



Union Lutheran Church

4770 Bringle Ferry Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
704-636-5092
office@ulcsalisbury.org
www.ulcsalisbury.org

6th Sunday of Easter

May 14, 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

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Welcome & Announcement

Recognition of Mothers

Prelude: *Children of the Heavenly Father* (Hobby)

GATHERING

- * Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness LBW p. 56
- * HYMN: *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain* LBW# 132
- * Greeting & Kyrie LBW p. 57-58
- * Hymn of Praise (*“Worthy is Christ...”*) LBW p. 60-62
- * Salutation LBW p. 62
- * Prayer of the Day

P O God, all good things can come from you alone; generously consider then our humble prayers. Inspire us to consider what is true, and direct us to accomplish what is right; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

WORD

Children’s Message

New Testament Lesson: Acts 17:16-31

¹⁶Now while Paul was waiting for {Silas and Timothy} at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. ¹⁷So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. ¹⁸Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babblers wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities” — because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection.

¹⁹And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting?” ²⁰For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” ²¹Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new. ²²So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. ²³For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. ²⁶And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸for ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ ²⁹Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. ³⁰The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

R Here ends the reading.

Psalm 66:7-18* (*read responsively*)

L ⁷Bless our God, you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard;

C ⁸**Who holds our souls in life,
and will not allow our feet to slip.**

L ⁹For you, O |God, have proved us;
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

C ¹⁰**You brought us into the snare;
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

L ¹¹You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water;
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

C ¹²**I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my
vows, which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth
when I was in trouble.**

L ¹³I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;
I will give you oxen and goats.

C ¹⁴**Come and listen, all you who fear God,
and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

L ¹⁵I called out to him with my mouth,
and his praise was on my tongue.

C ¹⁶**If I had found evil in my heart,
the LORD would not have heard me;**

L ¹⁷But in truth God has heard me;
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

C ¹⁸**Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,
nor withheld his love from me.**

New Testament Lesson: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

R Here ends the reading.

* Gospel Acclamation

LBW p. 63

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 14th chapter.

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

* Holy Gospel: John 14:15-21

¹⁵{Jesus said,} "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, ¹⁷even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon: *Tempted and Not Tested*

Pastor Heidi Punt

* HYMN: *Children of the Heavenly Father*

LBW# 474

* Nicene Creed

LBW p. 64

* Prayer of the Church & Sharing of the Peace

LBW p. 65-66

Offering *The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared. All loose offering will go towards the Gerald Bame Scholarship Fund. During the month of May, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on the SMI Haiti. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.*

Anthem: *Rejoice Ye Children of God* (Bach)

Chancel Choir

MEAL

* Offertory (*"Let the Vineyards..."*)

LBW p. 66-67

* Great Thanksgiving & Sanctus

LBW p. 68-69

* Words of Institution

LBW p. 69

* Lord's Prayer

LBW p. 71

Lamb of God & Distribution of Communion

LBW p. 72

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. Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request. Please fill out the communion card in the pew and hand to the Usher while following their directions to receive Holy Communion or a blessing.

* Post-Communion Canticle (*"Thank the Lord..."*)

LBW p. 72

SENDING

* Benediction

LBW p. 74

* HYMN: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

LBW# 315

* 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: *Come Ye Faithful Raise the Strain* (Cherwein)

* — Some psalms within the Book of Common Prayer psalter, which the Sola lectionary uses, are numbered differently than the psalms in the psalter of the English Standard Version Bible, on which the lectionary calendar is based. To account for this difference, today's psalm reading begins at verse 7 (the ESV reading will begin at verse 8) and ends at verse 18 (the ESV reading will end at verse 20).

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 1 (p. 56-76)

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Union News

Sunday's Activities, May 14:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: Healing Waters ~ 2 Kings 2:1-15

Adult Sunday School Class: Jumping for Joy ~ Acts 3:1-11

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Acts 17:16-31; Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

Sermon: *Tempted and Not Tested*

Recognition of Mothers

The ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of Adam Blake Thompson on his 16th birthday on May 5, Wade Leazer's birthday on May 13, and in honor of Ruby, Karen, Sonya and Miranda on Mother's Day.

This Weeks' Activities:

Monday, May 15	Deadline to participate in Fresh Eyes Survey
Tuesday, May 16	5:30 p.m. Bag dinner and drink at Dunn's Mountain 6:30 p.m. Ascension Service
Wednesday, May 17	10:30 a.m. Ascension Service 12 noon Bag lunch and drink at Dunn's Mountain 4:30 p.m. Bible Study with Haiti Pastors 5:30 p.m. Executive Committee 6:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir
Thursday, May 18	6:00 p.m. Finance Committee

Next Sunday's Activities, May 21:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: Unwilling Prophet ~ Jonah 1-3

Adult Sunday School Class:

An Ethiopian is Baptized ~ Acts 8:29-39

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Acts 1:12-26; Psalm 68:1-10; 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

Sermon: *That We Might be One*

1:30 p.m. Confirmands presentation to the Church Council

2:00 p.m. Church Council

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

New: 3:30 p.m. Mission Trip Interest Meeting

New: 4:00 p.m. Youth Council

Deadline for June Messenger articles.

Don Davis has reserved the Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 21.

Intergenerational Domestic Mission Trip in June

Coming Soon! Union Lutheran Church is excited to participate again in an Intergenerational Domestic Mission Trip, from **June 19-23**, in Hazard, Kentucky.

Encounter small-town hospitality and a unique culture. Once part of a booming coal-mining industry, Kentucky has experienced many hardships and fallen below the poverty line.

