



Union Lutheran Church

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5th Sunday in Lent

April 6, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Faith is something that is very fragile and can be easily broken. But faith is complete trust in God, the one who made a way for Israel when there was no way. This same God will make a way for you and me. There will be trials in life, of this we can count on. But we depend more so on the faithfulness of God who sent his only Son to save us from sin and death. God understands our frailty, but he never leaves us.

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

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 1

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude: *Largo*

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 2 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)

LBW p. 56

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

C **Amen**

Brief Order of Confession & Forgiveness (1 John 1:8-9)

LBW p. 56

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

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 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. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Absolution (John 20:22-23)

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore 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: *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

LBW# 479

- 1 **My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away,
Oh, let me from this day be wholly thine!**
- 2 **May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,
My zeal inspire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my love to thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!**
- 3 **While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread,
Be thou my guide; bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**
- 4 **When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream
Shall o'er me roll; blest Savior, then, in love fear and distrust remove;
Oh, bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!**

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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Apostolic Greeting (Romans 1:7)

LBW p. 57

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Kyrie (Mark 10:47)

LBW p. 57-58

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 (Luke 2:14; John 1:29; Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9) is omitted during Lent.

Salutation (2 Timothy 4:22) is omitted during Lent.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. 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

Please be seated.

WORD

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

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21

The first lesson is written from the 43rd chapter of Isaiah.

¹⁶Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸“Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.”

L Here ends the reading.

Psalm 126 *The Psalm of the Day is spoken in unison.*

C **¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
²Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”
³The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.
⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb!
⁵Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!
⁶He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.**

**The Book of Common Prayer verse numbers for this psalm are different from the numbering in the ESV.*

New Testament Lesson: Philippians 3:8-14

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

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from

the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

L Here ends the reading.

Children's Message

Pastor Andrew Weisner

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

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

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Lenten Gospel Response (Joel 2:13)

LBW p. 63

C Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 20th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel: Luke 20:9-20

⁹{Jesus} began to tell the people this parable: "A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. ¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.' ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Surely not!" ¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, "What then is this that is written: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone'?" ¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." ¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Hymn of the Day: *My Song Is Love Unknown*

LBW# 94

- 1 **My song is love unknown, my Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
My Lord should take frail flesh and die?**
- 2 **He came from his blest throne, salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and none the longed for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, my friend indeed, who at my need his life did spend;
Who at my need his life did spend!**
- 3 **Sometimes they strew his way and his sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.
And for his death they thirst and cry.**
- 4 **Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise;
Themselves displease, and 'gainst him rise.**
- 5 **They rise, and needs will have my dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, the prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he to suff'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.
That he his foes from thence might free.**
- 6 **In life, no house, no home my Lord on earth might have;
In death, no friendly tomb but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home; but mine the tomb wherein he lay.
But mine the tomb wherein he lay.**
- 7 **Here might I stay and sing no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend!
I all my days could gladly spend!**

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624-1683

Tune: John D. Edwards, 1806-1885

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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

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

Holy Father, in this the end of the ages you have spoken to us through your Son, Jesus. We thank you for the Gospel, and we pray that you would keep our ears open to hear it anew each day. Give us your Holy Spirit, that we may never reject or despise this grace-filled gift. *Lord in your mercy ...*

C **hear our prayer.**

P Loving God, renew our trust in you during this Lenten season. Remind us of the immeasurable worth of knowing Jesus so that we, like Paul, might press on and remain faithful in following Jesus and witnessing to your grace. *Lord in your mercy ...*

C **hear our prayer.**

P Prince of Peace, we pray for peace where there is conflict in the world and where there is dissension between people and groups. Bring just leadership to nations plagued by oppressive dictatorships. We give thanks for your abiding faithfulness. Strengthened by that promise, may we work for peace and the good of all your creation. *Lord in your mercy ...*

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ever-present God, we give thanks to you for coming among us. Help us to see you and trust your faithfulness in all of life's situations. We pray for those who are imprisoned, outcast, persecuted, or in any situation of suffering or distress. [We pray particularly for ...]. *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. 66

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

Offering (Malachi 3:10)

The Offering is received while the Lord's Table is prepared.

All loose offering will go towards the Mission Outreach Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is Lutheran Services Carolinas.

Organ Offertory: *Pie Jesu*

MEAL

God invites us to His table.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Lenten Offertory (Psalm 116:12-13)

LBW p. 67

C **What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

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

LBW p. 68

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**

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 and join their unending hymn:

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.

Eucharist Prayer III (John 3:16) & Words of Institution

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

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God; you are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will and accomplished our salvation.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving Passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again, we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we implore you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine; that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son may be filled with heavenly peace and joy, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all your saints. All honor and glory are yours, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

C Amen

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.

