



## Union Lutheran Church

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### 5th Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023

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

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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: *Wondrous Love* (Barr)

#### GATHERING

- \* Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness LBW p. 77
- \* HYMN: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* LBW# 107
- \* 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 favorably upon your family. Graciously rule our bodies lest we are enticed to love the world, and guard our spirits lest we fail to recognize your love. 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.**

#### WORD

Children's Message

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was

no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” <sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. <sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

R Here ends the reading.

Psalm 150 (Manz)

Chancel Choir

New Testament Lesson: Romans 8:1-11

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is the hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

R Here ends the reading.

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

LBW p. 83

\* Holy Gospel: John 11:1-45 [46-53]

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.” <sup>5</sup>Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup>So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the

light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” <sup>11</sup>After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” <sup>13</sup>Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup>and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.” <sup>16</sup>So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.” <sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he Son of God, who is coming into the world.” <sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup>She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and “Lord, come and see.” <sup>35</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?” <sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.” <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, “Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.” <sup>43</sup>When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” <sup>44</sup>The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” <sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, [<sup>46</sup>but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup>So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. <sup>48</sup>If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” <sup>49</sup>But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. <sup>50</sup>Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” <sup>51</sup>He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, <sup>52</sup>and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. <sup>53</sup>So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.]

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

Sermon: *Raise Up!*

Pastor Heidi Punt

\* HYMN: *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*

WOV# 716

\* 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 Youth Missions/Retreats 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.*

Harp Offertory: *Chaconne* (Clark)

Dawn Merrell, Harp

**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.*

Communion Music: *Amazing Grace* (Pool)

Dawn Merrell, Harp

\* Post-Communion Canticle ("*Lord, now you let your servant...*")

LBW p. 93

\* Post-Communion Prayer

LBW p. 94

**SENDING**

\* Benediction

LBW p. 95

\* HYMN: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

LBW# 482

\* 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: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus* (Folkemer)

*Good Friday Prayer Vigil will be held again this year on April 7 from 7:30 p.m.-6:00 a.m. on April 8. To participate in the Prayer Vigil please sign up on the sheet located on the front left pew in the Sanctuary.*

Thank you to Dusty Morgan, Sr., for creating and photographing a **Pictorial Directory** for our 250<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary celebration. We need YOUR help to make it a success! Please participate in the Pictorial Directory by signing up for your family or individual photo sessions on Saturday, April 15, or Sunday, April 16. Sign up is located in the Narthex.

Cost is \$10 for a USB drive on the day of photo session for raw format or you can wait for a professional format with the cost of \$20.

If you are unavailable either of those days, please contact Dusty Morgan, Sr., for a make-up day.

### **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

### **Stewardship Update**

<i>Sunday School (3/12)</i>	35
<i>Worship &amp; Holy Communion (3/12)</i>	64
<i>Current Fund Offering received (3/12)</i>	\$2,779.50
<i>Sunday School (3/19)</i>	30
<i>Worship &amp; Holy Communion (3/19)</i>	86
<i>Current Fund Offering received (3/19)</i>	\$2,879.40
<i>Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/21)</i>	35
<i>Mid-Week Lenten Service (3/22)</i>	6
<i>2023 Weekly offering needed to meet our Ministry Support plan</i>	\$6,482.37

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Lynn Coughenour and Family on the death of her nephew, Perry Wayne Earnhardt.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Pat Miller and Family on the death of Wayne Miller.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Brenda and Linda Cauble and Family on the death of their brother-in-law, James Trexler.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Leda Belk and Family on the death of her brother, Richard Shuping.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Charles, Becky, and Linda Hartley and Family on the death of their sister-in-law, Margie Hartley.

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## Union News

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### Sunday's Activities, 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] Sermon: Raise Up!

**Called Meeting** of the **Congregation** will be held following the 10:30 a.m. worship service today. 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  
at Holy Trinity, Troutman

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

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### This Weeks' Activities:

Tuesday, Mar. 28	5:45 p.m. meal provided in the large Fellowship Hall 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service . <i>Paul (1 Timothy 1:15)</i>
Wednesday, Mar. 29	10:30 a.m. Lenten Service <i>Paul (1 Timothy 1:15)</i> 12 noon meal 2:00 p.m. Chapel Time at Autumn Care 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

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### Next Sundays' Activities, Palm Sunday, April 2:

**9:15 a.m.** Kids Choir (will sing during worship service)

**9:35 a.m.** Sunday School

Children & Youth: The Wise King ~ 1 Kings 3:5-15; Proverbs 3:1-12

Adult Sunday School Class: The Empty Tomb ~ Luke 24:1-12

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

Lessons for Sunday, April 2: John 12:12-19; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 118:19-26; Philippians 2:5-11; John 12:12-19 Sermon: *Gotta Have a Donkey*

**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 Salem

Deadline for contacting the church office for placing a potted flower in honorarium or memorial for the Easter Flowers Booklet.

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

All are welcome to drive around the parking lot and stop at each  
Station of the Cross during Holy Week.

**Maundy Thursday, April 6**, at 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Exodus 24:3-11; Psalm 116:12-19; Hebrews 9:11-22; Matthew 26:17-30

Sermon: *At His Table*

**Good Friday, April 7**, at 10:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Isaiah 52; Psalm 22; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1-19:42

Sermon: *Where are you?*

**Easter Sunrise, April 9**, at 7:30 a.m.

Exodus 14:10-15:1; Psalm 118:15-29; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; John 20:1-19

Sermon: *Resurrection People*

April 9, Easter Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.

**Easter 10:30 a.m., April 9**

Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 16:1-11; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

Sermon: *Resurrection People*