



Union Lutheran Church

4770 Bringle Ferry Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
704.636.5092
office@ulcsalisbury.org
www.ulcsalisbury.org



15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Weaving the Scripture passages together, the common thread is: Every good and perfect gift comes down to us from the Father of lights (James 1:17). Though some would rob others of these good gifts, God sees and will act. He is not so high above us that he will not humble himself to see our condition, then care for us. So what should we do but call upon our loving Father, telling him what we need and where we hurt? And while we are talking to him, let us pray for the needs of others too, especially for those in high office, for when it goes well for them, that peace transfers to us. May we children of light act as sagaciously in prayer as the children of this age act in matters of the world. .

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* (by Handel)

At this time, the altar candles are lit to represent Jesus' life and ministry,

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: *Take My Lie, that I May Be*

LBW# 406

- 1 **Take my life, that I may be Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2 **Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee.**
- 3 **Take my voice and let me sing Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from thee.**
- 4 **Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.**
- 5 **Take my will and make it thine; It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; It shall be thy royal throne.**
- 6 **Take my love; my Lord, I pour At thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for thee.**

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879 (alt.) Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870
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Please be seated.

Children's Message

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

Following the Children's Message, the congregation will sing "Praise Him Praise Him" while the children return to sit with their families.

**Praise Him praise Him All ye little children
God is love God is love Praise Him praise Him
All ye little children God is love God is love**

CCLI Song # 121995
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The Kyrie (Mark 10:47) is omitted this week.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Hymn of Praise (Luke 2:14; John 1:29; Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9)

LBW p. 58-59

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

Salutation (2 Timothy 4:22)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Direct our hearts, O Lord, by your merciful reign, because without your help it is impossible to please you. 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: Amos 8:4-7

The first lesson is from the 8th chapter of Amos.

⁴Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, ⁶that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?” ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: “Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.”

L Here ends the reading.

Psalms 113 *The Psalm of the Day is read responsively.*

L ¹Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!

C ²**Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!**

L ³From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

C ⁴**The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!**

L ⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high,

C ⁶**who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?**

L ⁷He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

C ⁸**to make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people.**

L ⁹He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the LORD!

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

New Testament Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-15

The second lesson is from the 2nd chapter of 1 Timothy.

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. ⁷For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. ⁸I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; ⁹likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, ¹⁰but with what is proper for women who profess godliness — with good works. ¹¹Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. ¹²I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. ¹⁵Yet she will be saved through childbearing — if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

L Here ends the reading.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation (John 6:68)

LBW p. 62

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

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:1-15

¹{Jesus} also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ ³And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ ⁷Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ ⁸The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. ¹⁰One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in

the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money." ¹⁴The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. ¹⁵And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon: *This Is How We Worship*

Pastor Heidi Punt

Timothy Sermon Series

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Hymn of the Day: *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

LBW# 549

- 1** Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To his feet your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore his praises sing.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!
- 2** Praise him for his grace and favor To our forebears in distress.
Praise him, still the same forever, Slow to chide and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!
- 3** Tenderly he shields and spares us; Well our feeble frame he knows.
In his hands he gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as his mercy flows.
- 4** Angels help us to adore him, Who behold him face to face.
Sun and moon bow down before him; All who dwell in time and space.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847 (alt.) Tune: John Goss, 1800-1880

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Apostles' Creed (**Romans 10:9-10**)

LBW p. 65

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 (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.

After each portion of the prayers:

P 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.**

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 Building & Repair Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is Food for the Poor.

Organ Offertory: *Only Trust Him* (arranged by Gayden Sikes)

MEAL

God invites us to His table.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Offertory (Isaiah 25:6-8; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17)

LBW p. 66

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

LBW p. 67

(Romans 12:1; Proverbs 3:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 2 Corinthians 9:7)

P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us-our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

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:

Sanctus *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Revelation 4:8)*

LBW p. 69

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 *(32)*

LBW p. 69

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

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.

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.

Communion Music

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 Canticle (Psalm 105:1-4, 1 Chronicles 16:8-32; Psalm 107:1-3) LBW p. 72-23

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

LBW p. 74

P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of 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: *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 not fear of death appall us, Glad your summons to obey.

May we ever, may we ever Reign with you in endless day.

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, (alt. sts 1-2); Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903 (alt. st 3) 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: *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* (arranged by John Burton)

Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 1 pages 56-76

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Attendance Update

September 14	44	Sunday School
September 14	103	Worship & Holy Communion

Lutherans at Worship: Glossary of Lutheran Terms



White (Liturgical color used on festivals of Christ, including Christmas, Epiphany, Easter, Presentation, and Annunciation, and on the Holy Trinity and All Saints' Day, symbolizes the purity, light, and joy of Christ.)

Words of Institution (The words of Jesus repeated by the minister during Communion. These words from 1 Corinthians 11:23-25 describe the events of the first Communion and the purpose of Communion.)

Advent (The four-week season of preparation for Christmas; from the Latin for “coming.”)

