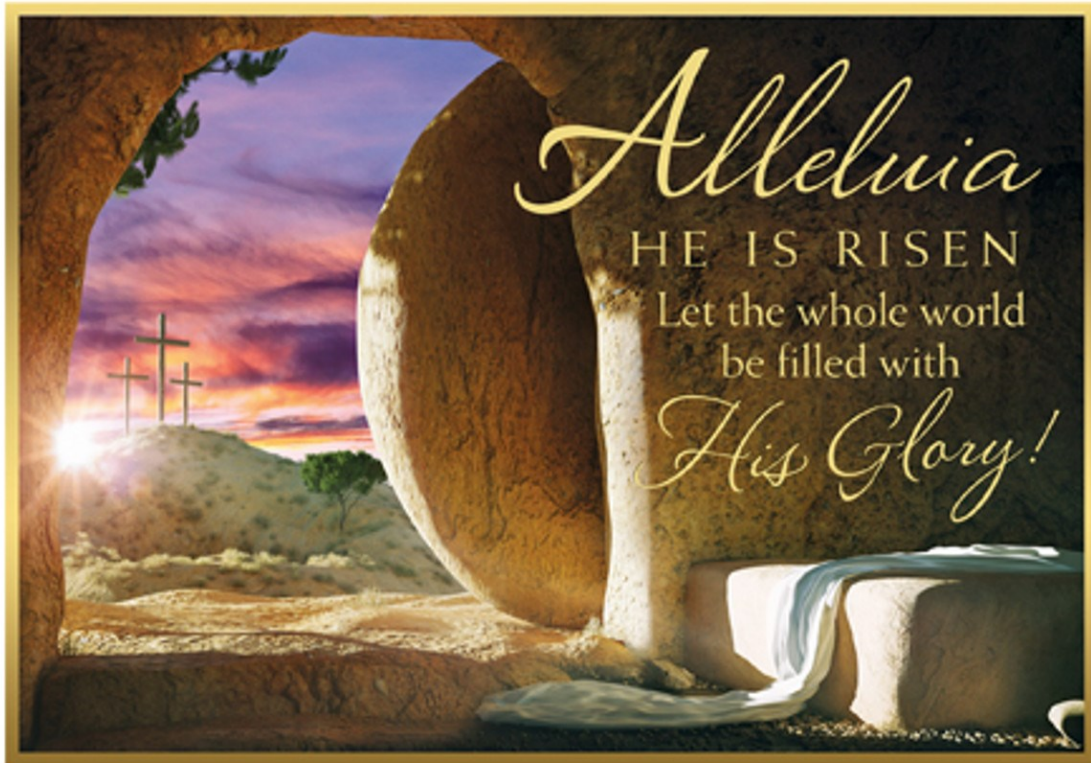




Union Lutheran Church

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



Easter Sunday Service

March 31, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

*(Please stand when indicated by *)*
Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal
With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal
P=Pastor, C=Congregation, L=Lay Reader

St. Mark's telling of the resurrection of Jesus is an account that leaves us puzzled and wondering. Concerned about how they will get the stone rolled away from the tomb, when the women arrived at the gravesite it was already moved. As they received first hand news of Jesus' resurrection, the women were silenced by fear. How would the good news be shared with the world if the first witnesses kept it quiet? How will people know what God has done if we keep it quiet?

GATHERING

Prelude: *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* (Reuss)

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

P Christ is risen!

C **He is risen indeed! Alleluia.**

P Blessed are those who call on the strong name of the risen Lord! As we gather in the victorious name of Christ, let us open our hearts to him and confess the ways in which we have failed to follow his will, and the ways in which we simply neglected our calling as his disciples.

(Silence for self-reflection and examination)

P Lord of heaven and earth, of the living and of the dead,

C **We come before you confessing our sins, asking for your gracious mercy. By our human nature we are sinful and unclean; we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. By your lovingkindness, we implore you to grant us forgiveness and restore us to your salvation, that we might live holy lives here and now, and be with you in the final resurrection. Amen.**

P Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God declares to all who believe and confess their sins, that we are forgiven and restored to a right relationship through Jesus Christ. We have been redeemed and renewed by Christ, our Passover Lamb. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit, let us walk in newness of life, following our Lord Jesus in holy obedience.

C **Amen.**

Processional Hymn: *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*

LBW# 151

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in four numbered parts. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia! 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia! 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia! 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia! our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia! un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia! our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia! praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia! who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia! who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia! now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia! praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia! suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia! sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia! where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia! Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Greeting

P Christ is Risen!

C **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who went to the cross for our sake; the love of the Father who put an end to the power of death through the resurrection of Christ; and the promised Holy Spirit who gathers us together, be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Kyrie

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen**

Hymn of Praise

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II **Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I **Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II **For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

- P Let us pray, Almighty God, you have overcome death through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and have opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly beseech you that as you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸ He will swallow up death forever; and the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

L Here ends the reading.

Psalm 16 *sung in unison*

During Easter we will be using Psalm Tone 3 found on page 291.

- ¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;*
I have said to the LORD, “You are my LORD, my good above all other.”
- ²All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land,*
upon those who are noble among the people.
- ³But those who run after other gods*
shall have their troubles multiplied.
- ⁴Their libations of blood I will not offer,*
nor take the names of their gods upon my lips.
- ⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;*
it is you who hold my lot.
- ⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;*
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
- ⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;*
my heart teaches me, night after night.
- ⁸I have set the LORD always before me;*
because he is at my right hand I shall not fall.
- ⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;*
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰For you will not abandon me | to the grave,*
nor let your holy one | see the Pit.

¹¹You will show me the | path of life;*
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- |
evermore.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you — unless you believed in vain. ³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

L Here ends the reading.

Music: *Easter Bells are Ringing* (Merrell)

Kids Choir

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Marl the 16th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

* Holy Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back — it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.” ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for

trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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

Sermon: *Why the Resurrection Story?*

Pastor Heidi Punt

* Hymn: *The Strife is O'er*

The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst, but Christ their le - gions
3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, he ris - es glo - rious
4 He broke the age - bound chains of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting free your

tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!
has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!
from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!
por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!
ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

* Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.*
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

* *Or, He descended to the dead.*

** *Or, the holy Christian Church,*

* Prayers of the Church

**A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people
according to their needs.**

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

**P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your
mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.**

C Amen

* Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Offering

The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared. All loose offering will go towards the Current Fund. During the month of March, the Benevolence Teaching Moment is on Water Missions. Please prayerfully consider giving to the Benevolence Fund.

Anthem: Hallelujah! (Page-Shafferman) Melissa Arey and Lucinda Fraley, Handbells,
and Chancel Choir

MEAL

* Offertory

C Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence, and give us
a foretaste of the feast to come.

* Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. Generous God, you have given us treasures too numerable to count. Grant us faith to be generous with all that you have first given us: our time, our resources, and our possessions. May we boldly trust that your providence, presence, and care are a never-ending reality in our lives.

C Amen.

* Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)*

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

* Sanctus

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

* Words of Institution

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him
should not perish, but have eternal life.

P We give thanks to you
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

* Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

Lamb of God

C **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Distribution of Communion

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the form of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. 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.

Communion Music: *The Strife Is O'er* (Sherman)

Belles & Beaus

* Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen**

* Post-Communion Canticle

C **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

* Post-Communion Prayer

P Gracious God, you have fed us at this holy meal with the bread of life and the cup of salvation. We praise you for the glorious resurrection of Christ which is a sign of your great love for your people. You have forgiven us through this sacrament and restored us to new and everlasting life.

C **Amen.**

SENDING

* Benediction

P Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Go now in the name of God the Father, the Son, **+**and the Holy Spirit. (1 John 5:7)

C **Amen.**

Recessional hymn on pages 12-13

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

OUR 2024 VISION: “Love God and Love our Neighbor” (Mark 12:30-33)

OUR 2024 ACTION PLAN: “By feeding, clothing, visiting, helping...”
(Matthew 25:35-40)



* Recessional Hymn: *Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!*

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Christ Is Risen! Alleluia!

1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness Of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row That last eve - ning round him lay
4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er Death or hell shall us en - thrall;

Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!
Through the o - pen gates of glad - ness He re - turns to life once more;
Now has found a glo - rious mor - row In the ris - ing of to - day.
Be we Christ's, in him for - ev - er We have tri - umphed o - ver all.

Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him As his light once more ap - pears;
Death and hell be - fore him bend - ing See him rise, the vic - tor now,
See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, Spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;
All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion Of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;

Bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, Ris - ing up from griefs and tears.
An - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, Glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.
He was dead, but now is liv - ing; He was lost, but he is found.
Hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.

Refrain

Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic -
 to - rious head! Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ is ris - en from the dead!

The musical score consists of three systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The first system is labeled 'Refrain'. The lyrics are: 'Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic -'. The second system continues the lyrics: 'to - rious head! Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia!'. The third system concludes with: 'Christ is ris - en from the dead!'. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature.

* Blessing & Dismissal

L Union Lutheran Church you have been equipped and empowered by Word and Sacrament.

C **We will faithfully love God and love our neighbor.**

L Go now in peace. Christ is Risen!

C **He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

Postlude: *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* (Childs)

*The **ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in honor of Ruth Monroe by the Drew Wise Sunday School Class.*

Thank you to Brad Huffman, Trumpeter, and Dusty Morgan, Timpanist, for sharing their talents!

Please note that the exit at the organ is blocked due to instruments being used in the service. Please make use of the narthex if you have to leave the nave of the church. Thank you.

POTTED FLOWERS LIST

In Honor of:

Larry and Karen Barringer
Sharon Leazer
Sonya Leazer
Wade Leazer
Derrick Thompson and sons, Dalton and Wyatt
Adam Thompson
Dusty Morgan, Sr. and Dusty Morgan, Jr.
Felisaty Morgan Hunt and Tyler Hunt

Given by:

Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Lisa Morgan
Lisa Morgan

In Memory of:

Evonne Batten
Pauline Leazer
John and Mae Oddie
Pauline Oddie
John Oddie, Jr.
Willie Willhoitte
Waltraut and Herman Kusel

Given By:

Lisa Morgan
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Ruby Leazer
Pastor Heidi Punt
Pastor Heidi Punt

**listed in alphabetical order from those Given by*

Those Serving in March

Acolytes and Crucifers

Caylea Cline, Addison Queen and Adam Thompson

Altar Guild: Jennifer Curlee, Scott Curlee and Cathy Painter

Communion Assistants: Jennifer Curlee, Scott Curlee and Cathy Painter

Lay Readers: Jennifer Curlee, Scott Curlee and Cathy Painter

Ushers: Steve Arey, Phil Cauble, Ali Davis and Don Davis

Offering Counters: Patsy Lyerly, Sonya Mulkey and Vivian Sprinkle

UNION NEWS

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 a.m. Easter Service

Newsletter articles deadline is today.

Gerald Bame Scholarship applications deadline is today.

THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES:

Monday, April 1

Church office is closed.

Wednesday, April 3

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

No Wednesday Choirs rehearsals.

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 7

9:15 a.m. Kids Choir

9:35 a.m. Sunday School

Sola Publishing Curriculum begins!

Drew Wise Sunday School

Faith of the Persistent ~ John 4:4-18; Luke 5:17-26

9:35 a.m. New Members Class (Library)

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 148:1-14; 1 John 1:1-2; John 20:19-31

Sermon: *One Heart, One Soul*

2:45 p.m. Beginner Bells

4:00 p.m. Union & Salem Youth

April Messenger's will be available for pick up on Sunday, April 7.

Altar Flowers are open for reservations for Sunday, April 7.

Stewardship Update

March 24 Sunday School

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March 24 Worship & Holy Communion

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Maundy Thursday & Good Friday's statistics will be available next week.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Home Residents – Brenda Mahaley, Ruth Monroe, Jean Ray & Jay Rusher (Autumn Care); Arnold Cauble (The Meadows)

Homebound/Shut-ins Members – Sarah Bame, Glenn Eagle, Rachel Earnhardt, Joan Kerns, Teresa Kesler, James Kluttz, Glenn Lowder, Frances Norris, William Page, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Effie Vellines, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery –Brenda Cauble, Lucinda Fraley, Glenn Honeycutt, Jr., Steve Hutchens, Jean Kluttz, John Knight, Wade Leazer, Sharon Moore, Kay Morgan, Marvin Nunn, Janet Overcash, Doris Page, Patsy Sigmon, Wayne and Pam Vellines & Rev. Bob Young (son of the congregation)

Continual Prayer –Jim Baker (Genevieve Baker’s uncle), Shonna Lanning Black (Jack and Deena Lanning’s daughter), Bill Broadway, Sharon Peeler Bullock (Sylvia Peeler’s daughter), Billy Hutchens (Steve Hutchens’ brother), Pat Kluttz, Dr. Sean Malone (Pam Vellines’ doctor), Fay Miller (friend of Pat Kluttz); Della Morgan (Pam Vellines’ mother), Ben Smith (Cathy Painter’s brother-in-law), Glen Wall (Frank & Dawn Merrell’s friend), Pat Wiles (Genevieve Baker’s friend), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, Slovakia, and Haiti) & those affected by natural or political disasters

Confirmands: Caylea Cline, Mallory Eagle, Landon Kesler, Moses Miller, and Noah Trexler

Section 3: Service of the Sacrament ~ Distribution of the Lord’s Supper

At the altar, the pastor distributes first the bread/body of Jesus and says:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

And then he distributes the wine/blood of Jesus and says:

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of sins.

Through Christ’s body and blood, we receive forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

After all have communed, the pastor dismisses us by making the sign of the cross and saying:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.

(A Simple Explanation of the Church Service, Concordia Publishing House, page 25)

