# United In Christ Lutheran Church



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
July 30, 2023

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter
Vicar Katy Moran

## Welcome to our church!

We hope the service is meaningful, and uplifting, and that you will experience God's presence here.

May God bless you during worship today.

Special thanks to Tom Booth, lay worship leader from Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church, for presiding over communion today.



#### **—**

#### LARGE PRINT BULLETINS

Please see a greeter.

#### **ELEVATOR**

Please see a greeter.

#### **REST ROOMS**

Downstairs across from the church office.

#### DIAPER CHANGING TABLE

*In fellowship hall family restroom.* 

Visit us at www.unitedinchristlutheran.net

#### UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor

Vicar Katy Moran: Pastoral Intern

Terri Cromwell: Parish Administrator and OAKS Senior Center Coordinator

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

Marilyn Gresh: Music Director

#### **United In Christ's Mission Statement:**

Led by the Spirit, we follow Christ's call to honor God and neighbor through worship, learning, service, prayer, stewardship and invitation.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

#### Amen.

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

#### Merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

#### Righteous God,

We confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Amen.

#### OPENING HYMN

**ELW 533** 



#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

And also with you.

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



(continues on next page)



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### FIRST READING

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. <sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

<sup>29</sup>For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. <sup>30</sup>And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

<sup>31</sup>What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? 33Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. <sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



#### GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 13:31-33, 44-52

This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>31</sup>He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; <sup>32</sup>it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

<sup>33</sup>He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

<sup>44</sup>"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; <sup>46</sup> on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; <sup>48</sup>when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. <sup>49</sup>So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous <sup>50</sup>and

throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

<sup>51</sup>"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." <sup>52</sup>And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

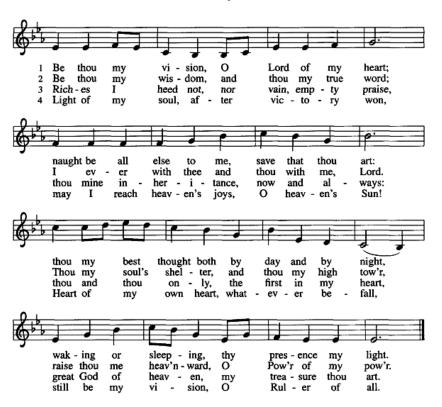
#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### **SERMON**

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 793** 

#### Be Thou My Vision



#### **APOSTLE'S CREED**

Let us confess our faith using the Apostle's Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The minister and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please share the peace at whatever level of physical contact with which you are comfortable.

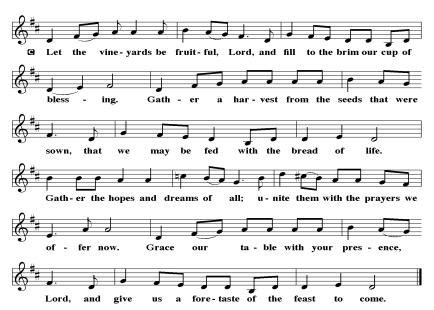
Please fill out an Attendance Card, and place the card in an offering plate.

#### **OFFERING**



You are invited to place your offering in one of the plates as they are passed or to make use of our online offering plate through tithe.ly by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving by clicking on the green "Give Now" button.

#### OFFERTORY HYMN



#### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us through the gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

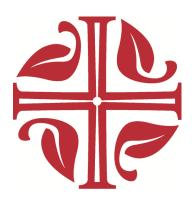
Lift up your hearts.

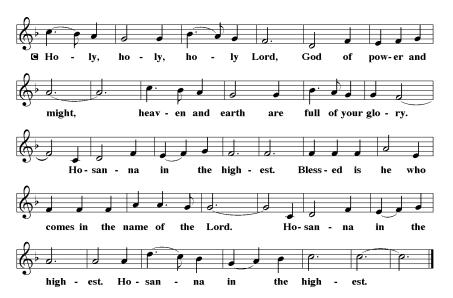
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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 death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us saying:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

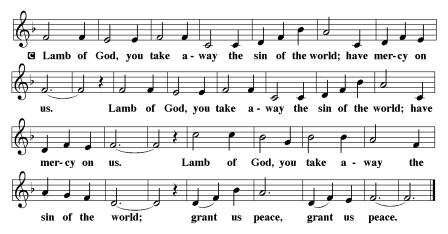
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

Thanks be to God.



#### **COMMUNION**

Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, and all people are invited to his table. Those who do not wish to receive communion are invited to receive a blessing.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The communicant may say: Amen

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: Amen

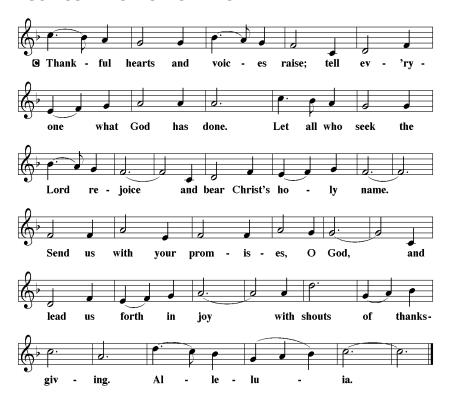
Music will accompany the distribution of communion.

#### **TABLE BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

#### POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE CONCLUSION OF INTERNSHIP

Katy, on August 7<sup>th</sup> your internship began, we of United In Christ welcomed you to be intern in this place: to observe, participate in, and lead in the full stretch of Gospel ministry among us. With the Gospel you have comforted us in times of sickness and trouble, and at the death of loved ones. Sharing our joys and sorrows, you have been important to our life together in the church of Jesus Christ, in service to this community, and in God's mission to the whole world. As you leave this community of faith, we say farewell, and we pray for God's blessing.

People of God, members and friends of United In Christ, do you release Katy from service as your intern?

We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Katy, do you recognize and accept the completion of your internship with United In Christ?

I do, and I give thanks to God for your ministry together.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, through your Son Jesus Christ you gave the holy apostles many gifts and commanded them to feed your flock. You equip your people with abilities that differ according to the grace given to them, and you call them to various avenues of service. We give you thanks for the ministry of Katy among the people of God in this place.

You watch over our going out and our coming in: Bless this time of ending and beginning.

You surround your people in every time and place: Keep us close in your love.

You accompany your people in times of joy and times of trial: Prosper all that has been done to your glory in this time together,

Heal and forgive all that has fallen short of your will for us.

Help Katy and all of us to live with courage and gladness in the future you have given to us.

As she has been a blessing to us, so now send her forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.

#### **SENDING HYMN**

**ELW 771** 

#### God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



- 1 God, who stretched the span gled heav ens in fi nite in time and place,
- 2 We have ven-tured worlds un dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
- 3 As each far ho ri zon beck ons, may it chal-lenge us a new



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space: known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space; chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you; probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r, May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;

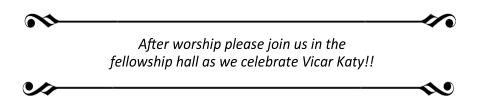


great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do. fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um-phant hour. great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### **POSTLUDE**



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# What's Happening at UIC

Sun, July 30 Worship, 10am

Vicar Katy's Internship Celebration, 11am

Mon, July 31 Pokemon at UIC, 10am

Walking Group, 6pm

Wed, Aug. 2 Theology on Tap, 6pm

Thur, Aug. 3 Walking Group, 6pm

Fri, Aug. 4 Office Closed

Senior Food Box Delivery

Sun, Aug. 6 Worship, 10am

Fellowship Hour, 11am

Social Ministry Meeting, 11:30am Crosscutters Baseball Game, 4pm

Please remember to pickup your August Newsletter today!

Additional copies are on the Welcome Table.



# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: Earl Butch Tyson, Judy Rishel, Russ Wynn, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Annette Baker, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, Martha Ketchem, Peg Swinehart, Marie Tanner, Viv Marsh.



#### Are you or a loved one in need of prayer?

Submit your prayer request by calling 570-568-2254 or emailing it to office@unitedinchristlutheran.net.

We will email your prayer request to UIC's prayer chain and keep them on the prayer list for 4 weeks, unless



Amy Danowsky 8/2 Peg Swinehart 8/3 Jen Sheaffer 8/4



If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office with these dates.



There have been a few of our elementary/early middle school students itching for a Pokemon revival here at UIC this summer, so we're putting together a super informal gathering for Monday, July 31st at 10:00am!

Kids are invited to bring cards for trading, decks for playing, or even their video games to play with one another! We'll probably even set up the projector to put some episodes of the show or a movie on in the background!

For any kids who might not know how to play, I'll have some extra decks of cards to teach those who are interested! Again, we're keeping it super informal, so there's no pressure to have to have all the right things before coming out! Friends are also welcome to join, if your student(s) would like to bring someone with!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Justin! Hopefully this is a good chance for some of our students to have some summer fun and put some of their cards to good use!



# Tuesday, August 8

10:00 am - Doors Open

10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes

11:30 pm - Presentation by Dedicated Nursing Associates

12:00 pm - Free Lunch

OAKS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.







## **UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY**

August 12, 2023 at 10-11:30am 1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

Baby Steps Diaper Pantry is held on the second Saturday each month from 10-11:30 a.m. in United In Christ's fellowship hall. The pantry is open to caregivers of babies from the communities around Milton, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, and Watsontown.



## Back to School Drive

Help us support Milton students in need!

Backpacks and supplies will be blessed during worship on Sunday, August 13.

Place items in Back to School Drive box in Fellowship Hall.

- Backpacks
- Notebooks
- Crayons
- Pencils

- Markers
- Binders
- Rulers
- Pencil Boxes



# Next Social Ministry Meeting

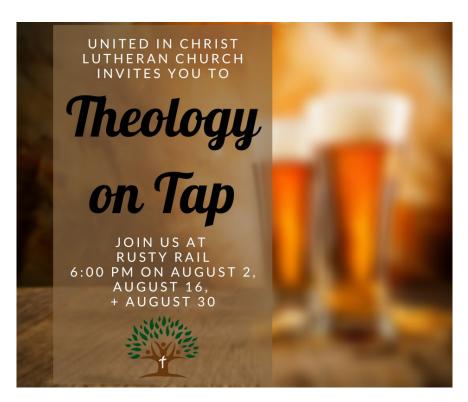
We will meet on Sunday, August 6 at 11:30 am in the Sunday School Room.

Everyone is invited!



This is a weekly community meal run by Bucknell's Office of Civil Engagement at St. Andrew's Church at 102 Lower Market Street in Milton. UIC is partnering with CELC. Each church needs a minimum of 4 helpers. Contact Terri in the office if you would like to signup!

We will also be helping on September 11. If you can't help in August maybe you can in September. That signup sheet will go up on Sunday, August 20.

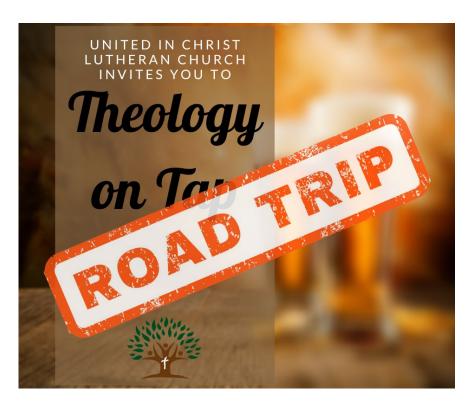


# Do you have some burning questions about the Bible, faith, or God?

Join us for Theology on Tap! This August we will be meeting at Rusty Rail on Wednesdays August 2nd, 16th, and 30th. Bring your questions to put in the stein, grab your drink of choice, and be ready to dive into them together as a group—we might not settle on an answer, but we can at least try! We will meet at 6:00 pm to grab food, drinks, and socialize a bit before starting discussion once we are settled. Email Pastor Justin or Vicar Katy if you plan to attend or have any questions about the specifics.