Alb (Full-length white vestment usually worn with cincture; from the Latin for “white.”)

(Lutherans at Worship by S. Anita Stauffer, Gilbert A. Doan, and Michael B. Aune page 96 and page 90)

Those Serving Today

Guest Organist: Brenda McCombs

Acolyte: Bailey Wilhelm and Lucas Wilhelm

Altar Guild: Sonya Mulkey and Janet Overcash

Lay Readers: Mary Elizabeth Earnhardt, Lucinda Fraley and Ellie Wilhelm

Communion Assistants: Lucinda Fraley, Sonya Mulkey, Ellie Wilhelm, and Ethan Wilhelm

Ushers: Phil Cauble, Frank Merrell, Scott Queen, and Noah Trexler

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

Live Streaming: Pete Nguyen

Offering Counters: Tara Davis, Cathy Kluttz Painter, and Ronald Vellines

Union News

Sunday, September 21

National Back to Church Sunday is today! This is a nationwide movement for churches to invite community members who have been away from church or who have never attended to join them in worship and fellowship.

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

The monthly benevolence focus is Food for the Poor.

During the month of September, the congregation is invited to collect items for Organ Lutheran Church's Food Pantry: canned fruits, spaghetti sauce, pasta, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, soups, and vegetables. Please be sure your items do not expire before 2026. This is very important! Please place collected items on either side of the Chancel steps.

The **Altar Flowers**, by the baptismal font, are given to the glory of God and in honor of the descendants of The Milas Franklin Cauble Family.

Deadline for newsletter articles.

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

The Pharoah's Dreams ~ Genesis 41:15-43; Acts 2:17-18

Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it." (Genesis 41:15)

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

The Pharoah's Dreams ~ Genesis 41:15-43; Acts 2:17-18

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

Hilkiah's Discovery ~ Romans 7:7-12; 2 Chronicles 33:1-33, 34:15-22, 26-27

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-15; Luke 16:1-15

Timothy Sermon Series: *This Is How We Worship*

1:00 p.m. Cauble Family Reunion (*both fellowship halls*)

2:00 p.m. Church Council

3:00 p.m. Christmas Program (*large fellowship hall*)

4:00 p.m. Lay Ministers

5:00 p.m. Christian Education *rescheduled*

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Would you like to study the Word and get to know other young adults who are also disciples of Jesus Christ? **Young Adult Lutheran Leaders (YALLS)** for those **18-30 ish** will meet

weekly Sunday evenings at 8:00 p.m. via Zoom beginning September 21. To receive a Zoom link, please contact The Rev. Teresa Peters tpeters@thenalc.org.

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This Week's Schedule

Tuesday, September 23 **6:30 p.m.** 90 Days
Wednesday, September 24 **6:30 p.m.** Catechism
 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus
Thursday, September 25 **4:00 p.m.** Funeral Guidelines & Meals (6-month review)
 6:30 p.m. Property, Cemetery & Columbarium
Friday, September 26 October *Messenger* & Handouts printed
 6:30 p.m. ULC Staff (*Pastor Heidi's home*)

Sunday, September 28

The loose offering will go towards the Family Ministries (formerly Youth Ministries/Retreats Funds).

The monthly benevolence focus is Food for the Poor.

During the month of September, the congregation is invited to collect items for Organ Lutheran Church's Food Pantry: canned fruits, spaghetti sauce, pasta, crackers, peanut butter, jelly, soups, and vegetables. Please be sure your items do not expire before 2026. This is very important! Please place collected items on either side of the Chancel steps.

The **Altar Flowers**, by the baptismal font, have been reserved by Dawn Merrell for Sunday, September 28.

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

The Plagues in Egypt ~ Exodus 9:13-26; Romans 9:14-24

God said: "I will send all my plagues on you yourself, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth." (Exodus 9:14)

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

The Plagues in Egypt ~ Exodus 9:13-26; Romans 9:14-24

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

The Servant's Suffering ~ Matthew 12:14-21; Isaiah 53:13-53:12

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

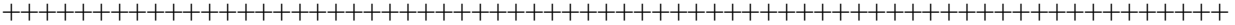
Amos 6:1-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Luke 16:19-31

Timothy Sermon Series: *Qualifications for Leadership*

1:00 p.m. Morgan Family Reunion (*large fellowship hall*)

Sunday, September 28 *continued*

3:00 p.m. Christmas Program (*large fellowship hall*)



Tuesday, September 23 **6:30 p.m.** 90 Days
Wednesday, October 1 **6:30 p.m.** Catechism
 6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

Deadline is Friday, October 3, to the church office to RSVP to participate in the Dumpling-Making Workshop on Sunday, October 5.

44th Annual Autumn Jubilee at Dan Nicholas
Saturday, October 4

Autumn Jubilee attracts more than 50,000 visitors from across Rowan County and the state. The Autumn Jubilee celebrates the season with family fun, food, and craft vendors.

