



Union Lutheran Church

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2nd Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

The overarching theme of the Scripture texts today points hearers to the abiding love of God in Jesus Christ. This love can be trusted above all else, and yet sinful humanity more often chooses to reject God than to embrace him. Only those who have ears that are willing to hear and respond to Christ will know his tender love and sheltering presence. When we offer that same love to others, we imitate Christ.

Union Lutheran Church welcomes you as you join us in worship this morning. Please fill out the communion/visitor card so that we can be made aware of your presence. If you have questions or are interested in the ministries and life of Union, please see the pastor, contact the church office, or scan the QR code.

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.

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal

With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal

P=Pastor, C=Congregation, L=Lay Reader

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ORDER FOR WORSHIP

LBW Setting 1 and the Service of the Word

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *Lenten Prelude* (Mark Anderson)

The altar candles lit represent Jesus' life and ministry. Each week we will extinguish candles, remembering how we, the human race, rejected Jesus Christ, the light of the world. This week the Christ Candle and only 5 candles on either side of the Altar Candles will be lit.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Invocation (Matthew 28:19)

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of your humble servants and stretch forth the right hand of your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness (1 John 1:8-9)

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **We confess that, apart from Christ, we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,**

have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The minister addresses the congregation:

Absolution (John 20:22-23)

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his only Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. By the authority of Christ himself, I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Hymn: *In the Cross of Christ, I Glory*

**1 In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time
All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.**

**2 When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**3 When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.**

**4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.**

Text: John Bowring

Music: Ithamar Conkey

Tune: Rathbun

Source: Public Domain

Sola Hymn: #138 Sola Online Worship Resource Site (www.solapublishing.org)

Please be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Psalm 4 *The Psalm of the Day is read responsively.*

L ¹Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!

C ²**O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?**

L ³But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him.

C ⁴**Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent.**

L ⁵Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

C ⁶**There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!"**

L ⁷You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound.

C ⁸**In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.**

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 26:8-15

The first lesson is from the 26th chapter of Jeremiah.

⁸When Jeremiah had finished speaking all that the LORD had commanded him to speak to all the people, then the priests and the prophets and all the people laid hold of him, saying, “You shall die! ⁹Why have you prophesied in the name of the LORD, saying, ‘This house shall be like Shiloh, and this city shall be desolate, without inhabitant’?” And all the people gathered around Jeremiah in the house of the LORD. ¹⁰When the officials of Judah heard these things, they came up from the king’s house to the house of the LORD and took their seat in the entry of the New Gate of the house of the LORD. ¹¹Then the priests and the prophets said to the officials and to all the people, “This man deserves the sentence of death, because he has prophesied against this city, as you have heard with your own ears.” ¹²Then Jeremiah spoke to all the officials and all the people, saying, “The LORD sent me to prophesy against this house and this city all the words you have heard. ¹³Now therefore mend your ways and your deeds, and obey the voice of the LORD your God, and the LORD will relent of the disaster that he has pronounced against you. ¹⁴But as for me, behold, I am in your hands. Do with me as seems good and right to you. ¹⁵Only know for certain that if you put me to death, you will bring innocent blood upon yourselves and upon this city and its inhabitants, for in truth the LORD sent me to you to speak all these words in your ears.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Lesson: Philippians 3:17-4:1

The second lesson is from the 3rd chapter of Philippians.

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

¹Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message

Children are invited to come forward for the Children’s Message.

Following the Children’s Message, the children are asked to return to sit with their families.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 13th chapter.

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

Holy Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²And he said to them, “Go and tell that fox, ‘Behold, I cast out demons and perform cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I finish my course. ³³Nevertheless, I must go on my way today and tomorrow and the day following, for it cannot be that a prophet should perish away from Jerusalem.’ ³⁴O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵Behold, your house is forsaken. And I tell you, you will not see me until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon Series focuses on Psalm and Gospel Readings: *Answer Me!*

Pastor Heidi Punt

Offering (Malachi 3:10)

The Offering is received while the Hymn of the Day is sung and the Lord's Table is prepared.