# Rusty Rail Brewing

5 North 8th Street, Mifflinburg



This summer Theology on Tap will be going on some road trips! In addition to our regular Wednesday nights, there will be a few Fridays where we will be exploring some different venues. We will continue our regular format so come with questions and don't forget to bring the essentials as we hit the road!

Email Pastor Justin or Vicar Katy if you plan to attend or have any questions about the specifics. Meet us there or meet in the church parking lot at 5pm to carpool.

# Friday, August 11 Three Beards Brewing

109 Carroll Rd, Sunbury



# Looking to get your daily step goal with some good company?

Join some UIC folks at Milton State Park by the public restrooms for our new walking group! They plan to meet every Monday and Thursday evening. Be on the lookout for Sherry Bingaman, Kathy Guffey, or Donna Grant Byerly if you join! If they cancel for any reason they will post in the church's <u>Facebook Group</u>.

## SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes were delivered on **Friday, July 7**Volunteers, please make plans to deliver your boxes the week of July 10<sup>th</sup>.



### MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION



Social Ministry collects non-perishable food items each month. Your donations get delivered to the Our Little Free Pantry in West Milton by the gas station across from the on ramp to 15.

Place these items in the baskets located in the Narthex.



# Buffalo Valley Conference of the Upper Susquehanna Synod ELCA

Join the Facebook page for Buffalo Valley Conference of the Upper Susquehanna Synod ELCA to keep informed about upcoming events within our 16 Lutheran churches.

www.facebook.com/bvcuss/

## IMPORTANT LINKS

For easy access, bookmark these pages on your computer or add the page to your tablet or smartphone's home screen.

UIC's website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net

**Worship and Bulletins:** Print the Sunday bulletin so you can follow along. You can also view past bulletins and worship services.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship

**Church Calendar:** Stay up-to-date on everything that's happening at UIC.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar

Online Giving: <a href="https://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/">www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/</a>

**Newsletter Archive:** Read current and past newsletters. **www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter** 

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/

unitedinchristlutheran

Facebook Group: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC/">www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC/</a>



## **WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

	July 30	August 6	August 13
Social Hour	A-D	E-K	L-R
Bread/Wine	J. Rowe		R. Baker
Altar Guild	M.L. Keifer		C. Troxell
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell
Front Door Greeter	B. Swartz	D. Byerly	Ken Baker
	T. Swartz	J. Byerly	R. Baker
Side Door Greeter	H. Allegar	R. Kling	D. Gottlieb
Lector	J. Rowe	B. Swartz	S. Bingaman
Ushers	K. Guffey	L. Rabuck	B. Troxell
	R. Kling	A. Stark	C. Troxell
	BJ Koch	B. Swartz	C. Zimmerman
	J. Mertz	T. Swartz	K. Arndt
Communion Asst.	A. Stark		C. Troxell
	B. Swartz		S. Weiser
Guest Relations	K. Baker	M. Mertz	K. Noll
Offering Counter	K. Baker	C. Shreck	M. Shearer
	L. Rabuck	M.L. Keifer	C. Zimmerman

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please try to trade with someone on the schedule and then notify the office of the change. If you are unable to trade with someone, please call Terri Cromwell at the church, 570-568-2254, and she will find a replacement for you.



## Lutheran Church

1875 Churches Rd. Lewisburg, PA 17837 570-568-2254

## WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Sundays at 10am

THE REV. JUSTIN G. LINGENFELTER

#### **CHURCH OFFICE**

Open Mon. - Thur. 8:00am - 2:00pm Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

#### **VISIT US AT**

Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC