



Union Lutheran Church

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2nd Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2026

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

***The Common Thread:** The Lord told Abram to go, and go he did—in faith. When Abram entered the land, it was filled with Canaanites but he trusted the Lord’s promise: “I will give this land.” His life depended upon faith in the Lord—as do our lives. In hope, we believe against hope (Rom 4:18) that we will see the kingdom of God (John 3:3). Our sins mount against us and would derail the hope we have in Christ. Yet our faith is not in a lack of sin, but in he who overcame the sin of a whole world. We have faith in the Son, sent to save an otherwise condemned 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

Sola Publishing Alternate Lenten Liturgy, Service of the Word, and Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 2

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

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. Today the Altar Candles and only 5 candelabra 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; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Matthew 3:16-17, 18:20)

P We are gathered together for worship in the name of the one God: Father, and of the Son,
✚ and 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 of Confession & Forgiveness (Lamentations 3:40-41; Romans 3:23; John 3:16-17; Colossians 1:13-14; Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 1:9, 3:8; Matthew 25:34-40; Proverbs 14:31, 19:17; Isaiah 58:6-7; James 2:15-17; Job 31:16-22; Ezekiel 16:49; 2 Corinthians 5:18-19; Psalm 51:12)

P In this season of Lent, let us draw near to the Lord and examine our hearts and minds for the ways in which we have fallen short of the glory of God.

Silence for self-reflection and examination

P Holy God,

C **You sent your Son, Jesus, into the world to save us from the power of sin, death, and the devil. We confess that we have failed in many ways to follow him in our lives. We have forsaken the poor and hungry, we have neglected the sick and sorrowful, and we have looked out for our own needs rather than the needs of others. Forgive**

us, we pray, and restore us to a new and right relationship with you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution (Luke 20:17)

P The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone; all those who believe in Christ are living stones in his holy house. Hear his Word of forgiveness and be comforted by his love. You are made new again by the blood of Christ who gave himself for us so that we might be holy and precious in his sight.

C Amen.

Hymn: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

LBW# 107

- 1** Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock Within a weary land,
A home within a wilderness, A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat And burdens of the day.
- 2** Upon the cross of Jesus, My eye at times can see
The very dying form of one Who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears, Two wonders I confess:
The wonder of his glorious love And my unworthiness.
- 3** I take, O cross, your shadow For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than The sunshine of his face;
Content to let the world go by, To know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self my only shame, My glory all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869 Tune: Frederick C. Maker, 1844-1927 © The Psalms and Hymns Trust, London

Please be seated.

Apostolic Greeting and Kyrie are omitted from the Service of the Word.

Hymn of Praise is omitted during the Lenten Season.

WORD

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

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

Children's Message

Following the Children's Message, the children are asked to sit with their families while the congregation sings

Hymn: *Kids Lenten Song* (tune of Frère Jacques)

Prayer and fasting and almsgiving

We are meant to repent

Forty days of sacrifice

Being super extra nice

This is Lent. This is Lent.

Repeat

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 12:1-9

The first lesson is written in the 12th chapter of Genesis.

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” ⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

L Here ends the reading.

Psalm 121 *The Psalm of the Day is read responsively.*

L ¹I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

C ²**My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

L ³He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

C ⁴**Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

L ⁵The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

C ⁶**The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

L ⁷The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

C ⁸**The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

New Testament Lesson: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

The second lesson is written in the 4th chapter of Romans.

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.”

⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works: ⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; ⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. ¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring — not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations” — in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

L Here ends the reading.

Lenten Gospel Verse is omitted from the Service of the Word.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 3rd chapter.

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

Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” ⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

Sermon: *The Seeker*

Pastor Heidi Punt

The sermon may conclude with the following, or another appropriate blessing:

P May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Philippians 4:7)

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Hymn of the Day: *Baptized in Water*

WOV# 693

- 1 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King; heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 2 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ, our King; one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 3 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ, our King; born of one Father, we are God's children, joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Tune: B. Wayne Bisbee, b. 1934 Richard Webb, b. 1958 Arr © 1995 Augsburg Fortress; Arr. (Webb) © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

Nicene Creed (Romans 10:9-10)

LBW p. 84

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 and apostolic Church.*

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

P Let us lift our hearts and voices to the Lord in prayer, that he would be merciful to his people.