Agnus Dei (John 1:29)

LBW p. 72

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.

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

Lenten Post-Communion Canticle (Luke 2:28-32)

LBW p. 73

C Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people: A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. 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.

Trinitarian Blessing (2 Corinthians 13:14)

LBW p. 74

P Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

Hymn: *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

LBW# 259

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.**
- 2 Thanks we give and adoration for your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.**
- 3 Savior, when your love shall call us from our struggling pilgrim way,
Let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.**

Tune: Sicilian, 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: *Jesus, Lover of My Soul*

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 30	41	Sunday School
March 30	104	Worship
April 1	54	5th week in Lent (Theme: Protector)

Part 8: Daily Prayers *The following prayers were suggested by Luther for use by Christians every day:*



Prayer before Eating

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

(Martin Luther's Small Catechism Sola Publishing 2010 Edition Pocket Version page 31)

Those Serving Today

Guest Pastor: Rev. Dr. Andrew Weisner

We welcome Pastor Andrew Weisner and Family to worship today!

Organist: Becky Lippard

Acolytes: Mallory Eagle and Moses Miller

Altar Guild and Communion Assistants: Mallory Eagle, Patsy Lyerly, Moses Miller, Angie Poole, and Vivian Sprinkle

Lay Readers: Frank Merrell and Doris Shepherd

Ushers: Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble, Ron Chase, and Adam Thompson

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

Live Streaming: Pete Nguyen

Offering Counters: Jennifer Curlee, Ali Davis, and Doris Shepherd

Union News

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Leda Belk and Family upon the death of her brother, Romas Henry Shuping.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Pam Vellines and Family upon the death of her mother, Della Morgan.

Our Love and Sympathy is extended to the Family of Bevis Ann Safrit Norris upon her death, April 3, 2025.

Sunday, April 6, 2025

The loose offering will go towards the Mission Outreach Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is Lutheran Services Carolinas.

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

Pre-orders are being accepted through Palm Sunday, April 13, for the Union Youth Pie & Cobbler Fundraiser. The suggested cost of pies and cobblers is \$20 each.

Please see a Mission Outreach member to purchase a \$10 ticket to reserve a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser plate on Friday, May 16.

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

Vision of God's Throne ~ Isaiah 6:1-12; Revelation 4:2-8

I heard the voice of the Lord saying

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" (Isaiah 6:8 ESV)

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

Christ's Once-for-All Sacrifice ~ Mark 10:41-45; Hebrews 9:23-10:25

9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School and Music

Vision of God's Throne ~ Isaiah 6:1-12; Revelation 4:2-8

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126; Philippians 3:8-14; Luke 20:9-20

Pulpit Supply: The Rev. Dr. Andrew Weisner

Pastor Andrew Weisner is a native of North Carolina and grew up near Winston-Salem in the town of Rural Hall. He attended Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, NC and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in philosophy in 1979. He became a Lutheran while attending Lenoir-Rhyne and, during his senior year, he decided to go to seminary.

Pastor Weisner's formation in seminary, at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (LTS), was under the tutelage of Professors Eric W. Gritsch and Robert W. Jenson in church

history and theology. He spent one year of seminary in Washington, DC and another year in New York City. In New York City, he studied parish ministry and served as a chaplain in a local hospital. He earned his Master of Divinity degree and became a pastor in Greensboro, NC (1983). He was ordained by Bishop Michael C.D. McDaniel in the NC Lutheran Synod, LCA, and served his first church in Greensboro for over five years. During his fourth year, he met his future wife, Claudia, and her daughter Amanda. Fifteen months after they were married, they moved to Chicago for six years where Pastor Weisner pursued his Ph.D. in Church History, receiving it in 2006.

From Chicago, Pastor Weisner returned to NC to Lenoir-Rhyne College to serve as the campus pastor from 1995 – 2020. During those years Lenoir-Rhyne became a university, grew to become three campuses, and Pastor Weisner was named "Dean of University Ministries."

Upon leaving Lenoir-Rhyne, he became a member of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). After serving as a long-term interim pastor at Antioch Lutheran Church in Dallas, NC, Pastor Weisner came to New Covenant Lutheran Church on May 12, 2024. In addition to his ministry at New Covenant he is director of the NALC Carolinas Mission Region's McDaniel-Yoder Center for Theology, a continuing education center for clergy and laity; and an adjunct professor for the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) in Ambridge, PA.

Pastor Weisner and Claudia have four other children who lived with them during their growing-up years in addition to Amanda: Amber, who is now married and has four boys of her own; Autumn, who lives in Charlotte; Alexis (a "Gold Award Girl Scout") who is married and has a 3 year-old boy; and Antonio, now age 20.