Build authentic relationships with locals and bond with your teammates while also meeting practical needs. Help neighbors with home repair projects and work alongside community leaders who are challenging children and youth to dream of a brighter future.

A meeting will be held on Sunday, May 21, at 3:30 p.m. for those interested.

Day Camp from Sunday, July 16-Friday, July 21, 2023

Held at: Union Lutheran Church

Sponsored by: Union, Salem, & Organ Lutheran Church

We need YOUR help to make this event a success. Needed are volunteers both Adult and Middle & High School Youth. Areas to volunteer: registration (Union is coordinating), opening, music (Dawn Merrell coordinating), crafts, snack (Janie Lesley coordinating), games, closing, and pick up. Interested, talk with Pastor Heidi or contact the church office!

*Orientation begins on **Sunday, July 16, at 4:00 p.m.** with campers and parents meeting the volunteers and pastors, enjoy a meal together, and learn about the upcoming week.*

*Day Camp Schedule: **8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.** Monday, July 17-Thursday, July 20. On **Thursday, July 20**, Day Camp begins at **8:30 a.m.** however, at **11:30 a.m. Water Games** begins! Campers are requested to please bring a set of dry clothes and a towel. Due to insurance purposes, we cannot assist children in changing clothes. **Friday, July 21**, at **12 noon** a closing program will be held for family and friends as well as enjoying lunch and an ice cream social.*

This year campers and volunteers will have t-shirts. Please mark shirt size on the registration form.

Campers will participate in interactive singing, crafts, engaging Bible study, games, and more fun!

Cost is \$50 per camp with a maximum registration of \$100 per family.

Scholarships are available.

Registration is available from the church office for campers and volunteers.

Union Lutheran Church is cordially invited to celebrate God's faithfulness by joining in a service of dedication on the fifth anniversary **Sunday, June 4th at 4:00 p.m.** at **Joy Mission Church**, 179 Midway Road, Lexington, SC 29072. Please reply as to an approximate number of people who will be coming from Union no later than May 29th so that seating and parking accommodations will be available.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents – Brenda Mahaley, Pat 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 – Larry Barringer, Nancy Kesler, John Knight, Sharon Moore (205 Skyline Drive, Lexington, 27292 (336) 301-0314), Vernon Overcash, William & Doris Page, Doug Peeler, Sylvia Peeler, Dalton Thompson & Wayne Vellines

Continual Prayer – Evonne Batten, Nancy Ballew (Kat Clifton's mother), Pastor George Bradshaw (Junior Morgan's Pastor Friend), Bill Broadway, 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), Tim Shue (Larry & Karen Barringer's Friend), 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

Stewardship Update

<i>Current Offering received (4/30)</i>	<i>\$3,210.00</i>
<i>Sunday School (5/7)</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Worship & Holy Communion (5/7)</i>	<i>103</i>
<i>Current Offering received (5/7)</i>	<i>\$5,007.50</i>
<i>2023 Weekly offering needed to meet our Ministry Support plan</i>	<i>\$6,482.37</i>

How Can You Serve?

The **Sunday School Classes** invites the congregation to serve the Battered Women's Shelter during the month of May.

Please donate the following items: pantry items such as: canned goods, flour, sugar, etc., and kerig coffee as well as regular & decaf coffee (for coffee pots).

Please place donated items on the pew outside of the church office.

Everyone is invited to participate!

PART NINE: Ten Commandments

The Fifth Commandment: *You shall not kill.*

What does this mean? *We should fear and love God so that we do our neighbors no bodily harm nor cause them any suffering, but help and befriend them in every need.*



Those Serving in May

Acolytes: Abbey Deaton & Adam Thompson

Altar Guild: Sonya Mulkey & Janet Overcash

Communion Assistants: Mary Hutchens, Sonya Mulkey & Doris Shepherd

Lay Readers: Ashley Deaton & Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt

Ushers: Phil Cauble, Mike Cauble Elbert Kluttz & Ron Vellines

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

Fresh Eyes Survey

An online confidential survey has been set up to learn some of the congregation's preferences and can be accessed using the following link or scanning the QR Code on your camera phone, tablet, etc.:



<https://forms.gle/7Efmr7EihTgVpakW8>

Each adult is asked to complete the survey, not just the family unit. To compile the results, the deadline to complete the survey is **May 15**.

For those who do not have internet access or are uncomfortable with online surveys, paper copies are available upon request.

New: Lay Ministers will meet on **Wednesday, May 24, at 2:00 p.m.**

Change: Property, Cemetery & Columbarium Committee
Saturday, May 27 ~ 9:00 a.m. Work Day at the church
5:30 p.m. Cook Out at Phil Cauble's

Pictorial Directory Make Up Photo Sessions

Saturday, May 27 & Sunday, May 28

Please sign up on sheets located in the Narthex.

Pentecost Sunday, May 28

Deadline for list of High School, Tech, & College graduates

The Holy Trinity & Confirmation Sunday, June 4

On Sunday, June 4, Mallory Eagle, Bailey & Lucas Wilhelm will affirm their baptisms.

Recognition of High School, Tech, & College Graduates
Recognition of Gerald Bame Scholarship Recipients

Thursday, June 8, Worship & Music Committee at 6:00 p.m.

Fresh Eyes Summit Schedule

Friday, June 9, 10:00 a.m.-12 noon Tour

Friday, June 9, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. (supper provided)

Saturday, June 10, 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

(light breakfast refreshments & lunch provided)

Sunday, June 11, 10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion