

United In Christ Lutheran Church



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 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.*

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: Senior Seminarian

Terri Cromwell: Parish Administrator and OAKS Senior Center Director

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 God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

**You have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

1. O Christ, what can it mean for us To
 2. You came, the im - age of our God, To
 3. Though some would make their great - ness felt And
 4. You chose a hum - ble hu - man form And

claim you as our king? What roy - al face have
 heal and to for - give, To shed your blood for
 lord it o - ver all, You said the first must
 shunned the world's re - nown; You died for us up -

you re - vealed Whose praise the Church would sing? As -
 sin - ners' sake That we might rise and live. To
 be the last And serv - ice be our call. O
 on a cross With thorns your on - ly crown. But

pir - ing not to glo - ry's height, To
 break the law of death you came, The
 Christ, in work - place, church, and home Let
 still, be - yond the span of years, Our

pow - er, wealth, and fame, You walked a dif - f'rent,
 law of love to bring: A dif - f'rent rule of
 none to pow - er cling; For still, through us, you
 glad ho - san - nas ring, For now at God's right

low - ly way, An - oth - er's will your aim.
 right - eous - ness, A dif - f'rent kind of king.
 come to serve, A dif - f'rent kind of king.
 hand you reign, A dif - f'rent kind of king!

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

☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

☐ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



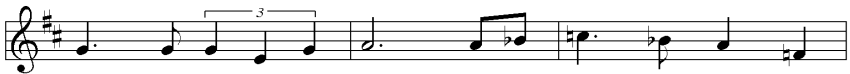
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☒ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☒ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.



☒ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgement, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

JONAH 3:10-4:11

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

4But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. ⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the

next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 20:1-16

This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them,

'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?' ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."


This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.


CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

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.***

TEMPLE TALK

Lisa Rabuck, Council Member

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



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior

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:

♩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.**

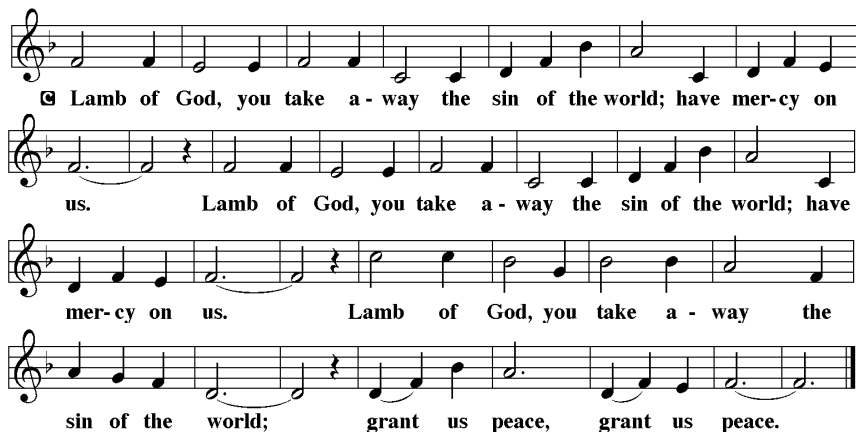
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat, and live.

Thanks be to God.



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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***

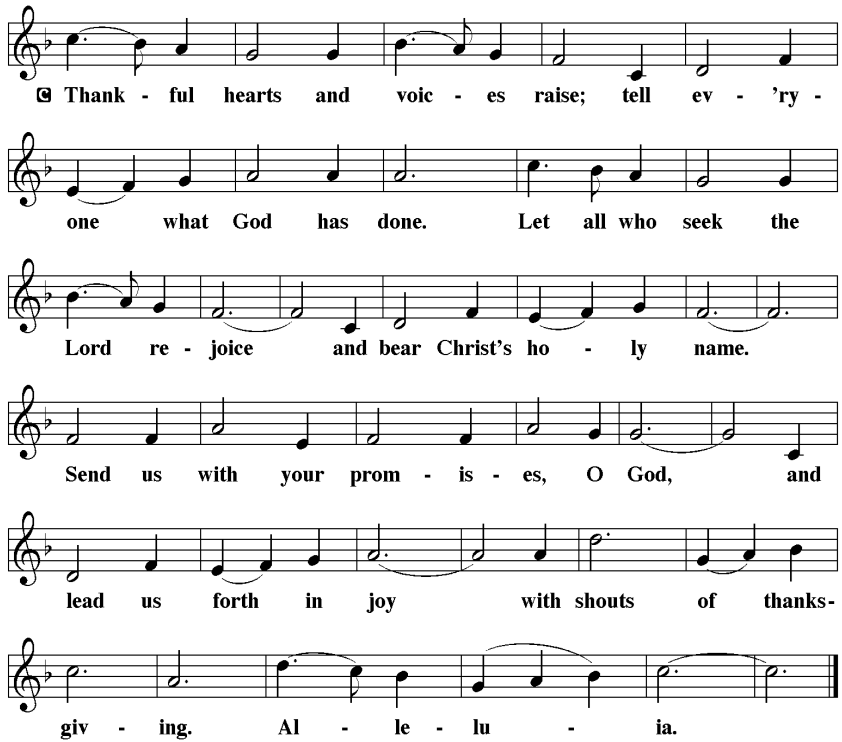
Music will accompany the distribution of communion.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



☞ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

ELW 668

O Zion, Haste



1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,



to tell to all the world that God is light;
that tell to all the world that God is light;
make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;



that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,



one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.



Refrain
Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,



tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp - tion, and re - lease.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the Glory of God
in honor of Jane Guffey's
and Baby Ungard's birthdays
by Kathy Guffey.*

*After worship please join us in the
fellowship hall for social hour.*

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What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Sept. 24 Worship, 10:00am
 Social Hour, 11:00am
 Faith and Fun, 11:00am
 Fellowship Hall Reserved, 2:00pm
- Mon, Sept. 25 Walking Group, 6:00pm
 Grief Group, 6:30pm
 Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Tue, Sept. 26 Faith and Civic Life Study, 6:30pm
- Wed, Sept. 27 Theology on Tap, 6:00pm
- Thu, Sept. 28 Walking Group, 6:00pm
- Fri, Sept. 29 Office Closed
- Sun, Oct. 1 **HARVEST HOME SUNDAY**
 Worship, 10:00am
 Social Hour, 11:00am
 Faith and Fun, 11:00am
 Outreach Team Meeting, 11:00am
 Youth Group/Murder Mystery, 12:30pm



**Please remember to pickup
your October
Newsletter today!**

**Additional copies are
on the Welcome Table
in the Narthex**

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Please pray for: Jaxon Baker, Max Engle, Family and friends of Joslyn Flickinger, Peg Swinehart, Patrick Moseley, Russ Weiser, Eric and Audrey Ekstrom, Denise Clark, Betsy Thomas, June Campbell, Ken Kearney, Earl Butch Tyson, Russ Wynn, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Annette Baker, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, Martha Ketchem, 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

Happy Birthday

Curtis Zimmerman 9/25

Kim Criswell 9/26

Cami Zimmerman 9/26

Pam Hauck 9/29



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



We will be collecting food for the Milton Panther Packs. Milton Panther Packs provides backpacks of food every weekend, when school meals are not available, for 347 children in the Milton School District. Items cannot be in glass and should be non-perishable foods that a child could open or prepare on their own. Food can be placed in the collection bin in the Narthex.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

Oatmeal cups or packets

Individual cereal boxes

Ramen noodles

**Soup, stew, chili
(pop top lid)**

**Canned chicken or
tuna (pop top lid)**

Mac and cheese cups

Granola bar

Peanut butter crackers

Applesauce cups

Fruit snacks

Fruit roll-ups

**Canned pasta
(pop top lid)**

Fruit cups

Pudding cups

Pop tarts

Breakfast bars



Event for Junior and Senior High Teens



MURDER AT THE TEEN IDOL AWARDS

Sunday, October 1st
12:30-3:30pm

JOIN US AT:

ARD'S FARM CORN MAZE!

Sunday, October 8th
Meet @ 12:30pm

\$14/ person
(payable through UIC)

Signup by
Thursday, 10/4

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Sept. 24	Oct. 1	Oct. 8
Social Hour	A - D	E - K	L - R
Bread/Wine	J. Mertz	C. Zimmerman	S. Noll
Altar Guild	C. Troxell	D. Byerly	T. Cromwell
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell
Front Door Greeter	D. Byerly	K. Baker	K. Guffey
	J. Byerly	S. Brown	R. Kling
Side Door Greeter	K. Noll	T. Cromwell	D. Byerly
Lector	A. Stark	B. Swartz	E. Hausmann
Ushers	D. Baker	K. Arndt	S. Brown
	K. Baker	D. Baker	K. Criswell
	M. Shearer	K. Baker	K. Guffey
	A. Stark	C. Zimmerman	Ken Baker
Communion Asst.	R. Kling	R. Kling	D. Baker
	T. McPherrin	T. McPherrin	S. Bingaman
Guest Relations	K. Noll	M. Rabuck	B. Troxell
Offering Counter	L. Rabuck	P. Hauck	L. Rabuck
	Ken Baker	C. Zimmerman	Ken Baker

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