A brief silence

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, gracious Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace (John 20:19)

LBW p. 86

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Offering (Malachi 3:10)

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

All loose offerings will go towards the Mission Outreach Fund.

The monthly benevolence will go towards the Footprints in the Community & North American Lutheran Seminary.

Piano Offertory

MEAL

God invites us to His table.

Offertory is omitted from the Service of the Word.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Offertory Prayer

P God of love, you have provided for our every need from your abundant bounty. Grant us grateful hearts that we may give generously to those in need and thereby show your love to the world around us.

C **Amen**

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

LBW p. 88-91

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 is omitted from the Service of the Word.

Words of Institution (33)

LBW p. 90

(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. 91

P Now let us join together in the prayer our Lord has taught us:

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.

Agnus Dei is omitted from the Service of the Word.

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.

Communion Music

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

Blessing (*1 Thessalonians 5:23*)

LBW p.92

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

C Amen

Prayer of Commendation (*Luke 2:29-32*)

P Lord, now let your servants depart in peace, according to your word; for our eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples – a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.

C Amen

Luther's Morning Prayer

C We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve us and keep us this day also, from all sin and evil -- that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds, we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our

bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen.

SENDING

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

P May the Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

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

Sending (*Philippians 3:7-9*)

P As you go into the world to serve in Christ's name, be of the mind that whatever gain you have received is counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Cling to the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus as Lord, having been found in him and having a righteousness that is not your own, but that comes from God through faith.

C **Forget what lies behind and press on toward the goal for the upward call of God in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P Union Lutheran Church you have been sent.

C **Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Postlude

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2026 Attendance Report

February 22	38	Sunday School
February 22	103	Worship & Holy Communion
February 24	50	2 nd Tuesday in Lent

Teaching Moment: Lutherans at Worship ~ Glossary of Lutheran Terms

Ordinary (*The portions of the Holy Communion liturgy which remain the same from Sunday to Sunday; includes the Greeting, Kyrie, Sanctus, etc.*)

Pall (*1-Linen-covered square placed over rim of chalice; 2-Large cloth covering placed on coffin when it is brought into the nave, symbolizing the baptismal garment.*)

Palm Sunday (*see Sunday of the Passion*)

Paraments (*Cloth hangings made in the various liturgical colors and placed on the altar and pulpit for adornment.*)

(Lutherans at Worship by S. Anita Stauffer, Gilbert A. Doan, and Michael B. Aune pages 93-94)

Those Serving March 1, 2026

Guest Pianist: Genevieve Baker

Altar Guild: Patsy Lyerly, Vivian Sprinkle, Angie Poole, Mallory Eagle & Moses Miller

Acolytes: Mallory Eagle, Moses Miller, Bailey & Lucas Wilhelm

Crucifer (*Palm Sunday*): Nikki Nguyen

Communion Assistants: Patsy Lyerly, Vivian Sprinkle, Angie Poole, Mallory Eagle & Moses Miller

Lay Readers: Doris Shepherd, Karen Barringer, Mallory Eagle & Moses Miller

Ushers: Larry Barringer, Ali Davis, Don & Tara Davis

Live Streaming: Pete Nguyen

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

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

Sending Sunday Visitors Cards: Deena Lanning

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Our Love and Sympathy is extended to Robert Honeycutt's (mower) on the death of his father, Robert Honeycutt, Sr. on Saturday. The funeral service will be held at the VA on March 2, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.

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Sunday, March 1, 2026

Loose Offering: Mission Outreach Fund

Benevolence: North American Lutheran Seminary & Footprints in the Community

Monthly Project: Footprint of the Community Supplies, Amazon & Walmart gift cards for Melanie Corn, sponsored Seminarian

Deadline to confirm participation in Paintball on Saturday, March 7.

During the Lenten Season, we use twigs and branches instead of flowers to symbolize penitence, spiritual dryness, and preparation for Easter's rebirth, as flowers represent joy and celebration, which are set aside during this somber, reflective season of self-emptying and focus on Christ's sacrifice, mirroring the desert journey. Bare branches signify the spiritual "emptying" of sin, awaiting the new life of Easter, much like dormant plants awaiting spring.

