

# United In Christ Lutheran Church



# LENT

Lent 4

*March 10, 2024*

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

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## **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.**

*Give to Our God Immortal Praise!*

1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and  
 2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and  
 3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to  
 dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to  
 kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.  
 shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

**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

Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

## EPHESIANS 2:1-10

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else.

<sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— <sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

## JOHN 3:14-21

This is the Holy Gospel according to John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

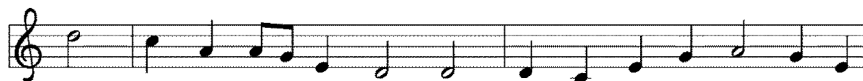
## SERMON

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

**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.*

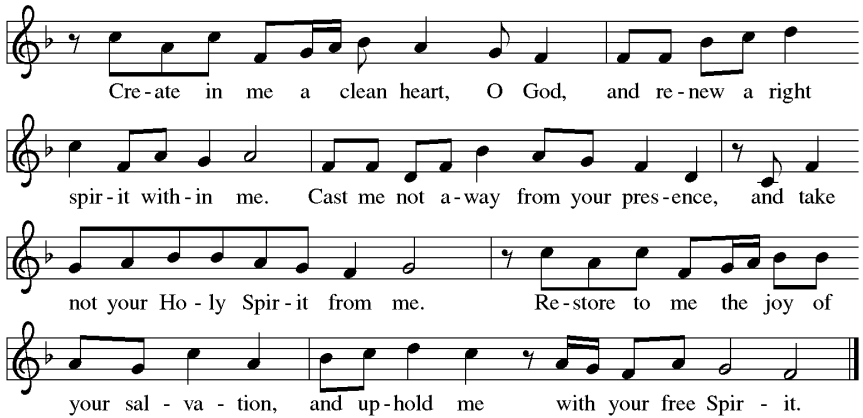
***Please fill out an Attendance Card,  
and place the card in an offering plate.***

## 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](http://tithe.ly) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving](http://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!**



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.**

*Amazing Grace*

A - maz - ing that grace!— how sweet the sound— that  
 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his  
 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

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# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST



**Please pray for:** McKenzie Baker, Patrick Mosley, Ken Criswell, 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 Birthday

*Michael Ketchem 3/15*

*Blayzze Baker 3/16*



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



# What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Mar. 10     **LENT 4**  
Worship, 10:00am  
Fellowship Committee Meeting, 11:15am  
Social Hour, 11:15am  
Faith and Fun, 11:15am  
**EASTER FLOWER ORDERING DEADLINE**
- Mon, Mar. 11     Cub Scouts, 6:30pm  
Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Tue, Mar. 12     OAKS Senior Center, 10:00am-1:00pm  
Lenten Bible Study @ UIC, 6:30pm  
Cub Scouts, 6:30pm  
Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Wed, Mar. 13     Soup and Scripture @ CELC, 6:30pm  
Lenten Supper @ CELC, 6:30pm  
Lenten Worship @ CELC, 7:30pm
- Thu, Mar. 14     Kids Night @ UIC, 5:30pm
- Fri, Mar. 15     Office Closed
- Sat, Mar. 16     Scouts Spaghetti Dinner, 4pm-6pm
- Sun, Mar. 17     **LENT 5**  
Worship, 10:00am  
Social Hour, 11:15am  
Faith and Fun, 11:15am  
Youth Group, 1:00pm

**Today is the last day to order Easter flowers.**



*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.*



UNITED IN CHRIST

**KIDS NIGHT**  
GAMES AND ACTIVITIES

MARCH 14 ~ 5:30PM

WEAR GREEN  
AND YOU CAN  
WIN A PRIZE!



# OAKS

## SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, March 12

10:00 am - Doors Open

10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes

11:30 pm - Game: Name That Tune!

12:00 pm - Free Lunch



**United In Christ Lutheran Church**

1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)



## EASTER CANDY

(no chocolate please)

Please place your donations in the box in the  
narthex labeled "EASTER CANDY".

We will meet on Friday, March 29th at 9am in  
the Fellowship Hall to fill the plastic eggs.

Please join us!

# Spaghetti

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

**4PM-6PM**

United In Christ Lutheran Church  
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg

**Boy Scout  
Troop 600**



**Annual Fundraiser**

**\$10.00**

**Takeout Only**



# 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.

# Easter Breakfast

*Sunday, March 31*  
8:30am



**Bring your family  
and join us Easter morning  
for a potluck breakfast.**



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## *Holy Week Worship*

JOIN US AS WE JOURNEY THROUGH DEATH INTO LIFE

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 3/28 AT 7:00PM

GOOD FRIDAY: 3/29 AT 7:00PM

EASTER SUNRISE: 3/31 AT 6:30AM

EASTER SUNDAY: 3/31 AT 10:00AM

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	March 10	March 17	March 24 Palm Sunday
Social Hour	L - R	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine	S. Weiser	R. Baker	S. Bingaman
Altar Guild	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	S. Keifer
Digital Host	K. Guffey	M. Shearer	S. Bingaman
Front Door Greeter	M. Ketchem	D. Byerly	K. Guffey
	R. Whitesel	J. Byerly	ML Keifer
Side Door Greeter	K. Baker	S. Brown	D. Gottlieb
Lector	M. Shearer	M. Hausmann	R. Sprenkle
Ushers	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
	R. Kling	J. Mertz	A. Stark
	S. McPherrin	L. Rabuck	B. Swartz
	T. McPherrin	M. Rabuck	T. Swartz
Communion Asst.	T. Cromwell	R. Kling	M. Shearer
	ML Keifer	R. Sprenkle	T. McPherrin
Guest Relations	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	K. Guffey	M. Rabuck	M. Shearer
	ML Keifer	C. Shreck	P. Hauck

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)