

# United In Christ Lutheran Church



# LENT

Lent 2

*February 25, 2024*

*The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter*

# **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 lay worship leader Tom Booth,  
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](http://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](mailto: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

## CONFESSTION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law in our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,

**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

Here is a flood of grace. Out of love for the whole world. God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

*How Firm A Foundation*

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my rich - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

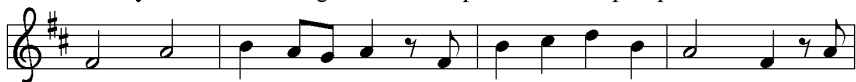
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

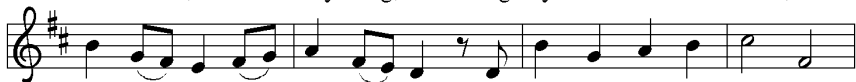
## HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, 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.



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.



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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

## GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." <sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him,

<sup>4</sup>"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you.

<sup>7</sup>I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

<sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,  
slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## GOSPEL READING

## MARK 8:31-38

This is the Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## SERMON

*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.  
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.



## 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

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*Prayers continue with each petition ending:*

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through 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](https://tithe.ly) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving](https://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving) by clicking on the green “Give Now” button.*



## OFFERTORY HYMN

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy good but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

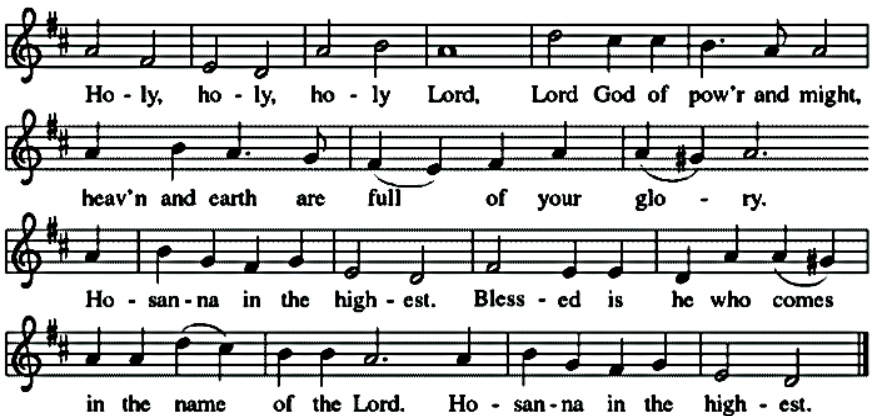
Lift up your hearts.

**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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, 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**

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

**Thanks be to God!**



The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined for emphasis. The lyrics are: "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."

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

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

**Amen.**



## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

I O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,  
for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,  
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

**Amen.**

# BENEDICTION

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace.

Amen.

# SENDING HYMN

ELW 324

## *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r-ing o'er the  
2 When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes de-ceive, and  
3 When the sun of bliss is beam-ing light and love up-  
4 Bane and bless-ing, pain and plea-sure, by the cross are

wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred  
fears an - noy, nev - er shall the cross for -  
on my way, from the cross the ra - diance  
sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that knows no

sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub-lime.  
sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
stream-ing adds more lus - ter to the day.  
mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.



## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given to the Glory of God  
in honor of Aaron and Brittany Guffey's Birthdays  
by Kathy Guffey.*

---

*After worship please join us in the fellowship hall  
for coffee and refreshments.*

---

Portions reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress, license #SBL09796L. Music reprinted from the ELW, by permission of OneLicense, license #A712349. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST



**Please pray for:** Megan Darzanoff, Ken Baker, Celia Warren, Annette Baker, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, 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](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)



## HAPPY *Anniversary*

*Jack and Cheryl Stiber 2/26/65*

*Herb and Vivian Marsh 2/28/59*

## Happy Birthday

*John Heckman 2/25*

*Rob Troxell 3/1*

*Krista Wirth 3/2*



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



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

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

# What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Feb. 25      **LENT 2**  
Worship, 10:00am  
Congregational Meeting, 11:15am  
Social Hour, 12:00pm  
Faith and Fun, 12:00pm  
Youth Group, 1:00pm
- Mon, Feb. 26      Grief Support Group, 6:30pm  
Cub Scouts, 6:30pm  
Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Tue, Feb. 27      Lenten Bible Study @ UIC, 6:30pm
- Wed, Feb. 28      Soup and Scripture @ CELC, 6:30pm  
Lenten Supper @ CELC, 6:30pm  
Lenten Worship @ CELC, 7:30pm
- Fri, Mar. 1      Office Closed  
Senior Express Food Box Delivery
- Sun, Mar. 3      **LENT 3**  
Worship, 10:00am  
Outreach Committee Meeting, 11:15am  
Social Hour, 12:00pm  
Faith and Fun, 12:00pm  
Youth Bowling, 5:00pm

# Easter Flowers



Flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God and all he has given us!



\$6.50 Tulips

\$8.50 Lilies

Order Deadline: March 10th

*Order forms are on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.*

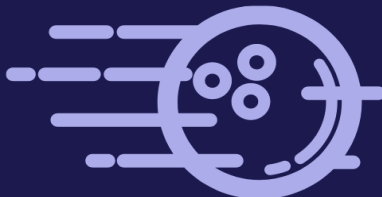
# Youth Group Bowling Night

Sunday, March 3 @ 5:00pm

Imperial Lanes in Milton

Free Pizza!

Friends Welcome!





# SERVING OPPORTUNITY

**Packing Military Share Food Boxes**  
**CENTRAL PA FOOD BANK**  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4th ~ 1pm-3pm  
Central PA Food Bank  
3301 Wahoo Drive, Williamsport

**Packing food bags for**  
**MILTON PANTHER PACKS**  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6th ~ 6pm-7pm  
ST ANDREW'S UMC  
102 Lower Market St, Milton

## 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.

# Parables of Jesus Study Series

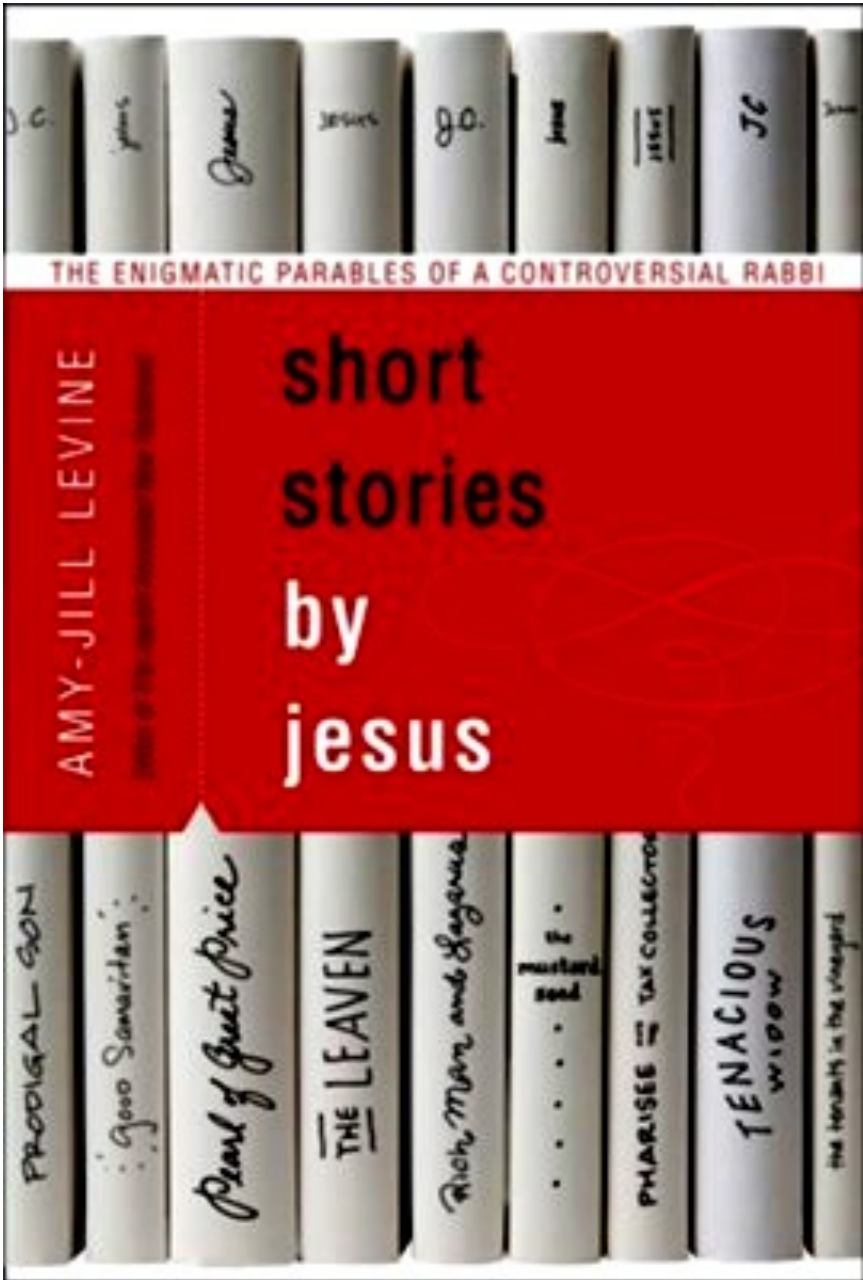
Join us at United In Christ for our upcoming Bible Study on Tuesday evenings beginning on February 20th at 6:30pm through the season of Lent! This year we will be journeying through the parables of Jesus alongside Dr. Amy Jill-Levine, the Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace using her series: *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi*. In the wake of an increase of anti-Semitism and islamophobia, the effects of which even felt here in the Susquehanna Valley, the interfaith voice that Dr. Jill-Levine brings to these stories from Jesus will be of tremendous value as we journey through the wilderness.

Each week will focus on a new parable with a short video and accompanying discussion guide. Copies of the participant guide are available through the church office for \$10/copy. Even without a copy of the guide, you are invited to join us at any point along the way for the study! Come and see!

## ***From the publisher:***

Jesus was a skilled storyteller and perceptive teacher who used parables from everyday life to effectively convey his message and meaning. Life in first-century Palestine was very different from our world today, and many traditional interpretations of Jesus' stories ignore this disparity and have often allowed anti-Semitism and misogyny to color their perspectives.

In *Short Stories by Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine analyzes these "problems with parables" taking readers back in time to understand how their original Jewish audience understood them. With this revitalized understanding, she interprets these moving stories for the contemporary reader, showing how the parables are not just about Jesus, but are also about us—and when read rightly, still challenge and provoke us two thousand years later.



AMY-JILL LEVINE

short  
stories  
by  
jesus

PRODIGAL SON

Good Samaritan

Pearl of Great Price

THE LEAVEN

Rich Man and Lazarus

... F. .

PHARISEE TAX COLLECTOR

TENACIOUS WIDOW

the tenants in the vineyard

In partnership with:



# GRIEF SUPPORT

A grief support group for those on  
the journey together.

**You are welcomed here.**

Joined together, the communities of Milton Lutheran Church, Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and United In Christ will meet for our monthly grief support group on **Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at United In Christ.**

If you find yourself struggling with grief after the loss of a loved one, a broken relationship, or the overall strain on your being, know that this group is for you. No matter where you are on the journey you are welcomed here. Contact Pastor Justin if you have any questions or would like to be a part!





## ALTAR FLOWERS

The Church is in need of sponsorships for 2023 Altar Flowers.

Cost is \$35.

Flower Chart is in the Fellowship Hall.

Flowers can be donated in memory of or in honor of family or friends. Please write on the chart what you would like printed in the bulletin. You may take your flowers home after worship.



## IMPORTANT LINK



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

**Church Calendar:** Stay up-to-date on everything that's happening at UIC and Sunday's Worship Volunteers are listed each week under each "worship" event. [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar).

# **Soup & Scripture Luncheons**

Coordinated by the Lewisburg Council of Churches, join us for Soup and Scripture, which meets at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church on Wednesdays at 12pm through the season of Lent (February 14th-March 20th). Each week will welcome a different Lewisburg area pastor to the table to lead a time of devotion and study during this light meal. The theme for this year is the "I Am" Statements by Jesus in the Gospel of John.

## **Holden Evening Prayer and Lenten Supper**

All are welcomed to join us at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church for Holden Evening Prayer worship services beginning Wednesday, February 21st and continuing every Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm through March 20th. All are welcomed to come early and join in a Lenten supper held prior to the prayer services at 6:30 pm in the Lower Church Hall!

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	FEB. 18	FEB. 25	March 3
Social Hour	S - Z	A - D	E - K
Bread/Wine	S. Noll	M. Shearer	K. Sprenkle
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	ML Keifer
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell
Front Door Greeter	K. Baker T. McPherrin	R. Kling L. Rabuck	R. Kling T. McPherrin
Side Door Greeter	G. Weiser	T. Cromwell	G. Weiser
Lector	P. Hauck	S. Keifer	T. McPherrin
Ushers	J. Mertz L. Rabuck M. Rabuck M. Shearer	A. Stark B. Swartz T. Swartz K. Arndt	D. Baker K. Baker S. Brown K. Criswell
Communion Asst.	R. Kling S. Weiser	D. Baker T. Cromwell	S. Bingaman E. Haussmann
Guest Relations	B. Troxell	G. Weiser	S. McPherrin
Offering Counter	P. Hauck M. Rabuck	K. Guffey C. Shreck	P. Hauck L. Rabuck

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](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)

### **VISIT US AT**

Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC)