



Union Lutheran Church

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3rd Sunday in Lent

March 12, 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

Prelude: *Rock of Ages, Culli*

GATHERING

- * Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness LBW p. 77
- * HYMN: *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* LBW# 104
- * Greeting & Kyrie (*Hymn of Praise is omitted during Lent.*) LBW p. 78-79
- * Salutation LBW p. 82
- * Prayer of the Day

P Almighty God, consider the worthy desires of your humble servants. Reach out to defend us from evil by the word and work of your majestic right hand. Grant this, we pray, through the same 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: Exodus 17:1-7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the Lord, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵And the Lord said to Moses, "Pass

on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

R Here ends the reading.

Psalm 95:1-9 *read responsively*

¹Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

**²Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

³For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**⁴In his hand are the caverns of the earth,
and the heights of the hills are his also.**

⁵The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands have molded the dry land.

**⁶Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee,
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**

⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture
and the sheep of his hand.

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

**⁸Harden not your hearts, as your forebears did in the wilderness,
at Meribah, and on that day at Massah, when they tempted me.**

⁹They put me to the test,
though they had seen my works.

New Testament Lesson: Romans 5:1-8

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

R Here ends the reading.

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

LBW p. 83

* Holy Gospel: John 4:5-26 [27-30, 39-42]

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 4th chapter.

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

⁵So {Jesus} came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹²Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." [²⁷Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?"] ²⁸So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people,

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²⁹"Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?"

³⁰They went out of the town and were coming to him.

³⁹Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for

ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”]

P The Gospel of the Lord

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

Sermon:

We the Sheep

Pastor Heidi Punt

* HYMN: *I Heard the Voice of Jesus (Alternate Tune, Kingsfold)* LBW # 497

* 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 Gerald Bame 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.*

Anthem: *“In the Cross of Christ I glory” Belles & Beaus with Brad Huffman, trumpet, Moglebust*

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: *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

LBW# 327

Sending of Lisa Graczyk

* 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: *In the cross of Christ I glory, Krouse*

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

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Stewardship Update

<i>Sunday School did not meet (3/5)</i>	<i>Missionary Presentation</i>
<i>Worship & Holy Communion Attendance (3/5)</i>	99
<i>Current Fund Offering received (3/5)</i>	\$5,332.17
<i>Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/7)</i>	50
<i>Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/8)</i>	5
<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

Union News

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)

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.

This Weeks' Activities:

Tuesday, Mar. 14

5:30 p.m. Hymn Jam/ Guitar Practice

5:30 p.m. Executive Committee

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

6:30 p.m. Lenten Service *The Blind Man* (John 9:24)

Wednesday, Mar. 15 10:30 a.m. Lenten Service *The Blind Man*
12 noon lunch provided
6:30 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, Mar. 17 9:00 a.m. meet at the church to go hiking in the
mountains

*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!**

Sunday, March 26

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: The King of Glory ~ 2 Samuel 7:18-29; Psalm 24

Adult Sunday School Class: Jesus Overpowers Legion
Mark 5:1-13, 18-20

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 26:

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130;

Romans 8:1-11; John 11:1-45 [46-53]

10:30 a.m. CMR Bibles noisy offering

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.

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Luther League

Middle/High School Youth

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

Mid-Week Lenten Services

*Lenten Supper **Tuesday, March 28**, at **5:45 p.m.***

*with service following at **6:30 p.m.***

***Wednesday, March 29**, at **10:30 a.m.** with lunch following.*

Paul (1 Timothy 1:15) We marvel at the story of amazing grace in the life of Paul, who turned from persecutor of Christ to proclaimer of our Lord through the mighty power of the Holy Spirit.

Union will be providing **Chapel Time at Autumn Care** on **Wednesday, March 29**, at **2:00 p.m.** All are invited to come join in on the fellowship, fun, and sharing God's Word!

Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, will be out of the office Thursday, March 30-Friday, March 31.

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:

Evening 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 graciously protected me today; and I ask you to forgive me all my sins and the wrong which I have done. By your mercy, graciously protect me from the dangers of this night. 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 32)

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!

