



Union Lutheran Church

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7th Sunday of Easter

May 21, 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 & Announcements

Prelude: *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* (Culli)

GATHERING

- * Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness LBW p. 56
- * HYMN: *Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending* LBW# 27
The choir will sing the first verse of the hymn only.
- * 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 King of Glory and Lord of countless angels, in triumph you ascended to the highest heaven. Abandon us not to be orphans, but keep your Father's promise to send your Spirit of truth. You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Message

New Testament Lesson: Acts 1:12-26

¹²Then {the disciples} returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ¹⁵In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about

¹²⁰) and said, ¹⁶“Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸(Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰“For it is written in the Book of Psalms, ‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and ‘Let another take his office.’ ²¹So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²²beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us — one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

R Here ends the reading.

Psalm 68:1-10 (*sung in unison*)

¹Let God arise, and let his ene- | mies be scattered;*
let those who hate him | flee before him.

²Let them vanish like smoke when the wind drives | it away;*
as the wax melts at the fire,
so let the wicked perish at the pres- | ence of God.

³But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;*
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

⁴Sing to God, sing praises to his Name; exalt him who rides up- | on the
heavens;* YAHWEH is his name, re- | joice before him!

⁵Father of orphans, defend- | er of widows,*
God in his holy | habitation!

⁶God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners | into freedom;*
but the rebels shall live | in dry places.

⁷O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,*
when you marched | through the wilderness,

⁸The earth shook, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the | God of Sinai,*
at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.

⁹You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon | your inheritance;*
you refreshed the land when | it was weary.

¹⁰Your people found their | home in it;*
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the poor.

New Testament Lesson: 1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

¹²Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" ¹⁹Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good.

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

R Here ends the reading.

* Gospel Acclamation

LBW p. 63

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 17th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

* Holy Gospel: John 17:1-11

¹When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, ²since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. ⁴I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. ⁵And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed. ⁶I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. ⁸For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. ¹¹And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming

to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon: *For Those Who Suffer*

Pastor Heidi Punt

* HYMN: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

LBW# 370

* 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 Building & Repair Fund. During the month of May, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on the SMI Haiti. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.*

Anthem: *Sing All Ye Christians* (Lotti)

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: *Beautiful Savior*

LBW# 518

* 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: *Blest Be the Tie* (Cherwein)

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

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Union News

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: *For Those Who Suffer*

New: 1:00 p.m. Executive Committee

Change: 1:30 p.m. Church Council with Confirmands

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.

*The **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Don and Tara Davis' 40th wedding anniversary on May 15.*

This Weeks' Activities:

Tuesday, May 23 4:00 p.m. Day Camp Planning meeting

6:30 p.m. Why Pray Bible Study

Wednesday, May 24 10:30 a.m. Why Pray Bible Study

2:00 p.m. Lay Ministers

4:30 p.m. Bible Study with Haiti Pastors

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Saturday, May 27 Pictorial Directory Make Up Day

Next Sunday's Activities, Pentecost Sunday, May 28:

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Children & Youth: Promising Prophet ~ Isaiah 6:1-8; 52:7-53:12

Adult Sunday School Class: Saul of Tarsus ~ Acts 9:9-17

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Numbers 11:24-30; Psalm 25:1-15; Acts 2:1-21; John 7:37-39

Pictorial Directory Make Up Day

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

Debbie Rinehart has reserved the Altar Flowers for Sunday, May 28.

Mission Trip Fundraiser

Enjoy refreshing Cheerwine products while helping Union's Youth raise funds for the upcoming Intergenerational Domestic Mission Trip.

Drinks may be purchased from the Middle & High School Youth. Cost is \$25 for a case (24, 20oz drinks) and must be paid at time of order.

Drinks available for purchase are: Cheerwine, Cheerwine Zero, RC Cola, A&W Rootbeer, Country Time, Nehi Peach, Blue Mist Water, Canada Drye Ale, Sunkist Orange, Diet Sunkist, Sunkist Grape, Sunkist Straw-Lemonde, Tahitian Treat (Fruit Punch), 7 Up, Sundrop, Diet Sundrop, Cherry Lemon Sundrop, and Diet Cherry Lemon Sundrop.

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

If you are unable to serve a Sunday, please find your own replacement and notify the church office the Wednesday before. Thank you!

The Holy Trinity & Confirmation Sunday, June 4

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Children: Enduring Exile ~ 2 Kings 17:6-20, 24-29

Adult Sunday School Class: God Reigns ~ Isaiah 52:7-11

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion with Confirmation

Lessons for June 4: Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8;

Acts 2:14a, 22-36; Matthew 28:16-20

Recognition of High School, Tech, & College Graduates

Recognition of Gerald Bame Scholarship Recipients

2:00 p.m. Christian Ed, Sunday School, & Volunteers

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

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

Altar Flowers are open for reservations.

*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.*

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

Intergenerational Domestic Mission Trip in June June 19-23, 2023 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.

Sign up sheet is available on the front pew in the Sanctuary.

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.

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.

Sign Up sheet is available on the front pew in the Sanctuary.

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>Sunday School (5/14)</i>	30
<i>Worship & Holy Communion (5/14)</i>	121
<i>Current Offering received (5/14)</i>	\$4,558.00
<i>Ascension Services (12 on 5/16 & 9 on 5/17)</i>	21
<i>2023 Weekly offering needed to meet our Ministry Support plan</i>	\$6,482.37

How Can You Serve?

The **Sunday School Classes** invite 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 Sixth Commandment: *You shall not commit adultery.*

What does this mean? *We should fear and love God so that in matters of sex we are chaste and disciplined in our words and actions, and that husband and wife love and honor each other.*