All loose offering will go towards the Building & Repair Fund.

Love offering will go towards Pastor Heidi Punt's trip to "Follow in Paul's Footsteps."

The monthly benevolence focus is Spiritual Orphans Network (SON).

Hymn of the Day: *O God, My Faithful God*

LBW# 504

Please remain seated.

- 1 O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame, and may I have within
A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.**
- 2 Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing
Whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling;
To do it when I ought, with all my strength-and bless
Whatever I have wrought, for You must give success.**
- 3 Keep me from saying words that later need recalling;
Guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling;
But when, within my place, I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.**
- 4 When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless;
Help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless;
Help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,
And, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.**

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.

Tune: Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629-1701

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Offertory Prayer (Psalm 96:7-8; Psalm 100:4)

LBW p. 67

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

A Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Nicene Creed (Romans 10:9-10)

LBW p. 64

C **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

**Or, We believe in one holy Christian*

Prayers of the Church (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

LBW p. 65

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 (John 20:19)

LBW p. 65

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

MEAL

God invites us to His table.

Please remain standing as able.

The Great Thanksgiving (2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136)

LBW p. 68-71

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.

Words of Institution (33)

LBW p. 70

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

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. 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.

The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)

LBW p. 71

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**

Please be seated.

Those who are assisting with Holy Communion are asked to come forward at this time.

Distribution of Communion (Mark 14:23)

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.

Please fill out the communion card in the pew and hand to the Usher as you follow their directions to the communion station.

Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request.

The congregation is invited to stand as able at the close of the table.

Blessing (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

LBW p. 72

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

C **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

LBW p. 74

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

LBW p. 74

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen**

Hymn: *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

LBW# 487

- 1 **Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us and to sin our souls lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.**
- 2 **Let us suffer here with Jesus, and with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; where he is there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy:
All discomforts that annoy shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.**
- 3 **Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death he conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion that would lead us into sin;
Then by grace we all may win untold fruits of his creation.**

Jesus, unto you I die, there to live with you on high.

**4 Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
that to life we may awaken. Jesus, since you are our head,
We are own living members; where you live, there we shall be
In your presence constantly, living there with you forever.
Jesus, if I faithful be, life eternal grant to me.**

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626-1681; tr. Hymnal version, 1978

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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Blessing & Dismissal (Matthew 28:19)

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: *Bless Now, O God, the Journey* (Jacob Friedrich)

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 1 pages 56-76

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During Lent, the Altar Branches are given to the glory of God.

Attendance Update

March 9	34	Sunday School
March 9	93	Worship & Holy Communion
March 11	55	2 nd week of Lent (Theme: Healer)

Part 7: Holy Communion

Preparation for Communion



When is a person worthy to receive the Sacrament? *Fasting and other outward disciplines are indeed good preparation, but people are truly worthy and well prepared who believe these words, “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” But those who do not believe these words or who doubt them are unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require truly believing hearts.*

(Martin Luther’s Small Catechism Sola Publishing 2010 Edition Pocket Version page 30)

Those Serving Today

Electronic Organ: Dusty Morgan, Sr.

Altar Guild: Sonya Mulkey and Janet Overcash

Lay Reader: Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt

Communion Assistant: Sonya Mulkey

Ushers: Phil Cauble, Ali Davis, Don and Tara Davis

Sound System: Thad Mulkey, Dusty Morgan, Sr., and Dusty Morgan, Jr.

Live Streaming: Pete Nguyen

Offering Counters: Patsy Lyerly, Sonya Mulkey, and Vivian Sprinkle

Union News

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Sylvia Peeler and Family on the death of her daughter, Sharon Bullock.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Janet Overcash and Family on the death of her son, Todd Huffman.

The congregation is invited during the month of March to collect supplies for Mary Hutchens' July Mission trip to Slovakia. These supplies are basic items used for crafts. Smaller sizes work best. Supplies needed: Ball Point Pens(50), Pencils (100), Colored Pencils (25 boxes of 8), Pencil Sharpeners (2 doz), Construction paper (12 Pks), Scissors (some for younger kids and some for older ones) 20 each, Crayons and colored markers (20 box of ea), Dry Erase markers (6 pkgs), Clothes Pins (50), Popsicle sticks (plain and colored) 4 pks plain, 2 colored paper clips and small binder clips (2 pks), Brads (2 pkgs), Chalk and sidewalk Chalk, Making tape and Blue painters tape, Elmers glue (2 doz), Glue sticks (2 doz), Cotton Balls (lg bag), Glitter (one 2 basic colors), Paint pallets with brushes (2 doz), Plain paper plates (pks 50), Bible crossword and word find books for ages 6-15 (2 for younger 2 for older), and Toilet paper rolls (4 doz).

Please place donations on the pew outside of the church office.

During the period of March 01-15, 2025, the Union Lutheran Church General Fund received revenues totaling **\$8,494.00**. During this same period, **\$(13,002.51)** were expended. The result of this two-week period is a revenue deficit of **\$(4,508.51)**. For the year to date, the church is operating at a revenue deficit of **\$(9,435.03)**. During this period, Sifford Oil Company delivered 663.7 gallons of heating fuel at a cost of \$(2,090.66), before taxes.

Additionally, the 2024 Benevolence checks totaling \$(28,196.55) were issued this past week.

John Knight, ULC Treasurer

Sunday, March 16, 2025

All loose offering will go towards the Building & Repair Fund.

Love offering will go towards Pastor Heidi Punt's trip to "Follow in Paul's Footsteps."

The monthly benevolence focus is Spiritual Orphans Network (SON).

Collecting Craft Supplies for Mary Hutchens' July Mission Trip to Slovakia.

During Lent, the **Altar Branches** are given to the glory of God.

Church Yearbooks are ready to be picked up, one per family, from the front pew (lectern side).

Return of Youth & Adults from CMR Youth Spring Retreat.

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

Daniel in the Lion's Den ~ Daniel 6:3-10, 13-23; 1 Peter 5:6-11

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

The Ordination of Priests ~ Exodus 29:1-37; Leviticus 8:1-35; Psalm 133

9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Kids Choir (*Chapel*) & Union Youth Choir (*Choir Room*)

9:45 a.m.-10:20 a.m.

Children & Youth Sunday School

Daniel in the Lion's Den ~ Daniel 6:3-10, 13-23; 1 Peter 5:6-11

Daniel said: "My God sent his angel to shut the lion's mouths, and they have not harmed me."
(Daniel 6:22 ESV)

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Jeremiah 26:8-15; Psalm 4; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35

Sermon Series focuses on the Psalms and Gospel Readings: *Answer Me!*

New: Called meeting of the Property, Cemetery & Columbarium following worship.

This Week's Schedule

Tuesday, March 18

9:30 a.m. Piedmont East Clergy meeting at ULC

6:00 p.m. Food will be provided by the Good Timers in the Dutch Meeting Hall *A monetary donation to offset the cost of the food is greatly appreciated.*

6:30 p.m. Lenten Service

Jeremiah 29:10-14; 1 John 5:13-15; John 3:1-17

Sermon Topic: Listener

Lenten Loose Offering will go towards the General Fund

Wednesday, March 19

5:30 p.m. Mission Outreach meeting (Discussing preparations for the May 16 BBQ Chicken Fundraiser. Proceeds from the fundraiser will go towards the June and July Western NC Mission Trips. We need YOUR help!)

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

The congregation is invited to **Line Dancing** on **Friday, March 21**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the large fellowship hall. Please bring finger foods to share!

Pastor Heidi Punt's trip to Turkey and Greece to "*Follow in Paul's Footsteps*" begins March 21-April 5.

Sunday, March 23, 2025

All loose offering will go towards the Youth Missions/Retreats Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is Spiritual Orphans Network (SON).

Collecting Craft Supplies for Mary Hutchens' July Mission Trip to Slovakia.

Deadline for newsletter articles is Sunday, March 23.

*During Lent, the **Altar Branches** are given to the glory of God.*

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

Praise the Lord! Psalm 95:1-7; Psalm 150:1-6; Colossians 3:12-17

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

Offering a Sweet Aroma to God ~ Leviticus 1:1-17, 6:8-13; Romans 12:1-8

9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Kids Choir (*Chapel*) & Union Youth Choir (*Choir Room*)

9:45 a.m.-10:20 a.m.

Children & Youth Sunday School Praise the Lord! *Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens!* (Psalm 150:1)

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Ezekiel 33:7-20; Psalm 85; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9

Pulpit Supply: Pastor David Breidenbach,
Spiritual Orphans Network (SON) Executive Director

4:00 p.m. Union Youth will be hosting the Luther League event

Tuesday, March 25

6:00 p.m. Food will be provided by the Property, Cemetery & Columbarium in the Dutch Meeting Hall *A monetary donation to offset the cost of the food is greatly appreciated.*

6:30 p.m. Lenten Service

Isaiah 41:8-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:5-11; Matthew 8:5-13

Lenten Loose Offering will go towards the General Fund

Wednesday, March 26

6:30 p.m. Belles and Beaus

6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation

April *Messenger* & Handouts will be printed Friday, March 28.

Sunday, March 30, 2025

The loose offering and monthly benevolence will go towards Spiritual Orphans Network (SON).

Collecting Craft Supplies for Mary Hutchens' July Mission Trip to Slovakia.

Deadline for the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Application to be turned in.

*During Lent, the **Altar Branches** are given to the glory of God.*

Union Lutheran Church will hold a called congregational meeting on **Sunday, March 30**, following worship to discuss and vote on the **2025 Church Yearbook**. All members are encouraged to attend.

9:20 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School Opening (*Chapel*)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

Common Sense Wisdom ~ Proverbs 1:1-19; 1 Corinthians 1:20-25

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

The Day of Atonement ~ Leviticus 16; Psalm 40:9-17

9:30 a.m.-9:45 a.m. Kids Choir (*Chapel*) & Union Youth Choir (*Choir Room*)

9:45 a.m.-10:20 a.m.

Children & Youth Sunday School

Common Sense Wisdom *The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.* (Proverbs 1:7)

10:30 a.m. Worship only

Isaiah 12:1-6; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Pulpit Supply: Vicar Cody Carpenter

Christmas Flowers will be removed from the Cemetery on Saturday, April 12. Please collect your flowers before then.

Union Lutheran Church has formed an Emergency Response Team called the ULC Emergency Response Team (ERT). ERT members: Karen Morgan, Jill Miller, Janie Vellines, Tara Davis, Dusty Morgan, Sr., and Brad Trexler.

Our purpose is to respond to any emergencies that may occur during church worship services or activities at the church. We will assess the situation and call for Emergency First Responders as needed.

Please fill out the **medical form** located in the **Narthex** or from the March Messenger of any medical conditions (allergies, heart disease, diabetes, etc.) you have as well as include medications you are taking. Why are we asking for this information? This information will greatly assist the Team as they seek appropriate care during an emergency and to have available for First Responders. This information will be kept private and confidential.

Also, if anyone has a DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) or have spoken to family members regarding intent, to please note on the medical form.

