



Union Lutheran Church

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5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

*(Please stand when indicated by *)*

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal
With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *O Morning Star How Fair and Bright* (Callahan)

During Epiphany, the Acolytes will process in symbolizing the light of Christ.

GATHERING

- * Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness WOV p.10-11
- * HYMN: *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!* (stanzas 1-3) LBW# 76
- * Greeting WOV. p. 28
- * Kyrie & Hymn of Praise WOV p.28-30
- * Prayer of the Day

P Stand watch over your family, O Lord, that we who depend entirely on your heavenly grace may always be protected in the mighty fortress of your love; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Message

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 58:3-9a

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?” Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. ⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. ⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? ⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself

from your own flesh? ⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112:1-9 *sung in unison*

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the Lord*
and have great delight in | his commandments!

²Their descendants will be mighty | in the land; *
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches will be | in their house, *
and their righteousness will | last forever.

⁴Light shines in the darkness | for the upright; *
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.

⁵It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending*
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.

⁶For they will nev- | er be shaken; *
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.

⁷They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors; *
their heart is right; they put their trust | in the Lord.

⁸Their heart is established and | will not shrink, *
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.

⁹They have given freely | to the poor, * and their righteousness
stands fast forever; they will hold up their | head with honor

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

¹I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him” — ¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And

we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

Reader The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Acclamation

WOV p.31

* Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³{Jesus said,} “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. ¹⁴You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. ¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: *The Mind of Christ* (Corinthians Sermon Series 4)

Pastor Heidi Punt

* HYMN: *Here in This Place*

WOV# 718

* Apostles’ Creed

WOV p. 33

* Prayer of the Church & Sharing of the Peace

WOV p. 34

Offering *The Offering is received as the Lord’s Table is prepared. All loose offering will go towards the Social Ministry Fund. During the month of February, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on the Battered Women’s Shelter. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.*

Anthem: *Communion Prayer* (Pote)

Chancel Choir

MEAL

* Offertory (“*Let the Vineyards...*”) & Offertory Prayer

WOV p. 35

- * Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus WOV p. 36
- * Words of Institution WOV p. 37
- * Lord's Prayer WOV p. 39
- Lamb of God & Distribution of Communion WOV p. 39

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. For those who prefer individually sealed units please indicate. Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request. Please fill out a communion card located in the pew and hand to the Usher while following their directions to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

- * Post-Communion Canticle ("Thankful hearts...") WOV p. 40
- * Post-Communion Prayer WOV p. 41

SENDING

- * Blessing WOV p. 41
- * HYMN: *O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!* (stanzas 4-6) LBW# 76
- * Sending

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: *O Morning Star How Fair and Bright* (Hobby)

During Epiphany, the Acolytes will recess out symbolizing Christ going out into the world.

*The **ALTAR GREENERYS** is given to the glory of God.*

Current Fund Financial Information:

Offering received Sunday, January 29	\$4,626.00
Weekly offering needed to meet our Ministry Support plan	\$6,482.37

Those Serving in February

Acolyte, Altar Guild, Lay Reader, & Communion Assistant: Robyn Arey

Communion Assistants: Janice Goodman & Kevin Huffman

Ushers: Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble (HU), Lisa Graczyk & Addison Queen

Offering Counters:

Jennifer Curlee, Doris Shepherd, & Wayne Vellines

With One Voice Setting 5 (p. 28-41) ~ WOVS Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness (p. 10-11)

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Union News

Sunday's Activities, February 5:

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir (singing during worship on February 12)

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Palm Tree Judge ~ Judges 4

Adult Sunday School Class: Résumé of Those Called ~ 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

In addition to the monthly Benevolence focus, two opportunities are available to assist financially 1) noisy offering to purchase Bibles for the Carolinas Mission Region (CMR) retreat attendees (envelopes mark "Bibles") and 2) new choir robes (envelopes mark "robes")

12 noon Ushers Training (lunch provided) in large Fellowship Hall

12:30 p.m. Union Women's 2023 planning meeting

New: 3:00 p.m. Beginners Bells (B 'n B) planning will introduce children, youth, and adults to the art of handbell ringing.

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Union & Salem Middle/High School Youth at Salem

This Weeks' Activities:

Tuesday, Feb. 7

6:30 p.m. Bible Study Lesson 4: Joy...In Pursuing Jesus
Scripture: Philippians 3:12-16; 3:17; 4:4; 4:6-7

Wednesday, Feb. 8

10:30 a.m. Bible Study Lesson 4
6:30 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, Feb. 9

10:00 a.m. Good Timers with Program: simple craft taught by Gladys Morgan's daughter followed by lunch at Dona Lupes in Granite Quarry.

Saturday, Feb. 11

2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Wedding Shower for Felisaty Morgan and Tyler Hunt in the large Fellowship Hall

Ministry Discernment Retreat will be held Friday, Feb. 10-Sunday, Feb. 12.

Next Sunday's Activities, February 12:

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir (singing February 12)

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Weakened Judge ~ Judges 16:4-31

Adult Sunday School Class: Reminder of the Call ~ 2 Timothy 1:3-14

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for February 12: Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-18;
1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Sermon Series focuses on Corinthians: *Growth in Christ*

4:00 p.m. Little Lutherans (5th grade and younger)

Ruby Leazer has reserved the Altar Flowers for Sunday, February 12.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents - Brenda Mahaley, Pat & Wayne Miller, and Ruth Monroe (Autumn Care), and Jean Ray (Brookdale)

Homebound Members – Arnold Cauble, Rachel Earnhardt, Jean Kluttz, Frances Norris, Billy Waller, and Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Nancy Kesler, John Knight, Doug Peeler, Sylvia Peeler

Continual Prayer – Evonne Batten, Nancy Ballew (Kat Clifton's mother), Bill Broadway, Janet Dunning (Doris Shepherd's sister), Glenn Eagle, Tommy and Joan Kerns, Pat Kluttz, Glenn & Betty Sue Lowder, Della Morgan (Pam Vellines' mother), Dusty Morgan, Sr. Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), William Page, Ben Smith (Cathy Painter's brother-in-law), Effie Vellines, Union Fire Department #76, Haiti (gangs), Nigerian Christians, and those affected by natural or political disasters

Confirmation Students: Caylea Cline, Mallory Eagle, Bailey Wilhelm, and Lucas Wilhelm

February Service Projects

- Please donate **200** 2.5 gallon plastic storage bags for CMR event on February 25
- Please donate individually-packaged soft toothbrushes (must be unopened) for CMR event on February 25.
- Please donate **Child Friendly Foods** (when children are out of school) during the months of February and March: individual Mac 'n Cheese, Fruit Cups, granola bars, anything that a child can open and heat in the microwave by themselves.

PART SEVEN: Holy Communion

The Definition & Command of Communion

Where is this written? Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Paul say:

“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 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 remembrance of me.’ ”

(Martin Luther's Small Catechism 2010 Edition Sola Publishing-Pocket Version, page 28)