Pastor Weisner enjoys music and church history, and his wife says "his hobbies are church, church, and church."

Sunday, April 6, 2025 *continued*

2:00 p.m. Emergency Response Team

4:00 p.m. Little Lutherans (5th grade and younger)

Program: *What a Mess* Lesson 2: *Rich Young Ruler* ~ Leader: Mary Hutchens

This Week's Schedule

Tuesday, April 8

2:00 p.m. Visitation (Bevis Norris)

3:00 p.m. Celebration of Life (Bevis Norris)

6:00 p.m. Food will be provided by the Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class 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 51:1-6; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7; John 11:17-27

Sermon Topic: Comforter

Lenten Loose Offering will go towards the General Fund

- Wednesday, April 9 **5:30 p.m.** Mission Outreach (finalizing fundraiser)
6:30 p.m. Belles and Beaus
6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation
- Thursday, April 10 **10:00 a.m.** Good Timers
Program: Pastor Jarrod Lanning
Lunch at Lakeview
- Date Change:** **2:00 p.m.** Mary & Martha Circle
Location: Drew Wise Sunday School Class Conference #1
Hostess & Program: Judy Boyd
- Saturday, April 12 **9:30 a.m.** Church Workday
Please note that Christmas Flowers will be removed from the Cemetery.
- Pastor Heidi Punt is out of the office from Monday, April 7-Monday, April 15. Her son, Michael will be marrying on Saturday, April 12.*

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025

Palm branches are available for everyone!

The loose offering will go towards the Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is Lutheran Services Carolinas. A noisy offering will be collected today in support of Lutheran Services Carolinas.

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

*Deadline to turn in **Potted Flowers list** to the church office for the Easter Sunday bulletin.*

Pre-orders are being accepted today for the Union Youth Pie & Cobbler Fundraiser. The suggested cost of pies and cobblers is \$20 each.

Please see a Mission Outreach member to purchase a \$10 ticket to reserve a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser plate on Friday, May 16.

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

From the Stump of Jesse ~ Isaiah 11:1-10; Hebrews 1:1-4

“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.” (Isaiah 11:1 ESV)

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

Christ the Atoning Sacrifice ~ Isaiah 59:1-8; 1 John 2:1-6, 4:7-21

Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025 *continued*

9:30 a.m. Children & Youth Sunday School and Music
From the Stump of Jesse ~ Isaiah 11:1-10; Hebrews 1:1-4

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion
Deuteronomy 32:36-39; Psalm 118:19-29; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-40

Pulpit Supply: Pastor Carl Haynes

For those who do not wish to keep their palm, please return the palm to the box when leaving.

4:30 p.m. Union Youth

An opportunity to drive to each Station of the Cross in the Cemetery for meditation and prayer during Holy Week. Every station resembles the journey Christ took from Gethsemane to Golgotha.

Tuesday, April 15

Pastor Heidi Punt returns to the church office.

Wednesday, April 16

2:00 p.m. Autumn Care Chapel Time

6:30 p.m. Belles and Beaus

6:30 p.m. Catechism Confirmation

Thursday, April 17

4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Services

Friday, April 18

4:00 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Good Friday Services

Union Youth Lock-in following evening service

Union Youth is sponsoring a **Pie & Cobbler Fundraiser** on **Saturday, April 19**. The suggested cost of **pies** and **cobblers** is **\$20 each**. Pre-orders are being accepted through Palm Sunday, April 13.

Please see a Union Youth to pre-order: Blueberry Cheesecake Pie, Cheery Cheesecake Pie, Peach Cobbler and/or Apple Cobbler.

Proceeds will go towards the Youth Missions/Retreats Fund.

Pick up pies and/or cobblers on Saturday, April 19, at 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 19

9:00 a.m. Union Youth Pie & Cobbler Fundraiser pick up

9:15 a.m. flowers for inside cross

Please bring white flowers such as daffodils and spirea.

11:00 a.m.-12 noon potted flowers drop off in the Sanctuary

As we make our way through Lent to the glory of Easter morning we look forward to members bringing their own beautiful spring potted flowers.

Genevieve Baker, ULC Staff Support, will be out of the office on Thursday, April 17-Friday, April 18.

The Mission Outreach Team is excited to sponsor a BBQ Chicken Fundraiser (take out only) on Friday, May 16, from 12 noon-6:00 p.m. Please purchase a ticket in advance so you will be guaranteed a plate! \$10 per plate includes: ¼ chicken, slaw, baked bean, roll and cookie.

Proceeds towards raising funds for the two ULC Mission Trips to Western NC this summer.

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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, 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., 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), 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.

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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