Dan Nicholas Park will donate **\$500** to the **Union Youth Fund** for assisting with **parking**. Please contact Thad Mulkey or Dusty Morgan, Sr., if you can participate all day or for a few hours on **Saturday** from **9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

This year the Park has requested between 10-12 volunteers to cover the day.

Sunday, October 5

The loose offering will go towards the Mission Outreach Fund.

The monthly benevolence focus is Water Missions.

The **Altar Flowers**, by the baptismal font, are open for reservations.

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

The Parting of the Red Sea ~ Exodus 14:6-31, 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind.
(Exodus 14:21)

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

The Parting of the Red Sea ~ Exodus 14:6-31, 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class

Jeremiah's Call and Arrest ~ Jeremiah 1:1-10; 8:10-11; 8:18; 9:2; 26:1-24

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalm 62:1-12; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:1-10
Timothy Sermon Series

Sunday, October 5 *continued*

Join us for a Dumpling-Making Workshop on Sunday, October 5, at 2:00 p.m.! Get ready to roll, pinch, and steam your way to dumpling perfection! You're invited to a hands-on culinary afternoon where we'll demystify the art of making delicious dumplings. *Please reply to the church office by Friday, October 3,* so Dawn Merrell, Chef Teacher, can finalize the ingredients and supplies.

3:00 p.m. Christmas Program (*large fellowship hall*)

4:00 p.m. Blessing of Domestic Animals

*Blessing of the Animals has a history that's centuries old. The roots go back to Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, who lived from 1181 to 1226. The feast day for Saint Francis is October 4, and the services usually take place in the fall. While it has Catholic history, protestant churches have adopted the practice as a way to extend the love of Christ to our animal companions. The congregation is invited to bring their domestic animals (or a picture of) from home to be blessed on **Sunday, October 5, at 4:00 p.m.!***

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Offering Counters

Counting the offering is a ministry of trust and stewardship. We are seeking faithful volunteers to join our dedicated counting teams to serve in this essential role.

- Teams rotate monthly serving every three months as this time.
- Counting takes place following the Sunday worship service and any other worship services that may occur during the month.
- Training will be provided.

If you are interested in serving our church in this important way, please contact Jennifer Curlee or the church office.

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Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW) invites the Union Women to attend the **15th Annual Convocation** on **Saturday, October 11,** at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pomaria, SC,** beginning at **9:00 am.**

Cost is **\$10** per person.

The CLW encourages each congregation to send representatives.

For more information or to register, please contact the church office.

In-Kind Gifts: Providence Home.

Offering: Carolinas Lutheran Women

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Men's Oktoberfest Cookout

"Tools for the Journey" Equipping Men to Lead in Faith, Family, and Church

Guest Speaker: Rev. Tony D. Ede, NALC Director of Equipping Ministries

Sunday, October 12, 2025 from 4:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 805 South York Street, Gastonia, NC

RSVP by October 1: by calling 704.864.0378 or by email office@holytrinitygastonia.org

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The entire community is invited on **Friday, October 31**, at **6:00 p.m.** for **Union Lutheran Church's Trunk or Treat**. Our parking lot will be turned into the BEST PLACE to Trunk or Treat in Salisbury!

Come on by and walk from car to car to get great candy, car trunks decorated for the holiday and just all around good, safe fun!

Volunteers are needed to prepare trunks, donate candy and cakes, and assist during the event!

Don Davis will be coordinating the food. Contact Person: Dusty Morgan, Sr.

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PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...

Nursing Homes –Brenda Mahaley (Autumn Care Room 815), Harold Miller (Autumn Care), 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, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Paul & Lynn Coughenour, Cheryl Kluttz, Susan Knight, Doris Ludwick, Patsy Lyerly, Richard and Kay Lyons, Donnell Miller, Brad Trexler & Pam Vellines

Continual Prayer –Millie Ann Barringer (Larry Barringer’s mother), Ashley Burleson (Lanny and Connie Burleson, former members, daughter), Kenneth Coughenour (Paul Coughenour’s brother), Johnnie Earnhardt (Pete Nguyen’s friend), Rev. Cathy Fanslau (NALC Pastor), Jay Goodman (Janie Lesley’s friend), Angie Humes (Janice Goodman’s friend), Mitzi Jackson (John Knight’s sister), Jeff Matthews (cancer patient), Alex and Nadia Punt McCoy, (Pr. Heidi Punt’s daughter and son-in-law), Adam Osborne (Vicki Hunter’s co-worker), Cathy Robbins (Janie Lesley’s sister), Mike Taylor (Phoebe Nunn’s brother), Cindy Terzi (Vivian Sprinkle’s daughter), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, Slovakia, and Haiti), especially those affected by political unrest & for our NC neighbors affected by natural disaster

Prayers for Comfort: Larry Barringer’s Family, Lela and Tyler Brooks, Sarah Holshouser’s Family, Wayne Vellines Family

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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)
Ethan Wilhelm (6-month term)

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

Tara Davis, Vicki Hunter, Steve Hutchens, Elbert Kluttz 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

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