9:10 a.m. Union Youth Choir

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

Nehemiah Rebuilds Jerusalem

Nehemiah 4:1-23; Ephesians 2:19-22

“So we rebuilt the wall ... for the people had a mind to work.” **Nehemiah 4:6**

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Sunday School Class

Nehemiah Rebuilds Jerusalem

Nehemiah 4:1-23; Ephesians 2:19-22

Drew Wise Sunday School Class

Loving God, Loving Others

Proverbs 28:18-22; Romans 15:1-7; Philippians 2:1-8; Colossians 3:12, 4:1; Mark 12:28-34; James 2:14-17

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Genesis 12:1-9; Psalm 121:1-8; Romans 4:1-8, 13-17; John 3:1-17

Sermon: *The Seeker*

During Lent, 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. On Sunday, March 1, the Altar Candles and only 5 candelabra candles will be lit.

12 noon brief called meeting of the Church Council *(2026 Church Yearbook & Finances)*

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Tuesday, March 3

6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal *(Dutch Meeting Hall)*

Meal prepared by Good Timers

6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship Service *"Crisis in Identity" (Dutch Meeting Hall)*

Wednesday, March 4

2:00 p.m. Chapel Time at Autumn Care

6:30 p.m. Catechism (*Pastor's Office*)

6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Friday, March 6

9:00 a.m. Book Bible Study (*Juice Life*)

6:00 p.m. Line Dancing (*Old Pine Center*)

Saturday, March 7

8:00 a.m. Billy Waller's home project

We still need financial assistance. Volunteers please contact the church office.

Don't forget to move your clock up an hour before going to bed on Saturday.

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Sunday, March 8, 2026

Loose Offering: Gerald Bame Memorial Scholarship Fund

Benevolence: North American Lutheran Seminary

Monthly Project: Amazon & Walmart gift cards for Melanie Corn, sponsored Seminarian

2026 Church Yearbooks are available for pick up. (Please take only one per family, thank you!)

During the Lenten Season, we use twigs and branches instead of flowers to symbolize penitence, spiritual dryness, and preparation for Easter's rebirth, as flowers represent joy and celebration, which are set aside during this somber, reflective season of self-emptying and focus on Christ's sacrifice, mirroring the desert journey. Bare branches signify the spiritual "emptying" of sin, awaiting the new life of Easter, much like dormant plants awaiting spring.

9:10 a.m. Union Youth Choir

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

Jonah Flees from God

Jonah 1:1-2:3, 7-10; Matthew 12:38-41

*The Lord appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights. **Jonah 1:27***

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Sunday School Class

Jonah Flees from God

Jonah 1:1-2:3, 7-10; Matthew 12:38-41

Drew Wise Sunday School Class

Watching Our Consumption

Titus 1:5-9; Daniel 1:8-20; 1 Corinthians 9:19-27; 1 Timothy 4:7-12

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95:1-9; Romans 5:1-8; John 4:5-26, 27-30, 39-42

Sermon: *Welling Up*

Sunday, March 8, 2026

During Lent, 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. On Sunday, March 8, the Altar Candles and only 4 candelabra candles will be lit.

*Hi Families of **Little Lutherans** (Joyful Lambs)! We are **gathering for a special lunch following worship at Blue Bay, E. Innes**, to chat about **upcoming events, trips and faith formation for our children's ministry!** Your input is valuable, please join us!!*

🔔 PAINTBALL ALERT! 🔔

We're getting a group together of young adults (youth & adults) for some, uh, colorful combat! We need 10 people to commit to paintball action! Beware you will get dirty!!!

📅 **Date:** Sunday, March 8

🕒 **Leaving Time:** 2:30 p.m.

📍 **Place:** Glory Road Paintball, 4209 North Rocky Road, Monroe, NC 28110

📅 Let Pastor Heidi know if you can make it by Sunday, March 1!

\$ Please bring spending money with you for snacks, refreshments, etc.

