

# United In Christ Lutheran Church



*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

April 21, 2024

*Michelle Shearer*

# ***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.*

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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: Senior Pastor**

**Vicar Katy Moran: Pastor Elect**

**Terri Cromwell: Office Administrator and OAKS 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

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## PRELUDE

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

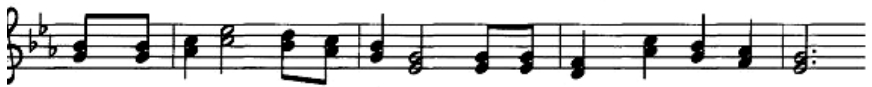
*Savior, like a shepherd Lead Us*



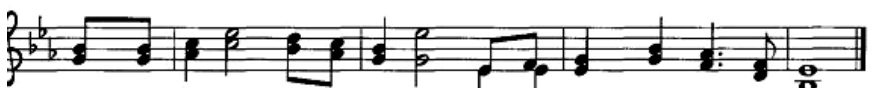
1 Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.  
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;  
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;  
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your fold pre - pare.  
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.  
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have bought us; we are yours.  
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 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.  
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.



## 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



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:  
Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;  
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.  
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

## 1 JOHN 3:16-24

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him

<sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## GOSPEL READING

## JOHN 10:11-18

This is the Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON



*The Lord's My Shepherd*



1 The Lord's my shep-herd; I'll not want. He makes me down to lie  
 2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain, and me to walk doth make  
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;  
 4 My ta - ble thou hast rich - ly spread in pres-ence of my foes;  
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life shall sure - ly fol - low me,



in pas - tures green; he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
 with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake;  
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still;  
 my head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be;



He lead - eth me, he lead - eth me the qui - et wa - ters by.  
 with - in the paths of righ-teous-ness, e'en for his own name's sake.  
 for thou art with me, and thy rod and staff me com - fort still.  
 My head thou dost with oil a - noint, and my cup o - ver - flows.  
 and in God's house for - ev - er - more my dwell-ing-place shall be.

**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**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*Prayers continue with each petition ending:*

God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

**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 [tithely](https://tithely.com) 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

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Risen one, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

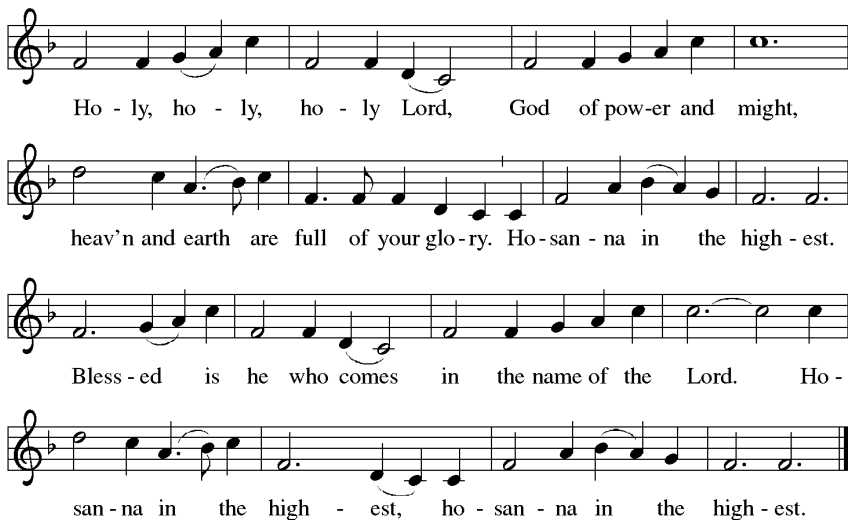
**We lift them to the Lord.**

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, 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 if 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.

## **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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

### Thanks be to God!



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## 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


*Refrain*



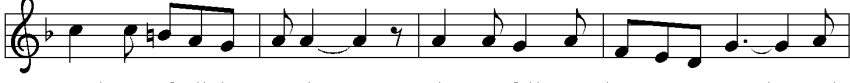
Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -




ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won - der - ful are your deeds, O




God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O




Rul - er of all the na - tions. Who can fail to hon - or you, Lord, and




sing the glo - ry of your name? *Refrain*




God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.




2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and



bles - ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All



praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! *Refrain*



God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

Alleluia Christ is risen!

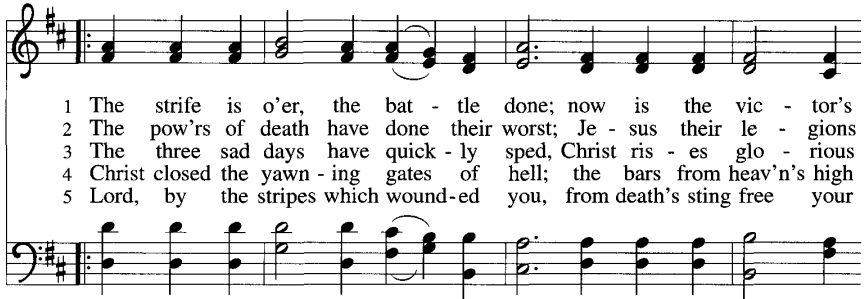
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + bless you now and always.

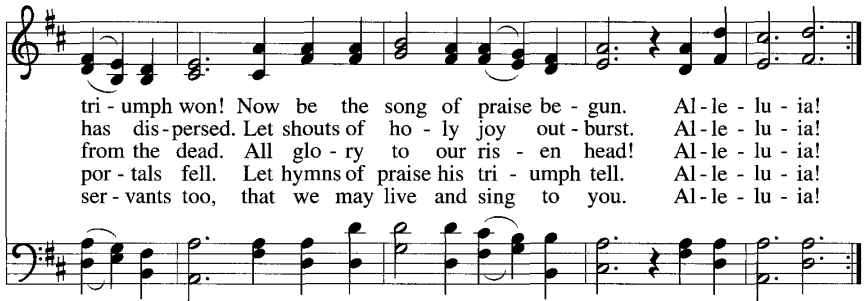
**Amen.**

*The Strife is O'er, The Battle Done*


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's  
 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions  
 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious  
 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high  
 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

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# What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Apr. 21      Worship, 10:00am  
                         Social Hour, 11:15am  
                         Faith and Fun, 11:15am  
                         Youth Group, 1:00pm
- Mon, Apr. 22      **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**  
                         Cub Scouts, 6:30pm  
                         Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Tue, Apr. 23      Primary Elections (fellowship hall reserved)
- Wed, Apr. 24      Theology on Tap, 6:00pm
- Sun, Apr. 28      Worship, 10:00am  
                         Social Hour, 11:15am  
                         Faith and Fun, 11:15am

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Worship Volunteers, please give the office any dates in May which you will not be available to serve during worship. After you are scheduled it will be your responsibility to trade with someone else on the schedule if you are not available to serve that day. Any articles, events, photos and/or thank you notes you'd like to have printed in the May Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Please pray for:** Donna Corazza, family and friends of Janet Pursel, family and friends of Bob Furman, Linda Mertz, Carol Troxell, Eleanor Baker, Doris Frederick, Terri Cromwell, Gail Watkins, Diane Gottlieb, Russ Weiser, Sheri Kush, Desiree Starks, Spencer Bowens, Kerin and Ken, McKenzie Baker, Ken Criswell, Megan Darzanoff, Ken Baker, Annette Baker, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Patrick Mosley, 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

*Kristin Sprenkle 4/26*



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

UNITED IN CHRIST  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
INVITES YOU TO

# *Theology on Tap*

JOIN US AT  
RUSTY RAIL  
6:00 PM ON APRIL 10TH  
AND 24TH



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

Join us for Theology on Tap! This April we will be meeting at Rusty Rail on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. 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. You can let us know you're coming through the sign-up sheets, or you can email Pastor Justin or Vicar Katy.

# Blessings Abound!

**Katy Moran has been called as Pastor of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lewisburg, PA!**

We rejoice with Katy and the members of Christ's Evangelical as she begins her ministry with them. Katy's ordination will take place at Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 27. A time for the service will be announced in the coming days. Everyone is invited to this festival worship service!



There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall for anyone who wants to carpool down to Herndon, VA.

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## LET US KNOW



Please let us know when you are in the hospital or have an upcoming surgery. Call the church office at 570-568-2254 to let us know. Please do not assume that if you tell someone in church that the office or pastor will find out.

Because of confidentiality issues, it's best if you contact Pastor Justin or the church office directly.

# 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](http://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](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship)

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

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar)

**Online Giving:** [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/)

**Newsletter Archive:** Read current and past newsletters.

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter)

**Facebook Page:** [www.facebook.com/unitedinchristlutheran](http://www.facebook.com/unitedinchristlutheran)

**Facebook Group:** [www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC/)



# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	April 21	April 28
Social Hour	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine	J. Mertz	S. Noll
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	K. Guffey
Digital Host	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	D. Byerly J. Byerly	ML Keifer R. Kling
Side Door Greeter	B. Swartz	K. Noll
Lector	P. Hauck	E. Hausmann
Ushers	T. Swartz B. Troxell K. Arndt D. Baker	K. Baker K. Criswell S. Brown G. Heckman
Communion Asst.	T. McPherrin R. Kling	M. Hausmann A. Stark
Guest Relations	M. Mertz	K. Noll
Offering Counter	ML Keifer C. Shreck	P. Hauck M. 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)