support her, and work side by side with her in the ministry that we share together as fellow members of the body of Christ?

C We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us pray. Lord, we thank you for Evonne. By your Word and Spirit, we pray that we may grow together in mutual ministry and in service of your mission to all the world, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE PEACE (John 20:19)

In an attempt to be vigilant and responsible, please use Hand Sanitizers provided at each entrance.

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 Fund. During the month of April, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on the NALC Disaster Response. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.

ANTHEM

The Lord is Risen Indeed

Chancel Choir

Please stand as you are able.

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

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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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.

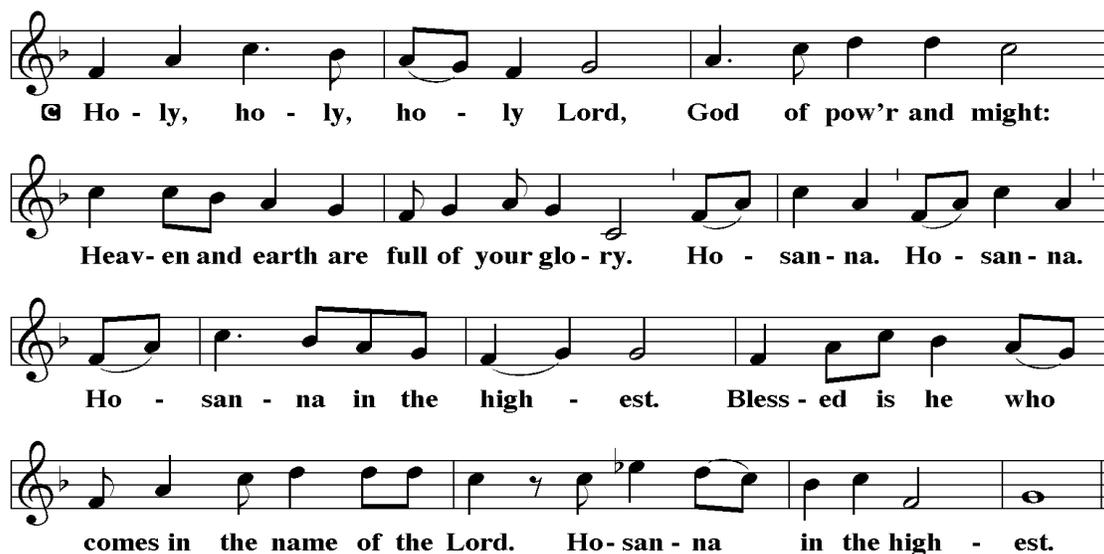
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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, God of pow'r and might:
Heav- en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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 free 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.

COMMUNION HYMN He Is Arisen! Glorious Word! LBW# 138

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

Please stand as you are able.

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

C Amen

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE (Luke 2:29-32)

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**

HYMN

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

LBW# 135

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**

POSTLUDE

Fling Wide the Gates (arr. Wilson)

Next Week's Readings (May 1):
Acts 9:1-22; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:1-14; John 21:1-19

THOSE SERVING IN APRIL

Guest Organist: Nancy Sloop

Acolytes: Abbey and Morgan Deaton, Micah and Samuel Nguyen

Altar Guild: Jennifer and Scott Curlee, and Cathy Painter

Communion Assistants: Jennifer and Scott Curlee, and Cathy Painter

Lay Readers: Jennifer and Scott Curlee, and Cathy Painter

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

Offering Counters: Jennifer Curlee, Doris Shepherd, and Wayne Vellines



“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 #27: POST COMMUNION COLLECT

The **Post Communion Collect** “collects” our grateful thoughts into one prayer, asking that the gifts received in the Divine Service—specifically in the Lord’s Supper—strengthen our faith toward God and carry into our lives and callings as we deal with one another.

(“A Simple Explanation of the Church Service”, page 27, 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 VISION: *One Relationship at a Time*

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

4470 Bringle Ferry Road
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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 1 (pages 56-76)

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