



Union Lutheran Church

4770 Bringle Ferry Road

Salisbury, NC 28146

704-636-5092

office@ulcsalisbury.org

www.ulcsalisbury.org

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

We welcome children to be a part of worship. A nursery is also provided for those attending to the needs of infants and small children.

*(Please stand when indicated by *)*

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal

With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal

Welcome & Announcements

Chorale and Chorale Prelude on “*If you but Suffer God to Guide You*” (Bach)

GATHERING

- * Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness LBW p. 77
- * HYMN: *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* LBW# 453
- * Greeting & Kyrie (*Hymn of Praise is omitted during Lent.*) LBW p. 78-79
- * Salutation LBW p. 82
- * Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Children’s Message

Pastor Siimon Haamer

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9

¹Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” ⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan.

When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the Lord and called upon the name of the Lord. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

R Here ends the reading.

Anthem: *I will Lift Up Mine Eyes* (Young)

Chancel Choir

New Testament Lesson: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” ¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring — not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

R Here ends the reading.

* Lenten Verses (“Return to the Lord...”)

LBW p. 83

*Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rd chapter.

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

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you,

unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord
C Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon Pastor Siimon Haamer
And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 1 John 5:4

- * HYMN: *God Loved the World* (alternate melody: Duke Street) LBW# 292
- * Nicene Creed LBW p. 84
- * Prayer of the Church & Sharing of the Peace LBW p. 85-86

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 March, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on the Spiritual Orphans Network (SON). Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.*

Organ Offertory: “*My Faith Looks up to Thee*” (Straszkeski)

MEAL

- * Offertory (“*What shall I render...*”) & Offertory Prayer LBW p. 87
- * Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus LBW p. 88-89
- * Words of Institution LBW p. 89
- * Lord’s Prayer LBW p. 91

Lamb of God & Distribution of Communion LBW p. 92

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 the connection card and hand to the Usher while following their directions to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

- * Post-Communion Canticle (“*Lord, now you let your servant...*”) LBW p. 93
- * Post-Communion Prayer LBW p. 94

SENDING

* Benediction

LBW p. 95

* HYMN: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

LBW# 479

* 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: *If You But Suffer God to Guide You* (Manz)

Called Congregational Meeting

Stewardship Update

<i>Sunday School Attendance (2/26)</i>	40
<i>Worship & Holy Communion Attendance (2/26)</i>	108
<i>Current Fund Offering received (2/26)</i>	\$8,296.16
<i>Mid-Week Lenten Service (2/28)</i>	45
<i>Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/1)</i>	8
<i>2023 Weekly offering needed to meet our Ministry Support plan</i>	\$6,482.37

Those Serving in March

Acolytes: Caylea Cline & Addison Queen

Altar Guild, Communion Assistants, & Lay Readers:

Jennifer & Scott Curlee, Cathy Painter

Ushers: Phil Cauble (HU), Ali Davis, Don Davis & Wayne Vellines,

Offering Counters:

Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Sonya Mulkey & Vivian Sprinkle

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 2 (p. 77-97)

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SON

Union Lutheran Church is excited to host Pastor Siimon Haamer from Tartu Academy of Theology in Estonia today! At breakfast Pastor Haamer shared with us about activities at Tartu Academy and updated us on their hosting of Ukrainian refugees. Pastor Haamer will also share the Word with us during the worship service at 10:30 a.m.

We are also excited to have Mike Wind from Spiritual Orphans Network as our guest today!

Union News

Sunday's Activities, March 5:

9:00 a.m. Breakfast Time with Rev. Siimon Haamer, Spiritual Orphans Network

9:30 a.m. Kids Choir

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for March 5: Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 121;

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17; John 3:1-17

A **called Congregational Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, March 5**, following worship for the purpose of presentation of the summary of Appraisal of the Eller property and possible sale of a portion of this property.

Following the congregational meeting the **Church Council** will meet briefly reviewing the 2023 church yearbook.

2:00 p.m. Christian Education, Sunday School, Youth & Family

2:45 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Beginners Bells (B 'n B)

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

Deadline to RSVP for Lay Ministry Retreat

During the season of Lent, branches will be used in place of Altar Flowers.

This Weeks' Activities:

Tuesday, Mar. 7

5:30 p.m. Hymn Jam

5:45 p.m. meal provided in the large Fellowship Hall

6:30 p.m. Lenten Service *The Prodigal Son* (Luke 15:32)

Wednesday, Mar. 8

10:30 a.m. Lenten Service *The Prodigal Son*

12 noon lunch provided

12:30 p.m. Facebook Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Deadline to contact the church office regarding bowling.

Thursday, Mar. 9

10:00 a.m. Good Timers (working on craft)

Lunch at Lakeview Restaurant

6:00 p.m. Worship & Music

Join us for a **LAY MINISTRY RETREAT** on **Saturday, March 11**. We will meet from **10 am** till noon and enjoy lunch together. **Border Concepts** in Lexington has graciously opened up their facility for us to use.

Coming to the retreat does not mean you commit to doing it, it simply means that you are seeking God's guidance and or offering support to your Lay Ministers.

Please RSVP the church office or Tara Davis by **Sunday, March 5th**, if you intend to enjoy a morning of discernment and healthy fellowship.

Next Sunday's Activities, March 12:

Daylight Savings Time

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Fearless Shepherd ~ 1 Samuel 17:2-11, 33-51

Adult Sunday School Class: The Greatest in the Kingdom ~ Matthew 18:1-9

9:45 a.m. Pastor Heidi is offering an Inquirer's Class designed to help you discern how you can connect by building relationships in ministry, in the congregation, and in your faith journey.

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for March 12:

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95:1-9; Romans 5:1-8; John 4:5-26 [27-30, 39-42]

10:30 a.m. CMR Bibles noisy offering

3:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m. Congregational Bowling at Woodleaf Lanes

\$12 per person (includes bowling & shoes)

Please contact the church office by **10:00 a.m.** on

Wednesday, March 8, if you will be going bowling. This will allow Woodleaf Lanes to reserve enough lanes.

2023 Yearbooks will be available to pick up.

Please mark your name off the list.

During the season of Lent, branches will be used in place of Altar Flowers.

Congratulations to Felisaty Jean Morgan & Tyler Jamison Hunt on their wedding ceremony held at Union on Saturday, March 5.

*Executive Committee will meet **Tuesday, March 14**, at **5:30 p.m.** in Pastor Heidi's office. The committee will prepare for Sunday's Council meeting.*

Mid-Week Lenten Services

Lenten Supper provided by the Youth & Adults in the large fellowship hall on **Tuesday, March 14**, at **5:45 p.m.** with service following at **6:30 p.m.**

Wednesday, March 15, at **10:30 a.m.** with lunch following.

The Blind Man (John 9:24) We witness Jesus bringing sight to a man born blind, giving the man the added spiritual vision to see the amazing grace of God found in Jesus, who heals us all.

Belles & Beaus will be attending the Bell Tower Ringers Handbell Festival from March 17-18 at Frist Presbyterian Church, Salisbury, NC.

Sunday, March 19

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Faith-Full Friends ~ 1 Samuel 18:1-9; 20:18-42

Adult Sunday School Class: Jesus Talks with a Samaritan

John 4:7-15, 28-30, 39-41

9:45 a.m. Pastor Heidi is offering an Inquirer's Class designed to help you discern how you can connect by building relationships in ministry, in the congregation, and in your faith journey.

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Lessons for March 19: Isaiah 42:14-21; Psalm 142;

Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

10:30 a.m. CMR Bibles noisy offering

2:00 p.m. Church Council

2:45 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Beginners Bells (B'n B)

2023 Yearbooks will be available to pick up.

Please mark your name off the list.

Deadline for Newsletter articles.

During the season of Lent, branches will be used in place of Altar Flowers.

Mid-Week Lenten Services

*Lenten Supper in the large fellowship hall on **Tuesday, March 21, at 5:45 p.m.** with service following at **6:30 p.m.***

***Wednesday, March 22, at 10:30 a.m.** with lunch following.*

The Woman at the Well (John 4:13-14) We listen to Jesus teach a woman at the well of his amazing grace poured out for us abundantly, which satisfies our thirsting souls for all eternity.

Property, Cemetery, & Columbarium Committee will meet **Thursday, March 23, at 6:30 p.m.** to discuss property projects and other business brought forth.

*Come join us for a **church workday** both inside and outside on **Saturday, March 25, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** Bring your supplies, tools and anything you think could be useful. **Working together we can accomplish so much!***

Called Meeting of the Congregation will be held following the 10:30 a.m. worship service on **Sunday, March 26.** The purpose of the meeting will be to review and approve the 2023 Yearbook.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

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

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

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Nancy Kesler, John Knight, Vernon Overcash, Doug Peeler, Sylvia Peeler, Jean Ray (recovering at Wilbert & Carol Lyerly, 5017 Charmapeg Ave., Charlotte, NC 28211), & Debbie Rinehart

Continual Prayer – Paul & Nancy Baker (Genevieve Baker's parents), Evonne Batten, Nancy Ballew (Kat Clifton's mother), Pastor George Bradshaw (Pineridge Baptist Church), Bill Broadway, Janet Dunning (Doris Shepherd's sister), Glenn Eagle, Tommy and Joan Kerns, Garrin Kluttz (Jean & James Kluttz grandson), Pat Kluttz, Glenn & Betty Sue Lowder, Della Morgan (Pam Vellines' mother), Dusty Morgan, Sr. Family (Dusty, Sr., Lisa, Felisaty, and Dusty, Jr.), Danny "Chocolate" Myers (Frank Merrell's friend), William Page, Effie Vellines, Union Fire Department #76, Haiti (gangs), Nigerian Christians, & those affected by natural or political disasters

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

How Can You Serve?

*The Good Timers & Sunday School are sponsoring a collection of food to assist **Rowan Helping Ministries Child Friendly Foods** (when children are out of school). Please donate: individual Mac 'n Cheese, Fruit Cups, granola bars, anything that a child can open and heat in the microwave by themselves.*

Please place donations on the pew outside of the church office.

PART EIGHT: Daily Prayers

The following prayers were suggested by Luther for use by Christians every day:

Morning Prayer: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I ask you to protect me this day also from sin and every evil, that in all I do today I may please you. For into your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel watch over me, that the wicked foe have no power over me. Amen.

(Martin Luther's Small Catechism 2010 Edition Sola Publishing-Pocket Version, page 31)

OUR MISSION:

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

OUR VISION:

One Relationship at a Time

BE OUR GUEST

Can't wait to see what God can do!