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Calendar at a Glance (dates/times subject to change)

- April *Noisy Offering will be collected for Lutheran Services Carolinas on Sundays, April 13 & 27*
- April 1 Lenten Supper at 6:00 p.m. provided by the Church Council
- April 1 Lenten Service at 6:30 p.m.
- April 3 Campus Maintenance Umbrella at 6:30 p.m.
- April 6 Emergency Response Team at 2:00 p.m.
- April 6 Little Lutherans at 4:00 p.m.
- April 8 Mary & Martha Circle at 2:00 p.m.
- April 8 Lenten Supper at 6:00 p.m. provided by the Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class
- April 8 Lenten Service at 6:30 p.m.
- April 10 Good Timers at 10:00 a.m.
- April 12 Church Workday at 9:30 a.m.
- April 12 *Christmas flowers will be removed from the Cemetery*
- April 13 Palm Sunday
- April 13 Union Youth at 4:30 p.m.
- April 13 *Stations of the Cross around Cemetery*
- April 17 Maundy Thursday at 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
- April 18 Good Friday at 4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.
- April 18 Union Youth Lock-in following evening service
- April 18 Pie Fundraiser sponsored by the Union Youth

Calendar at a Glance (dates/times subject to change)

- April 19 Flowers for inside cross drop off at 9:15 a.m.
- April 19 Potted flowers drop off at 11:00 a.m.
- April 20 Sunrise Service at 7:30 a.m.
- April 20 Easter Breakfast at 8:30 a.m.
- April 20 Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 a.m.
- April 20 Adult Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.
- April 20 Easter Service at 10:30 a.m.
- April 27 Church Council at 2:00 p.m.
- April 29/30-May 20/21 James Bible Study on Tuesdays at 6:30pm & 4:00pm on
Wednesdays
- April 30 Lay Ministers at 2:30 p.m.

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Homes – Brenda Mahaley (Autumn Care Room 815), Ruth Monroe (Autumn Care Room 818), Jean Ray (Autumn Care Room 201) & Jay Rusher (Autumn Care), Pat Kluttz (Brookdale Room 56), Ann Tucker (Oak Park Retirement Room 236)

Homebound/Shut-ins Members/Special Needs – Sarah Bame, Tom Cole, Kiki Deaton, Rachel Earnhardt, Madison “Drew” Harrington, Linda Hartley, Pete Honbarrier, Howell and Teresa Kesler, James & Jean Kluttz, Glenn and Betty Sue Lowder, Doris Ludwick, Donnell Miller, Nancy Mulkey, William Page, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Steve Arey, Debbie Cauble-McPherson, Rev. Randall Cauble (ICU), Patsy Lyerly, Richard Lyons, Jr., Bevis Norris, Jamie Troutman, Wayne & Pam Vellines

Continual Prayer – Rev. Doug Hefner Family (daughter died in car accident), Tommy Lamb (Pam Vellines’ uncle), Dr. Sean Malone (Pam Vellines’ friend), Jeff Matthews (cancer patient), Della Morgan (Pam Vellines’ mother), Kristin Mulkey (Thad Mulkey’s niece), Tammy Winge (Mark Hunter’s cousin), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, Slovakia, and Haiti), especially for our NC neighbors affected by natural disasters & those affected by political disasters

Prayers for Comfort: Pastor Eenok Haamer (founder of Tartu Academy of Theology in Estonia), Lela and Tyler Brooks, and Christian martyrs and persecution in the Congo.

Please let us know...church staff are not automatically made aware of you or your family members and loved ones who are in the hospital, Hospice, a nursing home or shut-ins at home. This means we cannot minister to them without you letting us know. Please contact the church office (704) 636-5092 to keep us informed.

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

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

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

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2025 Church Council Members

2023-2025

Ali Davis
Vicki Hunter (Secretary)
Sharon Leazer
Dusty Morgan, Sr. (President)
Debbie Rinehart

2024-2026

Phil Cauble
Kevin Huffman
John Knight (Treasurer)
Thad Mulkey

2025-2027

Karen Barringer
Pete Nguyen (Vice-President)
Brad Trexler

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Lay Ministers

Judy Boyd, Tara Davis, Steve Hutchens, John Kesler, Elbert Klutz and Deena Lanning

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Union Lutheran Church

Church Office Hours: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Pastor Heidi Punt, Senior Pastor (pastor@ulcsalisbury.org)

Phil Cauble, Facility Manager

Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support (office@ulcsalisbury.org)

Pastor T. C. Plexico, Pastor Emeritus