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Tuesday, March 10 **9:30 a.m.** Piedmont-East Clergy at ULC *(Conference #1)*
2:00 p.m. Mary & Martha Circle *(Conference #1)* Karen Morgan, Hostess & Program
6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal *(Dutch Meeting Hall)*
Meal is prepared by the Property, Cemetery & Columbarium
6:30 p.m. Lenten Worship Service *"Crisis in Identity"* *(Dutch Meeting Hall)*

Wednesday, March 11 **4:00 p.m.** Mission Outreach *(Conference #1)*
4:00 p.m. Congregation & Community Meal *(Dutch Meeting Hall)*
Menu: BBQ Chicken, Potatoes, Green Beans, and drink ~ Freewill offering
6:30 p.m. Catechism *(Pastor's Office)*
6:30 p.m. Belles & Beaus
7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir

Thursday, March 12 **10:00 a.m.** Good Timers *(Dutch Meeting Hall)* Lunch at Lakeview
6:30 p.m. Property, Cemetery & Columbarium *(Conference #1)*

Friday, March 13 **6:00 p.m.** Line Dancing *(Old Pine Center)*

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Sunday, March 15, 2026

Loose Offering: Building & Repair Fund

Benevolence: North American Lutheran Seminary

Sunday, March 15, 2026

Monthly Project: Amazon & Walmart gift cards for Melanie Corn, sponsored Seminarian

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9:10 a.m. Union Youth Choir

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

The Day of the Lord

Malachi 4:1-6; Matthew 17:1-13

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.

Malachi 4:5

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Rabbit Hole Sunday School Class

The Day of the Lord

Malachi 4:1-6; Matthew 17:1-13

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

Drew Wise Sunday School Class

Giving to the Community

Exodus 20:12-17; Deuteronomy 15:1-11; Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 10:25-37; James 1:27, 2:14-17

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Isaiah 42:14-21; Psalm 142:1-7; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

Sermon: *The Gift of Seeing*

During Lent, 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. On Sunday, March 15, the Altar Candles and only 3 candelabra candles will be lit.

Rescheduled: 12 noon Christian Education (Please bring a bag lunch.)

Governance Board of the Congregation is made up of the **Pastor, Church Council & Umbrella Chairs**. This Board will meet for their first quarterly meeting, **Sunday, March 15**, at **2:00 p.m.**, to review past events, projects, etc., and upcoming events, projects, etc.

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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), Sarah Bame (Brookdale Room 9), Pat Kluttz (Brookdale Room 56), Donnell Miller (Bethany Woods, Albemarle), Rachel Earnhardt (The Laurels), Charles & Becky Hartley (The Laurels Room 301), Mike Taylor (Trinity Oaks), Ann Tucker (Oak Park Retirement Room 236)

Homebound/Shut-ins Members/Special Needs –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, Harold Miller, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

Sick/Surgery/Recovery – Judy Boyd, Ken Davis, Jason Earnhardt, Robin Huffman, Susan Knight, Doris Ludwick, Patsy Lyerly, Richard and Kay Lyons, Troy Painter, Raelynn Rodgers, Brad Trexler & Pat Wiles

Continual Prayer – Rita Volker (Pastor Heidi’s aunt), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, SON Ministries, Slovakia & Haiti), Friends & Families of the avalanche victims (friends of Robyn Arey’s son), especially those affected by political unrest & those affected by natural disasters (Jamacia, Haiti, Alaska, North Dakota, Dominican Republic)

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.

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Sermon Notes

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

OUR VISION: Fellow Workers of the Gospel - Unified in Christ. **3 John 1:8; Romans 15:15-16**

OUR ACTION PLAN: Responsible management of God’s entrusted resources—time, talent, treasure & mission. **Genesis 1 & 2**

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2026 Church Council Members

2024-2026

Phil Cauble
Kevin Huffman
John Knight (*Treasurer*)
Thad Mulkey

2025-2027

Karen Barringer
Pete Nguyen (*President*)
Brad Trexler

2026-2027

Don Davis (*Vice-President*)
Ethan Wilhelm (*Secretary*)

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Lay Ministers:

Tara Davis, Vicki Hunter, Steve Hutchens, Elbert Kluttz and Deena Lanning

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Union Lutheran 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

